



**2025 Valspar Championship**  
*(13<sup>th</sup> of 36 FedExCup Regular Season events)*

**Palm Harbor, Florida**  
**Innisbrook Resort (Copperhead Course)**

**March 20-23, 2025**  
**Par/Yards: 36-35—71/7,352**

**FedExCup points: 500 (winner)**  
**Purse: \$8,700,000/\$1,566,000**

**Third-Round Notes – Saturday, March 22, 2025**

**Weather:** Mostly sunny. High of 64. Wind NW at 5-10 mph.

**Third-Round Leaderboard**

| Pos. | Player             | R1 | R2 | R3 | Total    |
|------|--------------------|----|----|----|----------|
| T1   | Nico Echavarria    | 68 | 72 | 66 | 206 (-7) |
| T1   | Jacob Bridgeman    | 67 | 69 | 70 | 206 (-7) |
| T1   | Viktor Hovland     | 70 | 67 | 69 | 206 (-7) |
| 4    | Ricky Castillo     | 67 | 72 | 68 | 207 (-6) |
| T5   | <i>Six players</i> |    |    |    | 208 (-5) |

**54-hole Lead Notes**

- Three 54-hole co-leaders is the most on TOUR this season and ties the most in Valspar Championship history (2013)

**Nico Echavarria (T1/-7)**

- Would earn his third PGA TOUR title in his 70th start; age on Sunday: 30 years, 7 months, 19 days
- PGA TOUR victories (2): 2023 Puerto Rico Open, 2024 Baycurrent Classic
- With a 5-under 66, one of three players with a bogey-free third round (others: Patrick Fishburn/66, Stephan Jaeger/69)
- Fourth career 54-hole lead/co-lead on TOUR; 2-for-3 converting to victory (most recent: 2024 Baycurrent Classic)
- Would become the first Colombian winner of the Valspar Championship and first international winner of the event since 2019 (Paul/Casey/England)
- Win would come in his third start at the Valspar Championship (MC/2023, MC/2024)
- Would be second top-10 finish in nine starts this season; lost in playoff to Nick Taylor at the Sony Open in Hawaii

**Jacob Bridgeman (T1/-7)**

- Would earn his first PGA TOUR title in his 40th start; age on Sunday: 25 years, 3 months, 17 days
- Would be the fifth first-time winner on TOUR this season and first since Karl Vilips (Puerto Rico Open)
- Would be the seventh player to earn his first TOUR title at the Valspar Championship (most recent: Taylor Moore/2023)
- Holds 54-hole lead/co-lead for first time on TOUR; previous-best position: T4 (twice; most recent: 2024 Sanderson Farms Championship/finished T11)
- 36-hole leader also held a share of the 18-hole co-lead; no first-round leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win this season
- Win would come in his second start at the event (MC/2024)
- Career-best result on TOUR: T2/2025 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches
- Finished No. 113 in the 2024 FedExCup Fall standings after posting five top-15 finishes
- Clemson product in his second season on TOUR after earning his PGA TOUR card for 2024 by finishing No. 14 on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List in 2023

**Viktor Hovland (T1/-7)**

- Would earn his seventh PGA TOUR title in his 120th start; age on Sunday: 27 years, 6 months, 5 days
- Has two top-10s in 21 starts since last win at the 2023 TOUR Championship (3<sup>rd</sup>/2024 PGA Championship, T2/2024 FedEx St. Jude Championship)
- Owns one top-10 in two starts at the Valspar Championship (T3/2021, T33/2022)
- Fifth career 54-hole lead/co-lead on TOUR; 3-for-4 converting to victory (most recent: 2023 TOUR Championship)
- Entered the week off three missed cuts and made his third cut of the season, but first in a tournament featuring a 36-hole cut (T36/The Sentry, T22/AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am)
- Would become the first Norwegian winner of the Valspar Championship and first international winner of the event since 2019 (Paul/Casey/England)

**Justin Thomas (T5/-5)**

- Records a 6-under 65, his career-best at the event in 29 rounds at Copperhead Course (previous: 66/2022/R1, R2, R3)
- 15-time PGA TOUR winner seeks his first victory since the 2022 PGA Championship (56 starts)
- Seven of his 15 victories have come when trailing through three rounds, including the last four:

| <b>Tournament</b>   | <b>Strokes off lead</b> |
|---|-------------------------|
| 2022 PGA Championship                                     | 7                       |
| 2021 THE PLAYERS Championship                             | 3                       |
| 2020 World Golf Championships-FedEx St. Jude Invitational | 4                       |
| 2020 Sentry   | 1                       |
| 2018 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches                | 1                       |
| 2017 PGA Championship                                     | 2                       |
| 2016 CIMB Classic   | 4                       |

**Miscellaneous Notes**

- PGA TOUR rookie **Ricky Castillo** (4<sup>th</sup>/-6) is in search of his first PGA TOUR title in his 10th start (best: T15/2025 Farmers Insurance Open)
- **Sam Ryder** (T24/-2) aces the par-3 17th hole (5-iron) for his second hole-in-one in 209 starts on TOUR (2022 WM Phoenix Open/R3/No. 16); becomes the second player to record an ace on No. 17 at the Copperhead Course this week (Steven Fisk/R2)