

cognizant classic



IN THE PALM BEACHES

February 26 – March 1, 2026
PGA National Resort (The Champion Course)

Table of Contents

- World Feed Broadcast Coverage Information
- World Feed Broadcast Delivery Information
- Break Formats
- Commentator Resources
 - Tee Times (Rds 1 and 2)
 - Weather Forecast
 - Pre-Tournament Notes
 - Messaging Document
 - International Player Analysis
 - Eligibility Overview
 - GCAA Tournament Fact Sheet
 - Shotlink Stats

Broadcaster Resource Links

[International Broadcaster Website](#)

[International Delivery Schedule](#)

[PGA TOUR Media Website](#)

[Shotlink Tracker](#)

[PGATOUR.com](#)

Pressers and Interviews:

Pre-tournament presser schedule can be found on the [PGA TOUR Media Website](#)

Player interviews can be accessed on the [Content Hub powered by Imagen](#)

Broadcaster Support Contact

International Media/Content: intlbroadcastersupport@pgatourhq.com

AD Listen Line: Audio Channels 5 & 6

SES:

Transmission Troubleshooting: +1 570-226-6670

Transmission Troubleshooting email: OuMcHawley@ses.com

PGA TOUR TOC: +1 904-940-7129

cognizant classic



IN THE PALM BEACHES

World Feed Broadcast Coverage Details

World Feed Airtimes

Round 1: February 26, 2026: 14:00-18:00 ET

Round 2: February 27, 2026: 14:00-18:00 ET

Round 3: February 28, 2026: 13:00-18:00 ET

Round 4: March 1, 2026: 13:00-18:00 ET

Tournament Overview:

Date: February 26 – March 1, 2026

Course: PGA National Resort (The Champion Course)

Location: Palm Beach Gardens, FL USA

Defending Champion: Joe Highsmith

Yardage: 7,223

Par Value: 71

FedExCup Points/1st: 500

Prize Money/1st: \$9,600,000/\$1,728,000

World Feed Talent

Host: Brian Katrek

Analyst: Jay Townsend

Analyst: Rich Beem

On-Course Reporter: Wayne Riley

World Feed Sponsored Elements

Aon

1. **Aon Better Decisions**

- Frequency: 2x execution during Saturday (Feb 28) and Sunday (Mar 1) coverage
- Execution:
 - Details to be shared morning of telecast

Cleveland Clinic

1. Shot of the Day

- Frequency: 4x per Tournament (1x per day)
 - Execution:
 - Full screen “Shot of the Day graphic to open with CC logo accompanied by VO “**Now, the Shot of the Day presented by Cleveland Clinic, Official Healthcare Provider of the PGA TOUR**”
 - Following the highlight, end-slate will be same as opening fullscreen but no voiceover required.
- *Please note “Shot of the Day” will be available on Imagen without sponsorship graphic post-broadcast each day

Genesis

2. Drive of the Day:

- Frequency: 2x per tournament (1x Thursday OR Friday and 1x Saturday OR Sunday)
- Execution:
 - Full screen ‘Drive of the Day’ graphic to open with Genesis logo.
- Above graphic accompanied by voiceover ‘...**Now to our Drive of the Day, presented by Genesis**’.
- Following the highlight footage, deliver end-slate – same as opening full screen graphic – but no voiceover required

WHOOOP

3. WHOOOP Live Player Heart-Rate Integration

- Frequency: 4x per tournament (1x per day)
- Execution:
 - In-round side slab - commentators will react in real time

International Players in the Field

(Field as of Wednesday February 25, 2026 10:30 ET)

Argentina: Emiliano Grillo, Alejandro Tosti

Australia: Cam Davis, Karl Vilips

Belgium: Adrien Dumont de Chassart

Canada: A.J. Ewart, Adam Hadwin, Mackenzie Hughes, Adam Svensson, Sudarshan Yellamaraju

China: Zecheng Dou, Haotong Li

Chinese Taipei: Kevin Yu

Colombia: Nico Echavarria, Marcelo Roza, Camilo Villegas

Denmark: Nicolai Hojgaard, Rasmus Hojgaard, Rasmus Neergaard-Petersen, Thorbjorn Olesen

England: Dan Brown, John Parry, Aaron Rai, Jordan Smith, Matt Wallace, Paul Waring, Danny Willett

Finland: Sami Valimaki

France: Matthieu Pavon, Adrien Saddier

Germany: Stephan Jaeger, Matti Schmid

Ireland: Shane Lowry, Seamus Power

Japan: Kensei Hirata, Takumi Kanaya, Keita Nakajima

Norway: Kristoffer Reitan, Kri Ventura

Philippines: Rico Hoey

Puerto Rico: Rafael Campos

South Africa: Christiaan Bezuidenhout, Garrick Higgo, Christo Lamprecht, Erik van Rooyen

South Korea: S.H. Kim, Tom Kim, K.H. Lee

Sweden: Pontus Nyholm, Jesper Svensson



World Feed Broadcast Delivery Details

Booking Information

For bookings and airtimes information for satellite, fiber and SRT please visit [SES Score](#). Information is also available on the [International Broadcaster Website](#)

Audio Configuration

Channel 1	Full Mix
Channel 2	Full Mix
Channel 3	International Sound (Mix/Minus)
Channel 4	International Sound (Mix/Minus)
Channel 5	AD Listen Line
Channel 6	AD Listen Line

Audio configuration also available on the [International Broadcaster Website](#).

Break Formats

World Feed AD will count to 4x2 minute breaks per hour.

See three pages after this for Break Formats by round. Break formats are also available on the [International Broadcaster Website](#)

Broadcast Beauties

Broadcast beauties will be available on Wednesday on the [Content Hub powered by Imagen](#).

If weather changes on-site, updated beauties will be uploaded to Imagen and fed down the line as needed. Email communication will be shared if there are updated beauties.

cognizant classic

IN THE PALM BEACHES



WF Break Formats Rounds 1 and 2

Break 1	02:00:00
Break 2	02:00:00
Break 3	02:00:00
Break 4	02:00:00
Break 5	02:00:00
Break 6	02:00:00
Break 7	02:00:00
Break 8	02:00:00
Break 9	02:00:00
Break 10	02:00:00
Break 11	02:00:00
Break 12	02:00:00
Break 13	02:00:00
Break 14	02:00:00
Break 15	02:00:00
Break 16	02:00:00

cognizant classic

IN THE PALM BEACHES



WF Break Formats Round 3

Break 1	02:00:00
Break 2	02:00:00
Break 3	02:00:00
Break 4	02:00:00
Break 5	02:00:00
Break 6	02:00:00
Break 7	02:00:00
Break 8	02:00:00
Break 9	02:00:00
Break 10	02:00:00
Break 11	02:00:00
Break 12	02:00:00
Break 13	02:00:00
Break 14	02:00:00
Break 15	02:00:00
Break 16	02:00:00
Break 17	02:00:00
Break 18	02:00:00
Break 19	02:00:00
Break 20	02:00:00

cognizant classic

IN THE PALM BEACHES



WF Break Formats Round 4

Break 1	02:00:00
Break 2	02:00:00
Break 3	02:00:00
Break 4	02:00:00
Break 5	02:00:00
Break 6	02:00:00
Break 7	02:00:00
Break 8	02:00:00
Break 9	02:00:00
Break 10	02:00:00
Break 11	02:00:00
Break 12	02:00:00
Break 13	02:00:00
Break 14	02:00:00
Break 15	02:00:00
Break 16	02:00:00
Break 17	02:00:00
Break 18	02:00:00
Break 19	02:00:00
Break 20	02:00:00

cognizant classic

IN THE PALM BEACHES



Commentator Resources Table of Contents

- Tee Times (Rounds 1 and 2)
- Weather Forecast
- Pre-Tournament Notes
- Messaging Document
- International Player Analysis
- Eligibility Overview
- GCSAA Tournament Fact Sheet
- Shotlink Stats

Player/Caddie list will be available on the [International Broadcaster Website](#)

Other Resources can be accessed on the [PGA TOUR Media Website](#)



Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

Groupings & Starting Times

Thursday & Friday, February 26 & February 27, 2026

Rd. 1 1 Tee	Rd. 2 10 Tee			
6:45 AM	11:35 AM	Taylor Moore Edmond, OK	Harry Higgs Dallas, TX	Hank Lebioda Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
6:57 AM	11:47 AM	Matthieu Pavin Bordeaux, FRA	Adam Hadwin Abbotsford, British Columbia, CAN	Doug Ghim Arlington Heights, IL
7:09 AM	11:59 AM	Lee Hodges Athens, AL	Matt Wallace London, ENG	Mac Meissner Dallas, TX
7:21 AM	12:11 PM	Brendon Todd Athens, GA	Kevin Streelman Wheaton, IL	Vince Whaley Alpharetta, GA
7:33 AM	12:23 PM	Steven Fisk Sea Island, GA	Nico Echavarria Medellin, COL	Kevin Yu Taoyuan, TPE
7:45 AM	12:35 PM	Davis Thompson Sea Island, GA	Stephan Jaeger Germany	Webb Simpson Charlotte, NC
7:57 AM	12:47 PM	Nick Dunlap Jupiter, FL	K.H. Lee Seoul, KOR	Chad Ramey Fulton, MS
8:09 AM	12:59 PM	Adrien Saddier Esery, FRA	Paul Waring Wirral, ENG	Christo Lamprecht George, RSA
8:21 AM	1:11 PM	Jimmy Stanger Tampa, FL	Neal Shipley Pittsburgh, PA	Jeffrey Kang Los Angeles, CA
8:33 AM	1:23 PM	Austin Smotherman Dallas, TX	Jordan Smith Bath, Wiltshire, ENG	Chandler Blanchet Atlantic Beach, FL
Rd. 1 10 Tee	Rd. 2 1 Tee			
6:45 AM	11:35 AM	Austin Eckroat Edmond, OK	Danny Willett Sheffield, ENG	Beau Hossler Mission Viejo, CA
6:57 AM	11:47 AM	Camilo Villegas Medellin, COL	Joel Dahmen Clarkston, WA	Sam Ryder Longwood, FL
7:09 AM	11:59 AM	Adam Svensson Vancouver, British Columbia, CAN	Rico Hoey Manila, PHI	Max McGreevy Edmond, OK
7:21 AM	12:11 PM	Aaron Rai Wolverhampton, ENG	Shane Lowry County Offaly, IRL	Billy Horschel Ponte Vedra Beach, FL
7:33 AM	12:23 PM	Garrick Higgo Stellenbosch, RSA	Karl Vilips Perth, AUS	Davis Riley Hattiesburg, MS
7:45 AM	12:35 PM	Joe Highsmith Lakewood, WA	Chris Kirk Watkinsville, GA	Keith Mitchell Sea Island, GA
7:57 AM	12:47 PM	Rafael Campos Guaynabo, PUR	Nicolai Højgaard Billund, DEN	S.H. Kim Republic of Korea
8:09 AM	12:59 PM	Jackson Suber Tampa, FL	Johnny Keefer San Antonio, TX	Blades Brown Nashville, TN
8:21 AM	1:11 PM	Ricky Castillo Yorba Linda, CA	Adrien Dumont de Chassart Villers la Ville, BEL	Keita Nakajima Japan
8:33 AM	1:23 PM	Patrick Fishburn Ogden, UT	Zach Bauchou Edmond, OK	Sudarshan Yellamaraju Mississauga, Ontario, CAN



Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

Groupings & Starting Times

Thursday & Friday, February 26 & February 27, 2026

Rd. 1 1 Tee	Rd. 2 10 Tee			
11:35 AM	6:45 AM	Mark Hubbard Denver, CO	Eric Cole Tequesta, FL	Alex Smalley Greensboro, NC
11:47 AM	6:57 AM	Gary Woodland Topeka, KS	Brandt Snedeker Franklin, TN	David Lipsky Las Vegas, NV
11:59 AM	7:09 AM	Emiliano Grillo Chaco, ARG	Kevin Roy Lakewood Ranch, FL	Danny Walker Bradenton, FL
12:11 PM	7:21 AM	Michael Brennan Leesburg, VA	Ryan Gerard Raleigh, NC	Max Homa Scottsdale, AZ
12:23 PM	7:33 AM	Brooks Koepka West Palm Beach, FL	Will Zalatoris Dallas, TX	Daniel Berger Jupiter, FL
12:35 PM	7:45 AM	Tom Kim Seoul, KOR	Michael Thorbjornsen Wellesley, MA	Rasmus Højgaard Denmark
12:47 PM	7:57 AM	Patton Kizzire Sea Island, GA	Andrew Putnam Tacoma, WA	Kristoffer Reitan Norway
12:59 PM	8:09 AM	Haotong Li People's Rep of China	Marcelo Rozo Bogota, COL	Davis Chatfield Attleboro, MA
1:11 PM	8:21 AM	Jesper Svensson Uppsala, SWE	Kensei Hirata Suita, JPN	Luke Clanton Hialeah, FL
1:23 PM	8:33 AM	Isaiah Salinda South San Francisco, CA	Rasmus Neergaard-Petersen Copenhagen, DEN	A.J. Ewart Coquitlam, BC, CAN
Rd. 1 10 Tee	Rd. 2 1 Tee			
11:35 AM	6:45 AM	Erik van Rooyen Johannesburg, RSA	Justin Lower Akron, OH	Carson Young Pendleton, SC
11:47 AM	6:57 AM	Peter Malnati Knoxville, TN	Brice Garnett Gallatin, MO	Lanto Griffin Jacksonville Beach, FL
11:59 AM	7:09 AM	Matti Schmid Germany	Dylan Wu Medford, OR	Takumi Kanaya Hiroshima, JPN
12:11 PM	7:21 AM	Adam Schenk Vincennes, IN	William Mouw Chino Hills, CA	Aaron Wise Charlotte, NC
12:23 PM	7:33 AM	Sami Valimaki Nokia, FIN	Cam Davis Sydney, AUS	Matt Kuchar Jupiter, FL
12:35 PM	7:45 AM	Mackenzie Hughes Dundas, Ontario, CAN	Thorbjørn Olesen Furesø, DEN	Chandler Phillips College Station, TX
12:47 PM	7:57 AM	Seamus Power Waterford, IRL	Charley Hoffman Rancho Santa Fe, CA	Christiaan Bezuidenhout Kempton Park, RSA
12:59 PM	8:09 AM	Kris Ventura Moss, NOR	Dan Brown Northallerton, ENG	Pontus Nyholm Gavle, SWE
1:11 PM	8:21 AM	Alejandro Tosti Rosario, ARG	Frankie Capan III North Oaks, MN	John VanDerLaan Southbury, CT
1:23 PM	8:33 AM	Chan Kim Gilbert, AZ	John Parry Harrogate, ENG	Gordon Sargent Birmingham, AL
1:35 PM	8:45 AM	Zecheng Dou Zhengzhou, CHN	David Ford Peachtree Corners, GA	Justin Hicks West Palm Beach, FL

Alternates

1 Hayden Springer	6 Paul Peterson
2 Jeremy Paul	7 Zac Blair
3 Taylor Montgomery	8 Ben Kohles
4 Ben Silverman	9 Cameron Champ
5 Noah Goodwin	10 David Skins

Weekend starting times are dependent on cut size.

Approx. Starting Times for Sat/Sun: 7:50 am - 1:50 pm
Finish Times for Sat/Sun: 6:00 pm

Tee Times: pgatour.com or PGA TOUR CENTRAL



Cognizant Classic

WEATHER FORECAST

Issued: 6am Thu, February 26, 2026



Time	7am	9am	11am	1pm	3pm	5pm
Sky						
Weather	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy	Partly cloudy and warm	Partly cloudy and warm	Slight chance of showers
Rain Probability	0%	0%	0%	0%	20%	25%
Lightning Probability	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%
Temp (F)	53	65	75	78	80	77
Winds (mph)	Calm	SSW 3-6	S 5-10	SSE 10-15	SE 10-15 G20	SE 10-15

Today –A milder start to the day with temperatures in the 50s. Otherwise, partly cloudy skies and warmer temperatures can be expected this highs around 80F. An isolated shower or two may develop during the late afternoon/ early evening hours, but most locations will remain dry. Light wind this morning will increase out of the southeast to 10-15 with gusts 18-20 mph at times.

Sunrise: 6:45am / Sunset: 6:18pm

Day	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
Sky				
Weather	Chance of PM showers/ isolated t-storms	Scattered PM showers and a few thunderstorms	Chance of showers	Chance of PM showers
Rain Probability	40%	60%	30%	30%
Rain Amount (in)	0.10"-0.15"	0.25"-0.50"	0.10"-0.20"	0.10"
Temp (min/max)	63/83	65/82	64/79	66/79
Winds (mph)	SE 10-15 G20	S→E 7-14	ENE 10-15	ENE 10-15

Extended forecast – Temperatures will continue to be warm over the next couple of days, with highs in the 80s Friday and Saturday. Another front is expected to move slowly southward across Florida on Saturday, interacting with upper-level energy passing over the region. This will bring the chance for scattered showers and isolated thunderstorms Friday afternoon, with showers and a few thunderstorms becoming more likely Saturday afternoon. The front is forecast to slowly shift south of the area Sunday, leading to a decrease in shower chances.



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

***Visit pgatourmedia.com for the latest interview schedule**

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



Message Document: 2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

Tournament Focus

- **NOTE:** The official name of the event is the “Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches.” On first reference, please include “in The Palm Beaches.” On second and subsequent references, “Cognizant Classic” can be used.
- **History:** For more than four decades the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches has been an annual tradition on the PGA TOUR calendar and in the South Florida community. One of the world’s elite destinations takes center stage to showcase luxurious hospitality and a lively social scene amongst a best-in-class sports experience at PGA National Resort & Spa.
 - The 2026 edition marks the 20th year The Champion Course has played host to the Cognizant Classic.
- **Florida Swing Begins:** The Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches kicks off a four-week stretch of PGA TOUR golf in the Sunshine State as well as network coverage on NBC. After the week at PGA National Resort & Spa, the TOUR will move to the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard in Orlando, followed by THE PLAYERS Championship in Ponte Vedra Beach and the Valspar Championship in Palm Harbor. The fifth and final event played in Florida during the 2026 regular season will be the Cadillac Championship at Trump National Doral in Miami (April 27-May 3).
- **Tim Rosaforte Distinguished Journalist Award:** On Monday, February 23, the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches will announce longtime NBC Sports host and reporter Jimmy Roberts as the 2026 Tim Rosaforte Distinguished Journalist Award recipient. The award ceremony will be held in the Tim Rosaforte Media Center on Tuesday, February 24 at 2 p.m.
 - **About the award:** The Tim Rosaforte Distinguished Journalist award was introduced in 2021 by former tournament executive director Ken Kennerly and the tournament’s host committee. Rosaforte, the recipient of the inaugural award, later passed away due to complications from Alzheimer's Disease in 2022.
 - **Past Recipients:** In addition to Rosaforte (2021), longtime golf writers Larry Dorman (2022), Randall Mell (2023), Craig Dolch (2024) and Jeff Babineau (2025, posthumously) have received the award.
- **Community Impact:** With the support of Jack and Barbara Nicklaus, Children’s Health Care Charity, Inc., has been a key part of the Cognizant Classic since 2007. The event’s primary beneficiary continues to be the Nicklaus Children’s Health Care Foundation, which bolsters initiatives that advance and enhance the diagnosis, treatment and prevention of childhood diseases and disorders, as well as other not-for-profit programs and projects aimed at pediatric health care and health-related services. Additionally, Nicklaus Children’s Hospital serves as the Official Health System Partner of the Cognizant Classic.
 - **Play Yellow Day on Sunday, March 1:** Play Yellow is a national philanthropic initiative launched by Jack and Barbara Nicklaus that partners with the Children’s

Miracle Network and children's hospitals across the country. In support of this initiative, fans are encouraged to wear yellow on Sunday while in attendance.

- Play Yellow Ambassadors in the field: Patrick Fishburn, Hank Lebioda, Justin Lower, Peter Malnati, Max McGreevy, Kevin Roy, Neal Shipley
- **Play Yellow Pin Flag Caddies:** During the final two hours of play on Sunday, patients from the Nicklaus Children's Hospital will serve as honorary pin flag caddies as the final groups make their way to the No. 18 green.

Competitions Storylines

- **TGL:** Five TGL matches will be held at the nearby SoFi Center in Palm Beach Gardens during Cognizant Classic week, with doubleheaders on Monday, February 23 and Tuesday, February 24 followed by a 9 p.m. match on Sunday, March 1 just hours after the final round of the Cognizant Classic. Seven players in this week's field are members of TGL teams:
 - Luke Clanton (The Bay GC), Max Homa (Jupiter Links GC), Billy Horschel (Atlanta Drive GC), Tom Kim (Jupiter Links GC), Shane Lowry (The Bay GC), Neal Shipley (The Bay GC) and Michael Thorbjornsen (Boston Common GC)
- **Aon:** The Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches marks the next opportunity for players to play their way into the season's next Signature Event at the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard. No longer comprised of Nos. 51-60 in the final 2025 FedExCup Fall standings, the **Aon Next 10** now features the top 10 available players (not otherwise exempt) from the FedExCup standings through the Cognizant Classic.
 - The **Aon Swing 5** also continues with the top five players, not otherwise exempt, who earn the most FedExCup points at the Sony Open in Hawaii, The American Express, Farmers Insurance Open, WM Phoenix Open and Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches qualifying for the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard.

Player Priorities

- **Brooks Koepka:** Nine-time PGA TOUR winner is making his third start on TOUR since re-joining the PGA TOUR through the Returning Member Program. The South Florida native will make his eighth start at PGA National where he has earned two top-20 finishes (T2/2019; T16/2022).
- **Shane Lowry:** Three-time TOUR winner will make his ninth appearance at the event where he owns three top-five finishes in his last four starts (2/2022; T5/2023; T4/2024; 11/2025). Finished T8 and T24 in his two starts this season at the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am and The Genesis Invitational, respectively.
- **Billy Horschel:** Marks 14th start, and fifth consecutive, at the event where he collected three top-10 finishes (T8/2018; T4/2017; T9/2024). Sidelined for five months following surgery for a hip injury in May 2025. Currently sits No. 91 in the FedExCup following three made cuts in five starts this season (best finish: T27/The American Express).

- **Max Homa:** Six-time TOUR winner will make third appearance at the event (T20/2019; MC/2015). Two made cuts in three starts this season (best finish: T27/The American Express). Seeks first victory since 2023 Farmers Insurance Open.

**International Analysis
2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches**

2026 Season

Wins by Country PGA TOUR This Season		Most Top 5s International Countries This Season		Most Top 10s International Countries This Season	
	Total		Total		Total
United States	5	Australia	3	England	5
England	1	England	2	Japan	5
		Japan	2	Australia	3
		Republic of Korea	2	Republic of Korea	3

**Most Top 10s Without a Win
International Countries This Season**

	Total
Japan	5
Australia	3
Republic of Korea	3

**Most Top 5s Without a Win
International Countries This Season**

	Total
Australia	3
Japan	2
Republic of Korea	2

2026 FedExCup International Storylines

**Most International Player Inside Top 70
FedExCup Standings this Season**

	Total
England	7
Australia	3
Japan	2
Republic of Korea	2
Canada	2
Ireland	2
People's Rep of China	2
Sweden	2

**Most International Player Inside Top 50
FedExCup Standings this Season**

	Total
England	4
Australia	3
Japan	2
13 countries w/	1

**Most International Player Inside Top 30
FedExCup Standings this Season**

	Total
England	3
Australia	3
Japan	2
6 countries w/	1

**Most International Player Inside Top 10
FedExCup Standings this Season**

	Total
England	1
Australia	1
Japan	1
Republic of Korea	1

**Highest Ranked International Players
FedExCup This Season**

	Rank	Country
Hideki Matsuyama	6 th	Japan
Si Woo Kim	8 th	Republic of Korea
Min Woo Lee	9 th	Australia
Justin Rose	10 th	England
Tommy Fleetwood	11 th	England

International Analysis 2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

Event Recap (All-Time)

2011 Champion Rory Sabbatini won under the South African flag, all Wins, Top 5s and Top 10s at this event are reflected under South Africa in the charts below – now plays under the Slovakia flag

Wins by Country Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches		Most Top 5s International Countries Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches		Most Top 10s International Countries Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches	
	Total		Total		Total
United States	37	Australia	20	Australia	33
Australia	3	England	18	England	26
Republic of Korea	2	Republic of Korea	6	Sweden	11
Ireland	2	Sweden	6	South Africa	11
South Africa	2	Ireland	5	Canada	10
England	1	South Africa	5	Republic of Korea	9
Sweden	1	Scotland	5		
Fiji	1				
Northern Ireland	1				
Zimbabwe	1				
Austria	1				
Colombia	1				

Most Top 10s Without a Win Intl. Countries Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches		Most Top 5s Without a Win Intl. Countries Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches	
	Total		Total
Canada	10	Scotland	5
Scotland	7	Germany	3
Germany	5	Canada	2
Japan	4	8 countries w/	1
Spain	4		

International Winners Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

	Country	Win Number
1994 Nick Price	Zimbabwe	10 th
1997 Stuart Appleby	Australia	1st
1999 Vijay Singh	Fiji	8 th
2001 Jesper Parnevik	Sweden	5 th
2005 Padraig Harrington	Ireland	1st
2006 Luke Donald	England	2 nd
2008 Ernie Els	South Africa	16 th
2009 Y.E. Yang	Republic of Korea	1st
2010 Camilo Villegas	Colombia	3 rd
2011 Rory Sabbatini	South Africa	6 th
2012 Rory McIlroy	Northern Ireland	3 rd
2015 Padraig Harrington	Ireland	6 th
2016 Adam Scott	Australia	12 th
2020 Sungjae Im	Republic of Korea	1st
2021 Matt Jones	Australia	2 nd
2022 Sepp Straka	Austria	1st

Tournament Headlines

- 50 international players in the field representing 20 different countries as of 4:30 am on 2/24/2026
- The Bear Trap is the fifth toughest three-hole stretch on the PGA TOUR since 2007 (non-majors)
- Five international players have earned their first win at this event, tied for 5th most of any event since 1997

International Analysis 2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

Camilo Villegas (Colombia)

- The 2010 champion is set to make his 20th appearance at this event, marking the most of any player in the field this week
- His 2010 win marked his 3rd overall victory on the PGA TOUR and marked the first player from Colombia to win this event

Most Starts

Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

	Starts	Best Finish
Camilo Villegas	19	WON (2010)
Chris Kirk	14	WON (2023)
Billy Horschel	13	T4 (2017)
Matt Kuchar	12	WON (2002)
Gary Woodland	11	T2 (2017)
Kevin Streelman	11	T13 (2009)

entering this week – players in field this week

RD 1 v RD 2 Comparison

Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

	RD 1	RD 2
Scoring Avg	72.26	71.74
PCT of Rds Under Par	26.32	36.84
PCT of Rds Finishing Inside Top 10	10.53	15.79
Birdie or Better Avg	2.95	3.53

Adam Hadwin (Canada)

- Is set to make his 4th appearance at this event and first since his best finish in 2021 (T8)
- Hadwin is making his season debut this week, his best finish in a season debut was 2nd at the start of the 2019-20 season
- Hadwin is seeking to be the first Canadian to win this event, 6 players have had Top 10 finishes here since moving to PGA National in 2007

Best Finish in a Season Debut PGA TOUR Career

	Finish
2019 Procore Championship	2 nd
2024 The Sentry	T14
2025 The Sentry	29 th
2010 RBC Canadian Open	T37
2011 U.S. Open	T39

making season debut this week

Best Finishes PGA TOUR Last Season

	Finish
WM Phoenix Open	T9
Butterfield Bermuda Champ.	T11
RBC Canadian Open	T27
The Sentry	29 th
Texas Children's Houston Open	T39

Best Finish by Canadians Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches since 2007

	Finish
2020 Mackenzie Hughes	2 nd
2014 David Hearn	T6
2021 Adam Hadwin	T8
2022 Adam Svensson	T9
2013 Graham DeLaet	T9
2017 Graham DeLaet	10 th

International Analysis 2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

Shane Lowry (Ireland)

- Is set to make his 9th appearance at this event (Best Finish: 2nd in 2022)
- Lowry looks to continue his streak of Top 20 finishes at this event – marking the longest streak of top 20 finishes at an event in his PGA TOUR Career
- Lowry has the largest Birdie Avg Rank Improvement from 2025 (T156) to 2026 (T21) of any player in that time span

Largest Birdie Avg Rank Improvement PGA TOUR Last 2 Seasons

	2025	2026	Improv
Shane Lowry	T156	T21	+135
Harris English	T160	27 th	+133
David Lipsky	T133	1 st	+132
Ryan Gerard	T152	24 th	+128
Andrew Putnam	T127	T3	+124

Last 4 Finishes Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

	Finish
2022	2 nd
2023	T5
2024	T4
2025	T11

Longest Streak of Top 20 Finishes in PGA TOUR Career

Tom Kim (Republic of Korea)

- Is set to make his second appearances at this event (Finished: T62 in 2024)
- Tom Kim is set to make his 100th start on the PGA TOUR
 - No player has ever won the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches in their 100th start on TOUR and the last player to win in their 100th start was Andrew Novak at the 2025 Zurich Classic in New Orleans

Best Finish by Players Making 100th Start At Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

	Finish
2020 Mackenzie Hughes	2nd
1987 Isao Aoki	T5
1981 Ron Streck	T25
2003 Briny Baird	T40
2021 Alex Noren	T46

Players to Win in 100th Start PGA TOUR since 2000

	Event
Andrew Novak	2025 Zurich Classic of New Orleans
Sungjae Im	2021 Shriners Children's Open
Richy Werenski	2020 Barracuda Championship
Brooks Koepka	2018 PGA Championship
Hideki Matsuyama	2017 WGC-FedEx St. Jude Invitational
Tiger Woods	2000 WGC-FedEx St. Jude Invitational

Career Breakdown PGA TOUR

	Total
Starts	99
Rounds	340
Wins	3
Top 5s	8
Top 10s	15
Top 25s	32
Cuts Made PCT	76.77

International Analysis 2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

Aaron Rai (England)

- Is set to make his 3rd appearance at this event (Best Finish: T66 in 2022)
- Has improved his rank in each of the last three consecutive seasons, one of 3 players to do so (K. Bradley, G. Woodland & K. Yu)
- Second highest Driving Accuracy PCT (70.93) of any player over the last 4 seasons on the PGA TOUR

Sand Save Rank Improvement PGA TOUR Last 4 Seasons

	Rank
2026	T4
2025	45
2024	T147
2022-23	188

Highest Driving Accuracy PCT PGA TOUR Last 4 Seasons

	PCT
Ben Kohles	71.84%
Aaron Rai	70.93%
Ryan Moore	70.26%
Russell Henley	70.22%
Collin Morikawa	69.52%

min 50 events played

Emiliano Grillo (Argentina)

- Is set to make his 7th appearance at this event (Best Finish: T8 in 2018)
- His T8 finish in 2018 is tied for his second best finish in Florida in his PGA TOUR Career
- Grillo made the cut in his first three consecutive starts at this event and has not made the cut in the last three starts, he is seeking to make his first cut at this event since his best finish in 2018

Best Finishes in Florida PGA TOUR Career

	Finish
2017 Arnold Palmer Invitational	T7
2024 Arnold Palmer Invitational	T8
2018 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches	T8
2017 THE PLAYERS Championship	11
2016 Arnold Palmer Invitational	T17

First 3 v Last 3 Start Comparison Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

	First 3	Last 3
Scoring Avg	70.83	72.83
Rds Under Par	4	2
Birdie or Better Avg	3.83	2.33
Made Cut PCT	100.00	0.00



COMPETITIONS AND ELIGIBILITY OVERVIEW

2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

WITH THIS VICTORY

PGA TOUR card

Through 2028

If already exempt thru 2028, add one year to exemption (max thru 2031)

Exemptions to Majors and THE PLAYERS

- 2026 PLAYERS Championship
- 2026 Masters Tournament
- 2026 PGA Championship
- 2026 U.S. Open if second win in 500+ FedExCup point events since the 2025 U.S. Open

Exemptions to Signature Events

- 2026 Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard
- 2026 RBC Heritage
- 2026 Cadillac Championship
- 2026 Truist Championship
- 2026 Memorial Tournament presented by Workday
- 2026 Travelers Championship

While the winner does not receive direct exemptions to the following events, he will improve his chances of qualifying for the following events:

- 2026 U.S. Open
 - 2026 Open Championship
 - 2026 FedEx St. Jude Championship
 - 2026 BMW Championship
 - 2026 TOUR Championship
- Top 60 Official World Golf Ranking (May 18, and June 15, 2026)
 Top 50 Official World Golf Ranking (May 25, 2026)
 Top 70 FedExCup Points List through Wyndham Championship
 Top 50 FedExCup Points List through FedEx St. Jude Championship
 Top 30 FedExCup Points List through BMW Championship

MEDICAL EXTENSIONS

Players in the field on medical extensions

Players on a Major or Minor Medical Extension who meet their top 100 points will move to a category called Top 100 (Medical), listed just below exempt players on the Priority Ranking (note: if injured in a season prior to 2025, players can move to the Top 100 Medical category by reaching their top 125 number, as that was the threshold for eligibility in the season in which they were injured; those players are noted by an asterisk *).

Player	Type	Events left	Top 100 points needed	Top 150 points needed	Other status
Charley Hoffman	Major	10	315.926 Win	22.895 Solo-33rd	Yes
K.H. Lee	Major	19	475.726 Win	182.695 Solo-3rd	Yes
Jimmy Stanger*	Major	11	206.634 3-way T2	46.092 Solo-19th	No
Kevin Streelman	Major	14	471.959 Win	178.928 Solo-3rd	Yes
Brendon Todd	Major	22	543.309 Win	250.278 Solo-2nd	Yes
Paul Waring	Major	9	538.059 Win	245.028 Solo-2nd	No
Danny Willett*	Major	8	219.114 2-way T2	58.572 Solo-13th	Yes
Aaron Wise*	Major	18	413.528 Win	252.986 Solo-2nd	Yes
Will Zalatoris	Major	14	254.263 Solo-2nd	Reached N/A	Yes

Completed medical extension tracker

Player	Type	Final event	Current category
Lee Hodges	Minor	Sony Open in Hawaii	Top 100 (Medical); earned a spot in THE PLAYERS
Taylor Moore	Minor	Farmers Insurance Open	111-125

MISCELLANEOUS NOTES

Aon Next 10 and Aon Swing 5

The Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard is the third Signature Event of the year and first at which the Aon Next 10 will be the 10 highest players in the current season's FedExCup standings that are not otherwise exempt.

The Aon Swing 5 standings are carried over from the Sony Open in Hawaii, The American Express, Farmers Insurance Open and WM Phoenix Open, and the top five players in the Aon Swing 5 standings after this week will qualify for the Arnold Palmer Invitational.

THE PLAYERS Championship qualification

The top 50 in the Official World Golf Ranking and top 10 in the FedExCup standings through the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches qualify for THE PLAYERS Championship. After this week, the only way to qualify for THE PLAYERS (except for those players on medical extensions) is to win the Puerto Rico Open or Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard. The field will be filled using beyond No. 10 in the FedExCup standings as of March 2 (thru Cognizant). The field size for THE PLAYERS has been adjusted to 120 in 2026 and will be expanded to 123 should Brooks Koepka compete, as expected.



Tournament Fact Sheet

Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches (PGA TOUR)

PGA National (The Champion) • Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. • Feb. 26-Mar. 1, 2026

Director of Agronomy

Keith Einwag, CGCS, GCSAA

Years as GCSAA Member: 35

Years at PGA National: 2 (started Feb. 6, 2024)

Years as a Superintendent: 40

Previous Courses: Belfair (director), Classic Club (director), Laurel Oak (director), Innisbrook (director), Lone Palm (super)

Education: Lake City College

Professional Tournaments Hosted: This is Einwag's 2nd

Cognizant Classic after hosting 12 Valspar Championships and a PGA Professional Championship in his career.

Contact: Mike Strauss: mstrauss@gcsaa.org / 785-865-8444

Other Key Agronomy Personnel

Andrew Wilson, GCSAA, Champion Course superintendent

Years as GCSAA Member: 15 / Years at PGA National: 7.5

Derrick Wells, Fazio and Palmer superintendent; Edgar Perez, Match and Staple superintendent; Bill Diorio, Estate superintendent; Nathan Leach, equipment manager

Agronomy Employees: 19 (Champion) / Tourn. Volunteers: 12

Golf Course Dogs: Bentley, 10-year-old yellow lab and Quinn, 4-year-old chocolate lab

Course Architect

Tom Fazio, ASGCA and George Fazio, ASGCA (1981)

Renovation: Jack Nicklaus, ASGCA [2002, 2014 (redesign), 2018]

Notable

- Since last year, No. 2 tee was lengthened 20 yards and a new tee was built on No. 18, adding 30 yards to the hole.
- In 2025 the fairways and tees were overseeded for the first time since 2014. In previous years only the rough was overseeded. The underlying turf is bermudagrass.
- Fairway lines were narrowed in July 2024 and in all 4 acres of fairway and approach turf was reduced since then.
- Hole No. 6 plays as a par 5 for regular play but is a par 4 for the tournament.

Tournament Setup

Par: 35-36--71

Yardage: 7,223

Turfgrass

Greens: TifEagle bermudagrass .110"

Collars: Celebration bermudagrass .275"

Approaches: Perennial ryegrass overseed .350"

Tees: Perennial ryegrass overseed .350"

Fairways: Perennial ryegrass overseed .350"

Rough: Perennial ryegrass overseed 3" (up from 2.5" last year)

Course Statistics

Average Green Size: 7,000 sq. ft.

Total Property Acres: 500 (120 for Champion)

Acres of Fairway: 25

Acres of Rough: 65

Number of Sand Bunkers: 60

Number of Holes Water is in Play: 15

Soil Conditions: Loam

Water Sources: Canal

Drainage: Fair

Average Fairway Widths: 28 yards

Links

GCSAA Tournament Fact Sheet Home:

<https://www.gcsaa.org/media/tournament-fact-sheets>

GCSAA Website: <https://www.gcsaa.org/>

GCM (GCSAA Magazine): <https://gcmonline.com/>

Superintendent X: @keinwag

Course X: @PGANatl

Tournament X: @the-cognizant

GCSAA X: @GCSAA

(more on next page)

Mike Strauss • Media Relations Manager • (O) 785-312-5164 • (C) 785-865-8444 • mstrauss@gcsaa.org • www.gcsaa.org

Since 1926 the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has been the top professional association for the men and women who manage golf courses in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to 21,000 members in more than 78 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and improve communities through enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf.



Tournament Fact Sheet

2026 GCSAA Course and Superintendent Notes For Courses Played (PGA TOUR Only)

(This Week's Course in Red)

2026 Season Averages

Courses Played to Date (7 tournaments, includes this week)

Average Yardage – 7,268

Average Green Size – 6,310 sq. ft.

Average Sand Bunkers – 79.4

Average Holes with Water in Play – 5

Tournaments by State

4 – California

1 – Hawaii / Arizona / **Florida**

Yardage (par)

7,765 (72) – Torrey Pines (Farmers Insurance)

7,383 (71) – Riviera (The Genesis)

7,261 (71) – TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)

7,223 (71) – PGA National (Cognizant Classic)

7,210 (72) – PGA West (The American Express)

7,044 (70) – Waialae CC (Sony Open)

6,989 (72) – Pebble Beach (AT&T Pro Am)

Average Green Size

7,500 – Riviera (The Genesis)

7,100 – Waialae CC (Sony Open)

7,069 – TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)

7,000 – PGA National (Cognizant Classic)

7,000 – PGA West (The American Express)

5,000 – Torrey Pines (Farmers Insurance)

3,500 – Pebble Beach (AT&T Pro Am)

Number of Bunkers

116 – Pebble Beach (AT&T Pro Am)

90+ – PGA West (The American Express)

83 – Waialae CC (Sony Open)

82 – Torrey Pines (Farmers Insurance)

67 – TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)

60 – PGA National (Cognizant Classic)

58 – Riviera (The Genesis)

Green Turf Type

5 – Poa annua

2 - Bermudagrass

Rough Turf Type

4 – Ryegrass

1 – Bermudagrass

1 – Fine Fescue

1 - Kikuyu

Superintendents Tournaments Hosted (includes 2025)

25 – Dave Nakama, CGCS, Waialae CC (Sony Open)

15 – Brandon Reese, TPC Scottsdale (WM Phoenix Open)

15 – Marshall Dick, Riviera (The Genesis)

14 – Keith Einwag, CGCS, PGA National (Cognizant Classic)

7 – Brian Sullivan, CGCS, MG, PGA West (American Express)

5 – Devin Cullen, Torrey Pines (Farmers Insurance)

5 – Pete Bachman, CGCS, Pebble Beach (AT&T Pro Am)

Superintendents GCSAA Membership Years

40 – Brian Sullivan, CGCS, MG, PGA West (American Express)

35 – Keith Einwag, CGCS, PGA National (Cognizant Classic)

21 – Dave Nakama, CGCS, Waialae CC (Sony Open)

18 – Pete Bachman, CGCS, Pebble Beach (AT&T Pro Am)

14 – Devin Cullen, Torrey Pines (Farmers Insurance)

6 – Marshall Dick, Riviera (The Genesis)

Superintendents Alma Maters

3 – Penn State

1 - Hawaii / Texas Tech / **Lake City College**

(more on next page)

Mike Strauss • Media Relations Manager • (O) 785-312-5164 • (C) 785-865-8444 • mstrauss@gcsaa.org • www.gcsaa.org

Since 1926 the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has been the top professional association for the men and women who manage golf courses in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to 21,000 members in more than 78 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and improve communities through enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf.



Tournament Fact Sheet

2025 Season Statistics for PGA TOUR

36 Courses (main courses only and does not include Puerto Rico Open, Scottish Open or Open Championship)

Average Yardage – 7,373

Average Green Size – 5,944 sq. ft.

Average Sand Bunkers – 76.8

Average Holes with Water in Play – 7.0

Greens Turf Type

Poa / Poa overseed – 12; Bentgrass – 9; Bermudagrass – 8

Bentgrass / Poa mix – 4; Paspalum – 2; Ryegrass overseed – 1

Rough Turf Type

Ryegrass mix / overseed – 14; Bluegrass mix – 10;

Bermudagrass – 8; Paspalum – 2; Fescue – 2

Par

Par 70 Courses – 12

Par 71 Courses – 11

Par 72 Courses – 12

Par 73 Courses – 1

PGA National Rankings in 2025

- 7th shortest yardage
- T7th in biggest greens
- 8th fewest sand bunkers
- T3rd most holes with water in play
- Director of Agronomy Keith Einwag, CGCS, GCSAA was one of 8 superintendents hosting PGA TOUR events in 2025 with 30-plus years of GCSAA membership (T5th).

Mike Strauss • Media Relations Manager • (O) 785-312-5164 • (C) 785-865-8444 • mstrauss@gcsaa.org • www.gcsaa.org

Since 1926 the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA) has been the top professional association for the men and women who manage golf courses in the United States and worldwide. From its headquarters in Lawrence, Kan., the association provides education, information and representation to 21,000 members in more than 78 countries. GCSAA's mission is to serve its members, advance their profession and improve communities through enjoyment, growth and vitality of the game of golf.



Table of Contents

Defending Champion ShotLink Keys to Victory 2
FedExCup Storylines & Notes 3
Aon Next 10/Swing 5 Breakdown 4
Course Statistics 5
Winner Analysis 6
Broadcast Window Notes 7

Featured Groups (*click players for active links*)

Ryan Gerard has opened his 2026 season with two runner-up finishes in his first five starts (Sony Open in Hawaii 2nd & The American Express T2), Gerard has not finished outside the top-25 in his first two starts at this event.

Max Homa has made birdie or better from the rough 31.82% of the time on the PGA TOUR this season, the third best of any player.

Michael Brennan is making his fifth start on the PGA TOUR this season, Brennan leads the PGA TOUR in Percentage of Drives 320+ yards (57.14%) this season.

Daniel Berger has recorded 3 top-5 finishes at the Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches the most of any event and the most at an event without a win in his PGA TOUR career (Best Finish: 2nd 2015).

Brooks Koepka is making his 8th career start at this event, the third most starts without a win at an event in his PGA TOUR career and the most of any non-major.

Will Zalatoris is making his event debut at the Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches this week, is looking to become the first player since Padraig Harrington in 2005 to win this event in their debut.

Rasmus Højgaard has an Average Driving Distance – All Drives of 313.10 in his first 3 starts, his highest average in a season in his PGA TOUR career.

Tom Kim is making his 100th career PGA TOUR start this week, is looking to be the first player to win in their 100th start since Andrew Novak (2025 Zurich Classic of New Orleans).

Michael Thorbjornsen is making his 50th career PGA TOUR start this week, is looking to become the third player to win the Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches in their 50th PGA TOUR start (2024 Austin Eckroat & 2020 Sungjae Im).

Shane Lowry is seeking his 9th consecutive made cut at this event, with a made cut would be tied for the 5th most consecutive cuts made at this event all-time (active streak).

Billy Horschel is +14 over par on the Bear Trap in 44 career rounds played, compared to -11 under par on the rest of the course.

Aaron Rai in 6 career rounds played at PGA National (The Champion) Rai is +12 over par, the third most over par of any course in his PGA TOUR career.

Karl Villips improved 158 positions from 166th to 8th in Strokes Gained: Putting from the 2025 to 2026 PGA TOUR season.

Garrick Higgo in his previous 9 career starts in Florida has recorded his best two finishes at the Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches (2024 T16 & 2023 T29).

Davis Riley has never missed at cut in 4 career starts at this event, one of 19 players to never miss a cut at this event all-time (min 4 events played).

Joe Highsmith the 2025 Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches Champion is looking to join Jack Nicklaus (1977 & '78) as the only other player to defend their title at this event.

Keith Mitchell recorded his only PGA TOUR career win at the 2019 Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches, has had 10 top-5 finishes on the PGA TOUR since.

Chris Kirk the 2023 Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches Champion recorded a total score of 268 en route to victory, the defending champion Joe Highsmith is the only winner to record a better total score at this event since 2007 (265).

Defending Champion ShotLink Keys to Victory

Joe Highsmith earned his first career PGA TOUR win and 500 FedExCup Points. Highsmith moved from 123rd to 10th in the FedExCup with his win, the first time inside the top-10 of the FedExCup after any week in his TOUR career.

- 100%** Highsmith became the 5th winner to hit the 17th green in all four rounds at the Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches since 2007 (*played the hole in two under for the week*).
- +6.50** On the weekend, Joe outperformed the field by 6.5 strokes on the greens, Highsmith made 232' 7" of putts including nine putts made over 10 feet in the final two rounds
- 128** Highsmith recorded the lowest combined third and final round scores at PGA National Resort (The Champion) since 2007
- 135'10"** Highsmith made 135'10" of putts in the third round, the most feet of putts made by a winner in a round at the Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches since 2007



Joe Highsmith
Cognizant Classic
in the Palm Beaches

Joe Highsmith is the first player at the Cognizant Classic in the Palm beaches to go bogey free and win in the final round at PGA National Resort (The Champion Course).

Last 5 Winners to go Bogey Free in Final Round

Event	
William Mouw	2025 ISCO Championship
Ryan Fox	2025 RBC Canadian Open
Ryan Fox	2025 ONEflight Myrtle Beach Classic
Justin Thomas	2025 RBC Heritage
Joe Highsmith	2025 Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches

Winning After Making Cut on the Number PGA TOUR Since 2003

Event	
Joe Highsmith	2025 Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches
Brandt Snedeker	2016 Farmers Insurance Open
Carl Pettersson	2010 RBC Canadian Open
Rory McIlroy	2010 Truist Championship
Chris Couch	2006 Zurich Classic in New Orleans
Brad Faxon	2005 Travelers Championship

Joe Highsmith became the Sixth player to win an event after making the cut on the number on TOUR since 2003. Highsmith was T48 after 36 holes and came from eight shots back marking the **largest 36-hole comeback** at the Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches since 2007.

Weekend Putting Performance 2025 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches

	Highsmith	Field
Stroke Gained	+6.50 (1 st)	--
Distance of Putts Made	232' 7" (1 st)	150' 2"
Putts Made Over 10'	9 (1 st)	3

Lowest Final 36-Hole Score The Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches Since 2007

	Score
2025 Joe Highsmith	128
2025 Jacob Bridgeman	131
2025 Max McGreevy	131
2012 Tiger Woods	131
2010 Justin Rose	131

Most Feet of Putts Made in a Round by Winners at the Cognizant Classic at The Palm Beaches Since 2007

	Rd	Rd Putt Distance
2025 Joe Highsmith	3	135' 10"
2022 Sepp Straka	2	134' 4"

FedExCup Storylines & Notes

Thru 2026 The Genesis Invitational (25 weeks left)

30.2 Average of the current FedExCup TOP 10, with 6 players under the age of 30 (Ryan Gerard/26, Chris Gotterup/26, Jacob Bridgeman/26, Min Woo Lee/27, Scottie Scheffler/29, Collin Morikawa/29)

+13 Jacob Bridgeman has the biggest movement of any player moving inside the Top 10

**FedExCup TOUR TOP 10
Movement Last Week**

	Prev	Rank	Movement
Jacob Bridgeman	14 th	1st	+13
Chris Gotterup	1 st	2nd	-1
Scottie Scheffler	2 nd	3rd	-1
Collin Morikawa	3 rd	4th	-1
Jake Knapp	11 th	5th	+6
Hideki Matsuyama	4 th	6th	-2
Ryan Gerard	5 th	7th	-2
Si Woo Kim	7 th	8th	-1
Min Woo Lee	10 th	9th	+1
Justin Rose	6 th	10th	-4

**Average Age
Comcast Business TOUR TOP 10 this Season**

	Avg
thru Sony Open in Hawaii	29.3
thru The American Express	30.2
thru Farmers Insurance Open	30.04
thru WM Phoenix Open	29.7
thru The Genesis Invitational	30.2

Career Weeks Inside FedExCup Top 10

	Total
Jacob Bridgeman	3
Chris Gotterup	7
Scottie Scheffler	123
Collin Morikawa	63
Jake Knapp	5
Hideki Matsuyama	167
Ryan Gerard	6
Si Woo Kim	20
Min Woo Lee	2
Justin Rose	107

Aon Next 10/Swing 5 Breakdown

The Aon Next 10 and Aon Swing 5 are eligibility pathways for players, not already qualified, to play their way into Signature Events via the FedExCup standings.

- Aon Next 10: Top 10 available players, not otherwise exempt, from FedExCup standings
- Aon Swing 5: Top five available players, not otherwise exempt, who have earned the most FedExCup points from the swings leading up to each Signature Event

Below are the current Aon Next 10 and Swing 5 entering the Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches.

The top five FedExCup points earners in the Sony Open in Hawaii, The American Express, Farmers Insurance Open, WM Phoenix Open & Cognizant Classic will earn spots in the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard via the Aon Swing 5. (As part of the Returning Member Program, should Brooks Koepka finish in the top five of the Aon Swing 5 standings, the No. 6 player will also gain access into the next Signature Event).

The top ten FedExCup points earners through the Cognizant Classic will earn spots in the Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard via the Aon Next 10.

**Aon Next 10
Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches**

	Total
Jake Knapp	680.00
Min Woo Lee	522.00
Pierceson Coody	458.56
Ryo Hisatsune	450.75
Adam Scott	395.63
Aldrich Potgieter	307.88
Matt McCarty	282.50
Sahith Theegala	280.21
Patrick Rodgers	271.16
Andrew Putnam	183.75

**Aon Swing 5
Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches**

	Total
Michael Thorbjornsen	171.00
Nicolai Hojgaard	162.30
Hoatong Li	139.21
Stephan Jaeger	131.50
Kevin Roy	111.50

Course Statistics

Shortest Driving Distance (All Drives) PGA TOUR Last Season

Pebble Beach Golf Links	278.2
Innisbrook Resort (Copperhead Course)	278.7
Harbour Town Golf Links	282.1
Spyglass Hill Golf Course	284.6
PGA National Resort (The Champion Course)	284.7

Lowest PCT. of Drives Over 300 Yards PGA TOUR Last Season

	PCT
Harbour Town Golf Links	21.78
Pebble Beach Golf Links	25.36
Innisbrook Resort (Copperhead Course)	26.77
PGA National Resort (The Champion Course)	27.71
Muirfield Village Golf Club	28.93

Closest Proximity to Hole Inside 100 Yards (Fwy) PGA TOUR Last Season

	Avg
TPC Craig Ranch	13' 6
PGA National Resort (The Champion Course)	14' 10
Sea Island Golf Club (Seaside Course)	14' 11
Plantation Course at Kapalua	14' 8
East Lake Golf Club	15' 2

Highest Birdie or Better PCT. From Fairway PGA TOUR Last Season

	PCT
Plantation Course at Kapalua	34.81
TPC Twin Cities	28.64
Pebble Beach Golf Links	28.01
East Lake Golf Club	27.61
PGA National Resort (The Champion Course)	27.56

Highest Going for the Green Percentage PGA TOUR Last Season

	PCT
East Lake Golf Club	82.00
Waialae Country Club	80.62
Sedgefield Country Club	80.22
PGA National Resort (The Champion Course)	75.24
TPC Southwind	74.28

Shortest Avg Going for It Shot PGA TOUR Last Season

	Yards
Sedgefield Country Club	217.2
Waialae Country Club	220.1
Pebble Beach Golf Links	231.7
TPC Southwind	233.5
PGA National Resort (The Champion Course)	236.4

Easiest Greenside Bunkers PGA TOUR Last Season

	PCT
Harbour Town Golf Links	67.44
Sea Island Golf Club (Plantation Course)	66.67
TPC Southwind	66.67
PGA National Resort (The Champion Course)	65.03
Nicklaus Tournament Course	64.16

Highest Putting PCT. Inside 10' PGA TOUR Last Season

	PCT
TPC Southwind	91.05
East Lake Golf Club	90.32
Harbour Town Golf Links	90.02
Sea Island Golf Club (Seaside Course)	89.79
PGA National Resort (The Champion Course)	89.68

Most Total Balls in the Water PGA TOUR Last Season

	# of Balls
TPC Sawgrass (THE PLAYERS Stadium Course)	261
TPC Twin Cities	247
PGA National Resort (The Champion Course)	226
TPC Scottsdale (Stadium Course)	220
Vidanta Vallarta	211

Winner Analysis

Youngest Winners

Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches Since 1983

Age	
2020 Sungjae Im	21 Years, 11 Months, 1 Days
2012 Rory McIlroy	22 Years, 10 Months, 0 Days
2002 Matt Kuchar	23 Years, 8 Months, 17 Days
2018 Justin Thomas	24 Years, 9 Months, 27 Days
2025 Joe Highsmith	24 Years, 10 Months, 11 Days

Oldest Winners

Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches Since 1983

Age	
2015 Pdraig Harrington	43 Years, 6 Months, 1 Days
2021 Matt Jones	40 Years, 11 Months, 2 Days
2004 Todd Hamilton	38 Years, 4 Months, 25 Days
2008 Ernie Els	38 Years, 4 Months, 14 Days
1995 Mark O'Meara	38 Years, 1 Months, 27 Days

Lowest Score to Par by Winner

Cognizant Classic in Palm Beaches Since 1983

Total	
2003 Justin Leonard	-24
1989 Blaine McCallister	-22
2025 Joe Highsmith	-19
2002 Matt Kuchar	-19
2000 Dudley Hart	-19

Most Birdies or Better by Winner

Cognizant Classic in Palm Beaches Since 1983

Total	
2003 Justin Leonard	29
2025 Joe Highsmith	26
1989 Blaine McCallister	25
2002 Matt Kuchar	24
2024 Austin Eckroat	23
1996 Tim Herron	23

Highest Driving Accuracy % by Winner

Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches Since 1983

Pct	
1994 Nick Price	91.07
1989 Blaine McCallister	89.29
2022 Sepp Straka	83.93
1995 Mark O'Meara	83.93

Highest Greens in Regulation % by Winner

Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches Since 1983

Pct	
2024 Austin Eckroat	81.94
1992 Corey Pavin	81.94
1998 Mark Calcavecchia	80.56
1994 Nick Price	79.17
1985 Curtis Strange	79.17
1984 Bruce Lietzke	79.17

Largest 36-Hole Comebacks

Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches Since 1983

Trailed By	
2005 Pdraig Harrington	10
1999 Vijay Singh	9
1989 Blaine McCallister	9
2025 Joe Highsmith	8
1983 Johnny Miller	7

Largest 54-Hole Comebacks

Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches Since 1983

Trailed By	
2005 Pdraig Harrington	7
2022 Sepp Straka	5
1999 Vijay Singh	5
2025 Joe Highsmith	4
2000 Dudley Hart	4
1984 Bruce Lietzke	4

Largest Margin of Victory

Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches Since 1983

Won By	
2010 Camilo Villegas	5
2021 Matt Jones	5
1989 Blaine McCallister	4
1996 Tim Herron	4
2017 Rickie Fowler	4

Broadcast Window Notes (featured groups)

Ryan Gerard has 3 top 10's so far this season, compared to 2 Last Season. Gerard has a Par 5 birdie or better percentage thru 5 starts, his highest in a season in his PGA TOUR Career (*min 50 attempts*). Gerard has earned 590.05 points in his first 5 starts this season, 446.92 more points than last season (143.13)

First 5 Starts Last Season vs This Season

	2025	2026
Made Cut %	100.00	100.00
Top 3's	0	2
Top 20's	2	3
Scoring Average	69.05	68.15

Highest Par 5 Birdie or Better % in a Season PGA TOUR Career

	Pct
2026	58.82
2023	48.57
2025	42.52

**Min 50 attempts*

FedExCup Points Earned First 5 Starts Last Season vs This Season

	Total
This Season	590.05
2025	143.13

Max Homa has the third highest birdie or better percentage from the rough on the PGA TOUR This Season. He has played the Bear Trap at two over par and has a driving accuracy of 83.33, while hitting the green 61.11% of the time. Homa is one of four players to have a lower scoring average in the rough (4.00) than fairway (4.14) on the PGA TOUR this season.

Highest Birdie or Better Percentage - Rough PGA TOUR This Season

	Pct
Rory McIlroy	45.16
Jacob Bridgeman	36.84
Max Homa	31.82
Will Zalatoris	30.00

PGA TOUR Career on The Bear Trap

Score to Par	+2
Birdie or Better %	16.67
Bogey or Worse %	16.67
Driving Acc. %	83.33
GIR %	61.11

**6 rounds played*

Players to Have Lower Scoring Average in Rough than Fairway PGA TOUR This Season

	Rough	Fairway
Rory McIlroy	3.69	3.96
Max Homa	4.00	4.14
Lanto Griffin	4.17	4.28
Matt McCarty	4.08	4.11

Michael Brennan has a top 3 percentage of 10% in his PGA TOUR Career, the third highest out of players in the field this week. Brennan has the highest driving PCT 320+ (All- Drives) (57.14%) and the shortest average approach shot distance on the PGA TOUR This Season (151.20 yds).

Highest PGA TOUR Career Top 3 Finish %

	Pct
Brooks Koepka	14.36
Rasmus Neergaard-Petersen	14.29
Michael Brennan	10.00
Adrien Saddier	10.00
Michael Thorbjornsen	8.16

**Players in Field This Week*

Highest Driving Pct. 320+ (All Drives) PGA TOUR This Season

	Pct
Michael Brennan	57.14
Nicolai Højgaard	42.86
Christo Lamprecht	41.96
Rasmus Højgaard	41.27
Gary Woodland	40.48

Shortest Average Approach Shot Distance PGA TOUR This Season

	Avg
Michael Brennan	151.20
Will Zalatoris	156.70
Doug Ghim	158.10
Lucas Glover	158.20

**2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches
Broadcast Window & Pre-Tournament Notes**



Daniel Berger has three top 5's at Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches, the most in an event in his PGA TOUR Career. Berger has the fifth highest Par 5 Going for the Green % on the PGA TOUR This Season (84.00), he had the 4th highest at this course Last Season. He has played the Bear Trap 30 rounds and at two under par with a birdie or better percentage of 18.89.

**Most Top 10's in Event
PGA TOUR Career**

	Total
WM Phoenix Open	4
Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches	3
AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am	3

**3 top 5's at Cognizant Classic
(Most in Event in PGA TOUR Career)*

**Highest Par 5 Going for the Green %
PGA TOUR This Season**

	Pct
Rory McIlroy	96.43
Tommy Fleetwood	85.71
Scottie Scheffler	85.42
Robert MacIntyre	84.09
Daniel Berger	84.00

**PGA National (Champion Course)
had 4th Highest GFG % Last Season*

**PGA TOUR Career on
The Bear Trap**

Score to Par	-2
Birdie or Better %	18.89
Bogey or Worse %	13.33

**30 rounds played*

Brooks Koepka is making his 8th career start at the Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches, the third most Starts Without a Win at an event in his PGA TOUR career and the most of any non-major. He has the second highest PGA TOUR Career made cut percentage out of players in the field this week (78.19). Koepka has played 24 rounds at The Bear Trap at 9 over par compared to 6 over par for the rest of the course.

**Most Starts Without a Win
PGA TOUR Career**

	Total
The Open Championship	11
Masters Tournament	10
Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches	7

**5 events at 6*

**Highest PGA TOUR Career
Made Cut Percentage**

	Pct
John Parry	81.82
Brooks Koepka	78.19
Tom Kim	76.77
Christiaan Bezuidenhout	76.38
Shane Lowry	75.85

**Players in Field This Week*

**The Bear Trap vs Rest of Course
PGA TOUR Career**

	Bear Trap	Rest of Course
Score to Par	+9	+6
Birdie or Better %	12.50	17.78
Bogey or Worse %	20.83	16.11

**PGA National Resort (The Champion Course) 24 rds played*

Will Zalatoris is making his event debut this week, his best finish in an event debut (non-majors) is T8(2020 Corales Puntacana Championship & 2021 World Golf Championships-FedEx St. Jude Invitational). Zalatoris has earned 458 FedExCup Points in the state of Florida, his second most in a state in his PGA TOUR Career.

**Best Finishes Event Debut (Non-Majors)
PGA TOUR Career**

	Finish
2020 Corales Puntacana Championship	T8
2021 World Golf Championships-FedEx St. Jude Invitational	T8
2021 Procore Championship	T11
2024 FedEx St. Jude Championship	T12
2024 BMW Championship	T13

**making event debut this week*

**Most FedExCup Points Earned By State
PGA TOUR Career**

	Total
California	1,245
Florida	458
Oklahoma	330
Georgia	285

**2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches
Broadcast Window & Pre-Tournament Notes**



Rasmus Højgaard has the highest driving percentage of 300+ (all drives) this season, is his highest in his PGA TOUR Career (76.19). Højgaard has the highest GIR Percentage – 200 + yards on the PGA TOUR This Season (81.25). He has an average Driving Distance of 313.10 yards, his longest out of any season in his PGA TOUR Career.

**Highest Driving Pct. 300+ (All Drives) in a Season
PGA TOUR Career**

	Pct
2026	76.19
2025	64.11
2022	58.43
2024	56.62
2023	48.15

**Longest Driving Distance - All Drives
in a Season PGA TOUR Career**

	Avg
2026	313.10
2025	306.30
2023	303.80
2022	301.70
2024	300.00

**Highest GIR Percentage - 200+ yards
PGA TOUR This Season**

	Pct
Rasmus Højgaard	81.25
Kensei Hirata	73.33
Chandler Blanchet	69.23
Zach Bauchou	67.86

Tom Kim is making his 100th career start this week; there have been 6 players to win in their 100th start since 2000, the most recent being Andrew Novak in the 2025 Zurich Classic of New Orleans. Kim has improved in both Driving Accuracy (102nd to T9) and Birdie or Better % from Fairway (156th To 89th) from Last Season to This Season.

**Players to Win PGA TOUR Event on 100th Career
Start Since 2000**

	Event
Andrew Novak	2025 Zurich Classic of New Orleans
Sungjae Im	2021 Shriners Children's Open
Richy Werenski	2020 Barracuda Championship
Brooks Koepka	2018 PGA Championship
Hideki Matsuyama	2017 WGC-FedEx St. Jude Invit.
Tiger Woods	2000 WGC-FedEx St. Jude Invit.

**T.Kim is making 100th start this week*

**Off-the-Tee Improvements
Last Season vs This Season**

	2025		2026	
	Pct	Rank	Pct	Rank
Driving Acc. %	60.00	102 nd	68.57	T9
Birdie or Better % - Fairway	21.60	156 th	24.26	89 th

Michael Thorbjornsen is making his 50th career start this week; Austin Eckroat was the last player to win in his 50th start at this event. Thorbjornsen has improved 2.04 strokes in the first round from last season (69.04) to this season (67.00).

**First Round Improvements
Last Season vs This Season**

	2025	2026
Scoring Avg	69.04	67.00
Birdie or Better %	24.54	31.94
Driving Acc. %	68.26	64.29
GIR %	72.69	73.61

**Last Five Players to Win
First Event on 50th Career Start**

	Event
Austin Eckroat	2024 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches
Kurt Kitayama	2023 Arnold Palmer Invitational presented by Mastercard
Sungjae Im	2020 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches
Daniel Berger	2016 FedEx St. Jude Classic
Walter Burkemo	1953 PGA Championship

**2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches
Broadcast Window & Pre-Tournament Notes**



Shane Lowry has made 8 consecutive cuts at the Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches tied for the most consecutive cuts made at an event in his PGA TOUR career. With a cut made this week Lowry would have 9 consecutive cuts made, tied for the fifth most at this event all time (active streaks). Has played The Bear Trap 32 total rounds, at ten over par and has a birdie or better percentage of 14.58%. Lowry has 1,070 FedExCup points earned in the state of Florida, the fourth most of any player in the last 3 Seasons.

**Most Consecutive Cuts Made at Event
PGA TOUR Career**

	Streak
Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches	8
PGA Championship	8
Masters Tournament	6
WGC-FedEx St. Jude Invitational	6
RBC Canadian Open	6

**stroke play*

**PGA TOUR Career on
The Bear Trap**

Score to Par	+10
Birdie or Better %	14.58
Bogey or Worse %	20.83
Driving Acc.	84.38
GIR %	62.50

**Most FedExCup Points Earned
in Florida Last 3 Seasons**

	Total
Scottie Scheffler	2,327
Rory McIlroy	1,302
Russell Henley	1,204
Shane Lowry	1,070
Corey Connors	977

Billy Horschel has 13 starts at this event, his second most in his PGA TOUR Career (*best finish T4 2017*). He has played The Bear Trap 44 total rounds at (+14) 25 shots worse than the rest of the course (-11). With a higher Birdie or Better % at the rest of the course (20.30%).

**Most Starts at an Event
PGA TOUR Career**

	Total
WM Phoenix Open	14
Farmers Insurance Open	14
Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches*	13

**Best Finish: T4 2017*

**The Bear Trap vs Rest of Course
PGA TOUR Career**

	Bear Trap	Rest of Course
Score to Par	+14	-11
Birdie or Better %	18.18%	20.30%
Bogey or Worse %	24.24%	16.97%

**44 rounds played*

Aaron Rai currently ranks T4 in Sand Save PCT this season, the best rank in his PGA TOUR Career. He is one of 4 players to improve in each of the last 3 seasons. Rai has played 6 rounds at PGA National Resort (The Champion) at 12 over par, the third worst score to par on a course in his PGA TOUR Career.

**Sand Save PCT Rank Comparison
PGA TOUR Last 4 Seasons**

	Rank
2026	T4
2025	45 th
2024	T147
2022-23	188 th

**one of 4 players to improve in each of the last 3 seasons*

**Worst Score to Par on a Course
PGA TOUR Career**

	Total	Rounds Played
Muirfield Village Golf Club	+17	8
Royal Troon	+15	4
PGA National Resort (The Champion)	+12	6
Ocean Course at Kiawah Island	+12	2
Torrey Pines Golf Course (South Course)	+11	14

**2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches
Broadcast Window & Pre-Tournament Notes**



Karl Vilips has the second highest scrambling from the rough percentage on the PGA TOUR This Season (80.00%). Vilips has gained 1.18 strokes on the greens this season, he currently ranks 8th in Strokes Gained Putting. He has improved in three putting statistics from last season to this season. (SG, Putting - > 10', Putting from - > 25')

**Putting Improvements
Last Season vs This Season**

	2025		2026	
	Value	Rank	Value	Rank
Strokes Gained	-0.41	166 th	+1.18	8 th
Putting from - > 10'	14.21%	139 th	20.55%	T14
Putting from - > 25'	4.44%	142 nd	11.76%	T11

**Scrambling from the Rough Leaders
PGA TOUR This Season**

	Pct
Jake Knapp	82.93
Karl Vilips	80.00
Taylor Moore	78.95
Will Zalatoris	78.95
Zach Johnson	76.92

Garrick Higgo has his two best finishes in Florida at the Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches (T16 2024 & 2023 T29). Higgo had the most top 5's in the 2025 FedExCup Fall, his best finish being runner up at the Sanderson Farms Championship.

**Best Finishes in Florida
PGA TOUR Career**

	Finish
2024 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches	T16
2023 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches	T29
2023 THE PLAYERS Championship	T44
2023 Valspar Championship	T58

**2025 FedExCup Fall
Career Breakdown**

Starts	4
Top 5	3
Top 25	4
Best Finish	2 nd *

*Sanderson Farms Championship

Davis Riley has never missed the cut at this event; one of five events he has never missed the cut in his PGA TOUR Career (*min event played 4 times*). Riley has the fifth highest score to par at The Bear Trap Since 2020 (+14), he has played the rest of the course -23 in his PGA TOUR Career (16 rounds played).

**Events Never Missing Cut
PGA TOUR Career**

	Cuts Made
Baycurrent Classic	4
Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches	4
Texas Children's Houston Open	4
Travelers Championship	4
Zurich Classic of New Orleans	4

*Min event played 4 times

**Most Over Par on
The Bear Trap Since 2020**

	Total
J.T. Poston	+22
Sung Kang	+16
Luke Donald	+15
Martin Trainer	+15
Ryan Palmer	+14
Davis Riley	+14

*Holes 15-17

**The Bear Trap vs Rest of Course
PGA TOUR Career**

	Bear Trap	Rest of Course
Score to Par	+14	-23
Driving Acc. %	62.50%	56.25%
GIR %	56.25%	73.33%

*PGA National Resort (The Champion Course)

**2026 Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches
Broadcast Window & Pre-Tournament Notes**



Joe Highsmith the 2025 Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches Champion, is looking to become the second player to defend their title at this event all time (Jack Nicklaus 1977 & 1978). Highsmith had the fewest starts out of the Last 5 First Time Winners at this event (34th). He played The Bear Trap 6 total rounds at one over par, has 5 birdies or better and 4 bogeys or worse.

**Multiple Time Winners
Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches**

Years	
Jack Nicklaus	1977 & 1978
Johnny Miller	1980 & 1983
Mark Calcavecchia	1987 & 1998
Padraig Harrington	2005 & 2015
Joe Highsmith	2025 & ??

**Last Five First Time Winners
Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches**

Start #	
2025 Joe Highsmith	34 th
2024 Austin Eckroat	50 th
2022 Sepp Straka	95 th
2020 Sungjae Im	50 th
2019 Keith Mitchell	40 th

**PGA TOUR Career on
The Bear Trap**

Score to Par	+1
Birdies or Better	5
Bogeys or Worse	4
Driving Acc. %	66.67
GIR %	55.56

**6 rounds played*

Keith Mitchell has 3 top 10's at the Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches, ties his most top 10's in an event. Mitchell has played the Bear Trap 24 total rounds, his lowest in a season being in 2019 two under par, he was also one over par last season tied for his second best. He has the fifth highest percentage of yardage covered by tee shots on the PGA TOUR This Season (66.40%).

**Most Top 10's in an Event
PGA TOUR Career**

Total	
Truist Championship	3
Cognizant Classic in The Palm Beaches	3

**Six events at 2*

**Score to Par on
The Bear Trap by Season**

Total	
2025	+1
2024	EVEN
2022	+7
2021	+1
2020	+1
2019	-2
2018	+4

**24 rounds played*

**Highest Percentage of Yardage covered
by Tee Shots PGA TOUR This Season**

Pct	
Michael Brennan	69.30
Christo Lamprecht	67.25
Gary Woodland	67.05
Johnny Keefer	66.40
Keith Mitchell	66.40

Chris Kirk has 164 birdies at this event, the third most birdies at Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches since 2007. Kirk won this event in 2023; he has the second lowest score by a winner since 2007 (266). He has played The Bear Trap 48 total rounds, at 22 over par and has carded 20 birdies or better at this stretch.

Most Birdies

Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches Since 2007

Total	
Rickie Fowler	191
Camilo Villegas	173
Chris Kirk	164
Billy Horschel	155
Ryan Palmer	155

Lowest Score By a Winner

Cognizant Classic in the Palm Beaches Since 2007

Total	
2025 Joe Highsmith	265
2023 Chris Kirk	266
2024 Austin Eckroat	267
2010 Camilo Villegas	267

**PGA TOUR Career on
The Bear Trap**

Score to Par	+22
Birdies Or Better	20
Bogeys or Worse	29
Driving Acc. %	66.67
GIR %	59.03

**48 rounds played*