



**2019 THE NORTHERN TRUST** (*The first of three events in the FedExCup Playoffs*)

Jersey City, New Jersey	August 8-11, 2019	FedExCup Points: 2,000 (winner)
Liberty National Golf Club	Par/Yards: 71/7,370	Purse: \$9,250,000

#### Second-Round Notes – Friday, August 9, 2019

Weather: Sunny, with a high of 86. Wind WNW 8-16 mph. A storm passed through suspending play from 4 p.m. until 4:37 p.m., a delay of 37 minutes.

#### Second-Round Leaderboard

Dustin Johnson	63-67-130 (-12)
Jordan Spieth	67-64-131 (-11)
Abraham Ancer	67-65-132 (-10)
Troy Merritt	62-70—132 (-10)
Patrick Reed	66-66—132 (-10)
Jon Rahm	64-68-132 (-10)

### **Things To Know**

- As the first of three FedExCup Playoffs event only the top 70 of the 125 players who qualified for THE NORTHERN TRUST will advance to next week's BMW Championship
- Dustin Johnson (1<sup>st</sup>) looks to join Vijay Singh as the only players with three or more wins at THE NORTHERN TRUST
- Jordan Spieth enters the weekend in 2<sup>nd</sup> and in the final pairing with Johnson, who he lost to in a memorable playoff at THE NORTHERN TRUST in 2017
- Defending champion Bryson DeChambeau is 6-under-par and T20
- Each of the last four FedExCup champions are inside the top 15 on the leaderboard
  - o Justin Rose 2018 FedExCup T7
  - o Justin Thomas 2017 FedExCup T15
  - o Rory McIlroy 2016 FedExCup T7
  - o Jordan Spieth 2015 FedExCup 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Tiger Woods withdrew prior to the start of round 2 citing a mild oblique strain
- Rory McIlroy had a two-stroke penalty overturned after meeting with Rules and Competitions staff following his round

## Second-Round Lead Notes

14 of 51 Second-round leaders/co-leaders at THE NORTHERN TRUST to go on and win (most recent: Dustin Johnson, 2017)
Second-round leaders/co-leaders to win on PGA TOUR in 2018-19 (most recent: Jim Herman/Barbasol
Championship)

## Dustin Johnson (entering the week)

	Dustin Johnson
Age	35 (June 22, 1984)
Country	USA
FedExCup	7 <sup>th</sup>
OWGR	2
PGA TOUR starts	257
PGA TOUR wins	20
PGA TOUR top-10s	96
Starts in 2018-19	16
Wins in 2018-19	1
Top-10s in 2018-19	7

# Dustin Johnson (1<sup>st</sup>/-12)

- 2017 THE NORTHERN TRUST champion has one bogey in 36 holes
- Ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in Strokes Gained: Off the Tee for the week at 3.864
- Seeks third victory at THE NORTHERN TRUST having won in 2011 and 2017. Only player to have won this event more than twice is Vijay Singh (1993, 1995, 2006, 2008)
- Victory this week would mark his fifth FedExCup Playoffs title. Currently tied for most with Tiger Woods and Rory McIlroy
- Entered the week No. 7 in FedExCup. Seeking to advance to the TOUR Championship for the 11<sup>th</sup> consecutive season.
- Highest FedExCup finish is No. 2 (2016)

# Jordan Spieth (2<sup>nd</sup>/-11)

- 2015 FedExCup champion has just one bogey through 36 holes. His 67-64—131 total matches his lowest 36-hole score of the season with last week's Wyndham Championship.
- Third time this season that he has been 2<sup>nd</sup> or tied for 2<sup>nd</sup> following 36 holes. Others came at the PGA Championship where he finished T3 and the Valero Texas Open where he finished T30.
- Was tied for the lead after 36 holes at THE NORTHERN TRUST in 2017 at Glen Oaks where he finished second in a playoff to Dustin Johnson.
- Started the week on the bubble at No. 69 in the FedExCup standings. After 36 holes, he is projected to move to No. 9.

# Patrick Reed (T3/-10)

- Recorded second consecutive bogey-free round and is the only player in the field to play 36 holes without a bogey
- Marks the second time in Reed's career that he has gone bogey-free for the first 36 holes of an event (2016 Sentry Tournament of Champions)
- Won THE NORTHERN TRUST in 2016 at Bethpage (Black Course)
- Currently No. 50 in the FedExCup standings as he looks to reach the TOUR Championship for the sixth consecutive season

# Jon Rahm (T3/-10)

- Finished T3, T11 and 7<sup>th</sup> in his last three starts on the PGA TOUR and finished T3 at THE NORTHERN TRUST in 2017
- Currently No. 10 in the FedExCup standings and is looking to reach the TOUR Championship for the third consecutive season
- Making his first start at Liberty National Golf Club

# Abraham Ancer (T3/-10)

- Shot a bogey-free second round 6-under-par 65 that included a 31 on the back nine.
- The 28-year-old from Mexico entered the week at No. 67 in the FedExCup standings on the bubble to remain in the top 70 to advance to the BMW Championship. In his second full season on the PGA TOUR, Ancer is trying to improve on his No. 60 finish in the FedExCup standings last year.
- Won the Australian Open last fall and entered the week 10<sup>th</sup> in the International Team Presidents Cup standings.
- Will need to move into the top 8 in the standings by the end of next week's BMW Championship in order to automatically qualify for the event which will be played in Melbourne, Australia, in December. There will be four remaining positions available on the team when International Team Captain Ernie Els makes his four captains' selections in November.

# Troy Merritt (T3/-10)

- Entered week No. 72 in FedExCup and projected to move to No. 31 at T3 after round 2
- Four previous starts at THE NORTHERN TRUST (2018/MC, 2016/MC, 2015/T53, 2014/T46)
- Seeks third PGA TOUR title in his 202<sup>nd</sup> start (2015 Quicken Loans National, 2018 Barbasol Championship)
- Owns four top-10s this season, the most in a single season of eight seasons on TOUR (T4/Safeway Open, T10/RBC Heritage, T7/3M Open, 2<sup>nd</sup>/Barracuda Championship)
- Diagnosed with thoracic outlet syndrome last year and had surgery to remove the top rib on his left side in January this year causing him to miss West Coast swing and most of Florida swing
- Leads the tournament with 14 total birdies through two rounds

## **Miscellaneous Player Notes**

- Rory McIroy was believed to have received a two-stroke penalty (rule 12.1) after he touched what he thought was a stone behind his ball in a greenside bunker only to find it was a clump of sand. McIroy played the ball on the green and made the putt for double bogey. PGA TOUR Rules Staff met with McIroy following his round where it was determined that there was no penalty.
- Despite starting each round with a double bogey on his first hole, Wyndham Clark has 13 birdies and sits T7 at 9-under
- Justin Rose is T7 at 9-under in his attempt to become the first FedExCup champion to defend his title

- Here's a look at the top five players in the FedExCup standings: 1/Brooks Koepka (T47), 2/Rory McIlroy (T7), 3/Matt Kuchar (MC), 4/Xander Schauffele (MC), 5/Gary Woodland (T66)
- Matthew Wolff (T60) and Collin Morikawa (T66) earned spots in the FedExCup Playoffs after winning PGA TOUR events (Wolff/3M Open, Morikawa/Barracuda Championship) to become eligible as full members.
- Two events remain for players to move into the top eight in the Presidents Cup standings. After the top eight earn their spots on their respective teams following the BMW Championship on Sunday, August 18, International Team Captain **Ernie Els** and U.S. Team Captain **Tiger Woods** will have the opportunity to each make four additional Captains' selections following the conclusion of the WGC-HSBC Champions in November

FEC Pos.	Player	Projected FEC Pos	<b>R2</b> Standing
65	Sergio Garcia	72	MC
66	Danny Lee	70	T47
67	Abraham Ancer	28	Т3
68	Kevin Streelman	75	MC
69	Jordan Spieth	9	2 <sup>nd</sup>
70	Matthew Wolff	73	Т60
71	Bubba Watson	82	MC
72	Troy Merritt	31	Т3
73	Charley Hoffman	79	T66
74	Joaquin Niemann	80	T66
75	Matt Every	84	MC
76	Kiradech Aphibarnrat	81	T60

#### FedExCup Playoffs Bubble

If the tournament ended today, four players would move from outside the top 70 and into the field for next week's BMW Championship

FEC Pos.	FEC Pos. Player		<b>Projected FEC Position</b>	
72	Troy Merritt	Т3	31	
90	Wyndham Clark	Τ7	58	
78	78 Brian Stuard		61	
102	Harold Varner III	T12	67	

#### **Course Statistics**

Toughest Hole	Easiest Hole
<b>R1:</b> Par-4 9 <sup>th</sup> (4.242)	Par-5 6 <sup>th</sup> (4.292)
<b>R2:</b> Par-4 18 <sup>th</sup> (4.229)	Par-5 13 <sup>th</sup> (4.432)
Cumulative: Par-4 9th (4.164)	Par-5 13 <sup>th</sup> (4.378)

### **Scoring Averages**

	Front 9	Back 9	Total	Cumulative
R1:	35.375	34.017	69.392	
R2:	35.508	34.669	70.178	69.782

#### **Bogey-free rounds**

**R1 (10):** Troy Merritt (62), Dustin Johnson (63), Kevin Kisner (64), Jon Rahm (64), Justin Rose (65), Patrick Reed (66), Danny Willett (66), Adam Schenk (67), Jordan Spieth (67), Justin Thomas (67)

R2 (5): Abraham Ancer (65), Patrick Reed (66), Andrew Putnam (64), Matt Jones (71), C.T. Pan (67)