



2024 Zurich Classic of New Orleans
(19th of 36 events in the FedExCup Regular Season)

Avondale, Louisiana
TPC Louisiana

April 25-28, 2024
Par/Yards: 36-36 – 72/7,425

FedExCup points: 400 each (winners)
Purse: \$8.9 million (\$1.268 million each)

Pre-Tournament Notes – Zurich Classic of New Orleans

TOUR season notes

- This is the seventh year the Zurich Classic of New Orleans will be played in a two-man team format, which was introduced in 2017 (canceled in 2020 due to COVID-19). Teams will play Four-Ball in the first and third rounds, and Foursomes (alternate shot) in the second and final rounds. Nick Hardy and Davis Riley will defend their title after both earned their first PGA TOUR titles in 2023.
- Each player on the winning team will receive 400 FedExCup points, \$1,286,050, a two-year exemption on the PGA TOUR (through 2026) and entry into the three remaining Signature Events.
- The Zurich Classic of New Orleans is the second of three tournaments that count toward the Aon Swing 5 for the Wells Fargo Championship (Corales Puntacana Championship, Zurich Classic of New Orleans, THE CJ CUP Byron Nelson), with the five players not otherwise exempt who earn the most FedExCup points in those three events qualifying for the Wells Fargo Championship. The top 10 players in the FedExCup standings through THE CJ CUP Byron Nelson who are otherwise not exempt will also qualify for the Wells Fargo Championship via the Aon Next 10.
- 27 players in the field competed at last week's RBC Heritage, including four players that finished T10 or better (**Sahith Theegala/2nd**, **Patrick Cantlay/T3**, **Sepp Straka/T5**, **Collin Morikawa/9th**). 94 players in the field competed at the Corales Puntacana Championship, including four that finished T5 or better (**Billy Horschel/1st**, **Kevin Tway/3rd**, **Charley Hoffman/T4**, **Justin Lower/T4**).

Zurich Classic of New Orleans notes

- Past champion notes:
 - Teams in the field that have won: **Nick Hardy** and **Davis Riley** (2023) and **Patrick Cantlay** and **Xander Schauffele** (2022)
 - Players who won with different partners: **Billy Horschel** (2018 with Scott Piercy), **Scott Piercy** (2018 with Billy Horschel), **Ryan Palmer** (2019 with Jon Rahm)
 - Players who won in the individual format: **Nick Watney** (2007), **Jason Dufner** (2012), **Billy Horschel** (2013); Horschel is the only player who has won the Zurich Classic of New Orleans both in the individual and team format (2013, 2018).
- **Charley Hoffman** and **Nick Watney** and **Kevin Tway** and **Kelly Kraft** are the only two pairs who have competed together in all six previous editions of the team format. Tway and Kraft received sponsor exemptions to play this week.
- There are three sets of brothers competing in the 2024 event, including **Matt** and **Alex Fitzpatrick**, who finished T19 in their tournament debut in 2023. Denmark's twins **Nicolai** and **Rasmus Højgaard** will team up for the first time. Nicolai, who earned his TOUR card for the 2024 season via the Top-125 non-member FedExCup points, played in the 2023 Zurich Classic, while Rasmus competed in 2021. Twins and PGA TOUR rookies **Parker** and **Pierceson Coody**, who earned their TOUR cards via the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour, will make their tournament debut. Parker enters the week off his first career top-10 on TOUR at last week's Corales Puntacana Championship (finished T6). Their grandfather, Charles Coody, made 22 starts in the Zurich Classic with a career-best fifth-place finish in 1971, just two starts after he won the Masters Tournament.
- **Rasmus Højgaard** and **Alex Fitzpatrick** currently compete on the DP World Tour. Højgaard, a four-time winner on the DP World Tour sits 13th in the Race to Dubai Rankings, while Fitzpatrick has one top-10 finish in nine starts this season and sits 44th in the Race to Dubai.
- 2023 and 2025 European Ryder Cup Captain **Luke Donald** will team up with 2023 vice captain **Francesco Molinari**.
- **Russ Cochran** makes his 600th career PGA TOUR start this week and first since the 2013 Sony Open in Hawaii. He is teaming up with **Eric Cole** whose caddie, Reed Cochran, is one of Russ' three sons. His oldest son, Ryan, will caddie for him this week. Cochran has one win on the PGA TOUR (1991 BMW Championship) and five victories on PGA TOUR Champions. Cochran becomes the 71st player to make 600 starts on the PGA TOUR and first since Rory Sabbatini crossed the threshold at the 2023 Valspar Championship.
- The field includes:
 - Three of the top 10 in the Official World Golf Ranking and six of the top 15, led by No. 2 Rory McIlroy and 2022 champions Xander Schauffele (No. 5) and Patrick Cantlay (No. 8).

- 73 PGA TOUR winners combining for 222 wins, led by Rory McIlroy (24)
- Eight major champions combining for 13 majors, led by Rory McIlroy (4)

Top player notes

- World No. 2 **Rory McIlroy** will make his tournament debut alongside fellow countryman **Shane Lowry** who will make his fifth start in the event. McIlroy is playing his fourth consecutive week on TOUR and is coming off a T33 finish at the RBC Heritage.
- 2022 champions **Patrick Cantlay** (No. 8) and **Xander Schauffele** (No. 5) are the only pairing in the field with both players ranked inside the top 10 in the Official World Golf Ranking.
- **Sahith Theegala** enters the week following a runner-up finish at the RBC Heritage, his second of the season tying him with Ludvig Åberg and Wyndham Clark for the most on TOUR. Theegala is making his third consecutive start in the event and first teaming with **Will Zalatoris**, who finished T4 in his debut in 2022 (paired with Davis Riley).
- **Collin Morikawa** is coming off back-to-back top-10 finishes (T3/Masters Tournament, 9th/RBC Heritage) and is making his fourth career start at TPC Louisiana. Morikawa is teaming up with fellow Las Vegas resident and PGA TOUR winner **Kurt Kitayama**.

Aon Next 10 and Aon Swing 5

- With his eighth career PGA TOUR victory at the Corales Puntacana Championship, 2013 and 2018 Zurich Classic champion **Billy Horschel** earned 300 FedExCup points and moved into the top spot of the Aon Swing 5 for the Wells Fargo Championship. Horschel will team with fellow Florida Gator **Tyson Alexander** this week. Because Horschel won an Additional Event, he is not guaranteed access to the three remaining Signature Events, but is likely to qualify for the Wells Fargo Championship via the Aon Swing 5. Horschel has not competed in a Signature Event this season.
- Four of the five players in the Aon Swing 5 through the Corales Puntacana Championship are in the field:
 - 1. **Billy Horschel** (with Tyson Alexander)
 - 3. **Kevin Tway** (with Kelly Kraft)
 - T4. **Charley Hoffman** (with Nick Watney)
 - T4. **Justin Lower** (with Dylan Wu)