



## 2020 Safeway Open Pre-Tournament Notes

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**Dates:** September 10-13, 2020

**Where:** Napa, California

**Course:** Silverado Resort & Spa (North Course)

**Par/Yards:** 36-36—72/7,166 yards

**Field:** 156

**2019 champion:** Cameron Champ

**Purse:** \$6,600,000/\$1,188,000 (winner)

**FedExCup:** 500 points (winner)

**Format:** 72-hole stroke play

### Things to know

- 2020 Safeway Open field highlighted by World Golf Hall of Fame member Phil Mickelson, 2015 FedExCup champion Jordan Spieth, most recent Open Championship winner Shane Lowry, Sergio Garcia
- Safeway Open kicks off the 2020-21 season, which features 50 official FedExCup events, including 12 held this fall
- In the 2019-20 season, eight of 10 different fall winners went on to qualify for the season-ending TOUR Championship, including 2019 Safeway Open winner, Cameron Champ
- With the exception of 2019, the Safeway Open has opened each PGA TOUR season since going to a wraparound schedule in 2013

### Safeway Open and the FedExCup

- The 2020-21 PGA TOUR season gets underway at the Safeway Open, which features 50 official FedExCup tournaments, the most in a season since 1975
- Four Safeway Open winners have advanced to the FedExCup season-finale TOUR Championship: Jimmy Walker (2013-14), Sangmoon Bae (2014-15), Emiliano Grillo (2015-16), Cameron Champ (2019-20)

### Notes on the field

- FedExCup champions: Jim Furyk (2010), Bill Haas (2011), Brandt Snedeker (2012), Jordan Spieth (2015)
- Three past Safeway Open champions: Emiliano Grillo (2015), Brendan Steele (2016, 2017), Kevin Tway (2018)
- Sponsor exemptions include Akshay Bhatia, who will be making his eighth start on the PGA TOUR and Tom Kim. At the age of 16 two years ago, Kim became the youngest-ever winner of the Philippine Open.

### 2020-21 PGA TOUR Eligibility

- There are no graduates from the Korn Ferry Tour in 2020. The Top Finishers of the Korn Ferry Tour category will become a combined category of players from the 2018-2019 Top 125 and 2019 Top Finishers from the Korn Ferry Tour categories who finish outside of the Top 125 on the 2019-2020 FedExCup Points List. These players will be ranked in order of their finish on the 2019-2020 FedExCup Points List but will be subject to periodic reshuffles throughout the 2020-2021 season
- The Top 125 categories will use the final 2019-2020 FedExCup Points List, as is standard; players in the Tournament Winners, Career Money and Life Members categories will retain their playing category for the 2020-2021 season
- The 126-150 category will use the final 2019-2020 FedExCup Points List; however, players finishing 126-150 on the 2018-2019 FedExCup points list will also be included. These players will be ranked in order of their finish on the 2019-2020 FedExCup Points List and will be subject to periodic reshuffles throughout the 2020-2021 season

### A look back at the 2019 Safeway Open

Cameron Champ 67-68-67-69—271 (-17)

Adam Hadwin 68-70-67-67—272 (-16)

Marc Leishman	70-72-67-65—274 (-14)
Zac Blair	75-66-66-68—275 (-13)
Charles Howell III	73-65-69-68—275 (-13)
Justin Thomas	71-64-71-69—275 (-13)

- Sacramento native Cameron Champ earned his second PGA TOUR title and became the 21<sup>st</sup> player to win twice in his first 33 professional starts on TOUR

### Notable players

#### Phil Mickelson

- 44-time PGA TOUR winner to make sixth start at Safeway Open (2007/MC, 2016/T8, 2017/T3, 2018/T17, 2019/MC)
- Most recent TOUR win was in 2019 at the nearby AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am
- In his first PGA TOUR Champions start, posted rounds of 61-64-66 to win the Charles Schwab Series at Ozarks National by four strokes at 22-under 191
- Ended the 2019-20 season No. 75 in the FedEx Cup standings, where he failed to advance to the BMW Championship for the first time in his career
- Among four players in the field with double-digit TOUR wins (Jim Furyk, Jordan Spieth, Sergio Garcia)

#### Brandt Snedeker

- Winner of the 2012 FedExCup
- Entered final round of 2018 Safeway Open with a three-stroke lead over Kevin Tway, carded a final-round 74 and was eliminated on the first playoff hole against Ryan Moore and Tway
- Runner-up finish was best performance in four Safeway Open starts (T17/2019, P2/2018, T17/2015, T57/2014)
- Among 10 made cuts in 16 starts last season was a T3 at the Farmers Insurance Open
- Seeks his 10<sup>th</sup> career PGA TOUR win and first since the 2018 Wyndham Championship
- Recorded the 10<sup>th</sup> sub-60 score in PGA TOUR history (ninth player) with 59 at 2018 Wyndham Championship

#### Sergio Garcia

- Poised to make first start in the Safeway Open
- Seeks his 11<sup>th</sup> career PGA TOUR victory and first since the 2017 Masters Tournament
- Winner of the 2008 PLAYERS Championship
- Has amassed 105 top-10 finishes in 365 TOUR starts
- Among 10 made cuts in 12 starts this past season was a T5 at the RBC Heritage

#### Shane Lowry

- Reigning The Open Championship winner is scheduled to make his first start in the Safeway Open
- Irishman won The Open Championship at Royal Portrush Golf Club in Northern Ireland in the 2018-19 season by six strokes at 15-under 269
- First and only other TOUR victory came at the 2015 World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational
- Collected his 13<sup>th</sup> career top-10 finish last season with a T6 at the WGC-FedEx St. Jude Invitational

### Additional player notes

- Former World No. 1 amateur **Maverick McNealy** made his first start as a professional at the 2017 Safeway Open (T52); finished T63 in 2018 and T52 in 2019. Claimed 11 school victories at Stanford University, tying the record for most with Tiger Woods and Patrick Rodgers; among three top-10 finishes in 2019-20 was a T5 at the nearby AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.
- 2015 FedExCup champion **Jordan Spieth** will be making his first start in the Safeway Open; seeks 12<sup>th</sup> TOUR victory and first since The Open Championship in 2017

### Safeway Open Scoring Records

- Tournament records: 61 (18-hole), 128 (36-hole), 194 (54-hole), 262 (72-hole)
- Largest come-from-behind victory: four strokes (Brendan Steele/2016)

- Lone wire-to-wire winner: Rocco Mediate/2010
- Playoffs in tournament history: 2018, 2015, 2011, 2009, 2008
- International winners: Mike Weir/2007 (Canada), Jonas Blixt/2012 (Sweden), Sangmoon Bae/2014 (South Korea), Emiliano Grillo/2015 (Argentina)
- Brendan Steele is the only multiple winner, claiming the title in back-to-back years (2016, 2017)