



## First-Round Notes

Fallen Oak | Biloxi, Mississippi | Friday, March 23, 2018

**Course Setup:** Par 72 / 7,151 yards (R1 scoring average: 74.026)

**Weather:** Sunny skies with temperature falling in the low 70s and wind from the SE at 8-15 mph.

**Note:** Lift, clean and place was in effect.

	Player	To Par	Scores
1.	Joe Durant	-6	33-33 – 66
2.	Mark Calcavecchia	-5	36-31 – 67
3.	Steve Stricker	-4	35-33 – 68
T4.	Billy Mayfair	-3	34-35 – 69
T4.	Billy Andrade	-3	36-33 – 69
T4.	David McKenzie	-3	35-34 – 69

### Quick Links:

- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Tee Times](#) – Second-round tee times will run from 10:45 a.m. – 12:45 p.m. off the No. 1 and No. 10 tees.
- [PGATOURmedia.com](#) (transcripts and other resources available for download)

### Joe Durant, 33-33 – 66 (-6)

- Carded a bogey-free round with three birdies on both the front and back to record his lowest opening-round score for the year. Durant also shot a 66 in the opening round of the 2017 Rapiscan Systems Classic.
- Durant is a first-round leader/co-leader for the third time in four appearances at the Rapiscan Systems Classic (2015, 2017, 2018). His best finish was 4<sup>th</sup> place in 2015, and he tied for 11<sup>th</sup> last season.
- Durant has three victories on the PGA TOUR Champions, with his most recent coming at the 2018 Chubb Classic. There he was T9 after shooting a first-round 67.
- Durant ranks No. 4 on the Charles Schwab Cup.

### Mark Calcavecchia, 36-31 – 67 (-5)

- After an even-par front nine, he closed with five birdies on the back nine. His five-under-par 67 is lowest score recorded over six appearances at this event. Calcavecchia's seven birdies ranks second most in the field behind Jesper Parnevik (8).
- His highest finish at the Rapiscan Systems Classic came in his first year (2011) at the event, where he finished in 10<sup>th</sup> place, one of 15 top-10 finishes that year.
- Calcavecchia's owns four PGA TOUR Champions titles, with his most recent victory coming at the 2018 Boca Raton Championship. There he tallied a 16-under-par 200; a result of a 64 in the opening round, his lowest opening round score of his PGA TOUR Champions career. He ranks No. 8 on the Charles Schwab Cup.

### Steve Stricker, 33-32 – 65 (-7)

- Stricker's bogey-free round consisted of two birdies on the front nine and doubled that at the turn to add four more on the back.
- Coming off his first victory on PGA TOUR Champions at the Cologuard Classic, Stricker sits in 2<sup>nd</sup> place after carding a 5-under-par 67 in Friday's opening round. In Tucson, Stricker exited the first round in a three-way tie for third after carding a 7-under-par 66.
- Stricker has finished in the top-five in six out of his eight events on PGA TOUR Champions and sits No. 3 on the Charles Schwab Cup.
- He is a 12-time winner on the PGA TOUR with his last victory coming at the 2012 Sentry Tournament of Champions.

### **First-Round Lead Notes**

- Fred Couples (2012) is the only first-round leader to have ever won the Rapiscan Systems Classic.
- This season, a first-round leader/co-leader has won two of the five tournaments. Most recently, Mark Calcavecchia won the Boca Raton Championship in wire-to-wire fashion.
- Three of this years five tournament winners are all in the top-three after the first round. Joe Durant (Chubb Classic), Mark Calcavecchia (Boca Raton Championship), and Steve Stricker (Cologuard Classic).

### **Other Notes**

- **David McKenzie** is T4 after shooting 3-under 69 Friday. In three other starts this season, his best finish was a tie for 24th at the Boca Raton Championship. Last year, he finished 54th in the Charles Schwab Cup and he qualified for the Playoffs after playing just five regular season events.
- **Billy Mayfair** shot 69 and is part of the three-way tie for fourth. Last year, he carded rounds of 70-68-71 and finished T11 in his debut at the Rapiscan Systems Classic. His 2018 season includes a T2 at the Chubb Classic and he's currently 18th in the Charles Schwab Cup.
- **Billy Andrade** is tied with McKenzie and Mayfair at 3-under. Andrade has two top-10s in four previous starts at the Rapiscan Systems Classic, including a runner-up finish in 2014.
- Charles Schwab Cup leader **Jerry Kelly** carded a first-round 70 and is tied for seventh. He won the season-opening Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai and has been No. 1 in the standings four out of five weeks this season.
- **Miguel Angel Jimenez**, the two-time defending champion, opened with an even-par 72 and is tied for 24th.
- **Kevin Johnson** qualified on Monday for the third time in his PGA TOUR Champions career with his best finish coming at the 3M Championship (2017) where he finished T59. He is in contention after carding an eagle in his round resulting in a 1-under-par 71 to sit T12.
- Friday's scoring average of 74.026 is the highest single-round scoring average this year. Since the start of 2017, there has been only six rounds with scoring averages two or more strokes over par.
- Since the tournament began in 2010, only two single round scoring averages exceeded today's results. (74.235 in 2016 and 74.038 in 2015, both in the first round).
- The field includes five past champions of the Rapiscan Systems Classic:
  - Tom Lehman-T12, 71
  - Michael Allen-T12, 71
  - Miguel Angel Jimenez-T24, 72
  - Jeff Maggert-T42, 74
  - David Frost-T48, 75