



2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches
(7th of 34 FedExCup Regular Season events)

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida
PGA National Resort (The Champion Course)

February 26 – March 1, 2026
Par/Yards: 35-36—71/7,223

FedExCup points: 500 (winner)
Purse: \$9.6 million (\$1,728,000/winner)

Pre-Tournament Information – 2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

Player Interviews (All times local ET)

Wednesday, February 25

9:00 a.m. – Tim Rosaforte Distinguished Journalist Award Presentation

10:30 a.m. – Brooks Koepka

11:00 a.m. – Luke Clanton

Following 10:00 a.m. 9-hole pro-am – Shane Lowry

Following 10:11 a.m. 9-hole pro-am – Ryan Gerard

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Luke Clanton

- Making his second appearance in the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches after finishing T18 in 2025
 - Competed in the 2025 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches as a sponsor exemption; as an amateur at the time, Clanton started the week with 19 points in the PGA TOUR University Accelerated program, and a made cut earned him one point, elevating him to the 20-point threshold to earn PGA TOUR membership
 - Opted to forego his senior season at Florida State University and officially accepted PGA TOUR membership via PGA TOUR University Accelerated after the 2025 NCAA Championship; turned professional in June 2025
- Seeking his first made cut this season in his fourth start (two MCs, one WD)
- In 29 total PGA TOUR starts, owns four top-10 finishes, including a pair of T2s (2024 John Deere Classic, 2024 RSM Classic)
- 22-year-old native of Hialeah, Florida, approx. 80 miles south of Palm Beach Gardens
- Played three seasons at Florida State University (2022-25), where he earned eight collegiate victories, tying the career wins school record previously established by Nolan Henke (1983-87) and John Pak (2017-21)

Ryan Gerard

- Making his third career start in the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches (2025/T25, 2023/4th)
- Qualified for the 2023 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches as an Open Qualifier and went on to finish solo-fourth, becoming the first Open Qualifier to finish in the top five on TOUR since Doc Redman at the 2019 Rocket Classic (2nd)
 - The top-10 finish earned Gerard, a Korn Ferry Tour member at the time, a start in the next full-field PGA TOUR event, the Puerto Rico Open where he finished T11; in April 2023, Gerard accepted Special Temporary Membership for the remainder of the 2022-23 season
- Enters the week No. 7 in the FedExCup standings after recording three top-25s and five made cuts in five starts
- Finished runner-up in the first two events of the 2026 season (Sony Open in Hawaii/2nd, The American Express/T2)
- Last year in his first full season as a member, finished No. 39 in the 2025 FedExCup standings after recording four top-10 finishes in 29 starts, highlighted by his first PGA TOUR title at the Barracuda Championship
- 26-year-old University of North Carolina alum now resides in Jupiter, Florida

Brooks Koepka

- Nine-time PGA TOUR winner and five-time major champion makes his 189th PGA TOUR start
- West Palm Beach native is making his eighth career start in the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches
- In seven prior starts in the event, recorded five made cuts and two top-25 finishes (T2/2019, T16/2022)
- Made two starts this season since re-joining the PGA TOUR through the Returning Member Program (T56/Farmers Insurance Open, MC/WM Phoenix Open)

Shane Lowry

- Three-time PGA TOUR winner will make his ninth appearance in the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches
- Owns three top-five finishes in his last four starts in the event (2nd/2022, T5/2023, T4/2024, T11/2025)
- Opened his season with back-to-back top-25 finishes (T8/AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am, T24/The Genesis Invitational)
- World No. 31 is one of eight players in the field ranked inside the top 50 of the Official World Golf Rankings; second-highest ranked player in the field only behind Ryan Gerard (No. 26)
- Last season, recorded four top-10 finishes and 12 top-25s in 20 starts, qualifying for the playoffs and advancing to the TOUR Championship (finished T13) for the second consecutive year

Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches notes

- The field for the 2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches features:
 - Eight of the top 50 players in the Official World Golf Rankings; highest ranked player is **Ryan Gerard** (26th)
 - Nine players inside the top 50 of the 2026 FedExCup standings; highest ranked player is **Ryan Gerard** (7th)
 - Nine winners from the 2025 season: **Michael Brennan** (Bank of Utah Championship), **Steven Fisk** (Sanderson Farms Championship), **Ryan Gerard** (Barracuda Championship), **Garrick Higgo** (Corales Puntacana Championship), **Joe Highsmith** (Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches), **William Mouw** (ISCO Championship), **Adam Schenk** (Butterfield Bermuda Championship), **Sami Valimaki** (The RSM Classic), **Karl Vilips** (Puerto Rico Open)
 - Six players who won on the DP World Tour last season: **Dan Brown**, **Haotong Li**, **John Parry**, **Kristoffer Reitan**, **Adrien Saddier**, **Aaron Rai**
 - Six past champions of the 2025 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches, including the last three winners: **Joe Highsmith** (2025), **Austin Eckroat** (2024), **Chris Kirk** (2023), **Keith Mitchell** (2019), **Camilo Villegas** (2010), **Matt Kuchar** (2002)
- Defending champion **Joe Highsmith** returns to PGA National Resort where he earned his maiden PGA TOUR title with a two-stroke victory over Jacob Bridgeman and J.J. Spaun; prior to posting back-to-back 64s on the weekend in the event last year, Highsmith made the cut on the number (5-under), becoming the first player on TOUR to win after making the cut on the number since 2016 (Brandt Snedeker/Farmers Insurance Open) and the sixth player to accomplish the feat since 2003
- **Billy Horschel** will be making his 14th appearance in the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches; has recorded six top-25 finishes and three top-10s in the event, highlighted by a T4 in 2017; making his sixth start of the 2026 season, seeking his first top-25 finish (best finish: T27/The American Express)
- Six-time PGA TOUR winner **Max Homa** will make his third career start in the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches and his first since 2019 (T20); best finish in four starts this season is T27 at The American Express
- 2025 Korn Ferry Tour Player of the Year **Johnny Keefer** is making his tournament debut; World No. 61 owns four made cuts in four starts this season with his best finish being a T27 at The American Express
- 18-year-old Blades Brown will be making his second start of the season as a sponsor exemption (T18/The American Express)
- Sponsor exemptions: **Blades Brown**, **Adam Hadwin**, **Harry Higgs**, **Camilo Villegas**

Aon Swing 5 and Aon Next 10

- The Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches marks the final opportunity for players to earn FedExCup points towards the Aon Swing 5 and Aon Next 10 with entry into the next Signature Event: Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard
- The top five players, not otherwise exempt, who earn the most FedExCup points during the Sony Open in Hawaii, The American Express, Farmers Insurance Open, WM Phoenix Open and Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches will qualify for the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard

Aon Swing 5 standings (thru The Genesis Invitational):

Rank	Player	Points
1	Michael Thorbjornsen	171.000
2	Nicolai Højgaard	162.300
3	Haotong Li	139.214
4	Stephan Jaeger	131.500
5	Kevin Roy	111.500

- **Aon Next 10:** The Aon Next 10 for the Arnold Palmer Invitational will be determined by top ten FedExCup points earners, not already exempt, through the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches:

Aon Next 10 standings (thru The Genesis Invitational):

Rank	Player	Points
1	Jake Knapp	680.000
2	Min Woo Lee	522.000
3	Pierceson Coody	458.563
4	Ryo Hisatsune	450.750
5	Adam Scott	395.625
6	Aldrich Potgieter	307.875
7	Matt McCarty	282.500
8	Sahith Theegala	280.208
9	Patrick Rodgers	271.159
10	Andrew Putnam	183.750