117th U.S. Open Championship – Round 2 Notes

Players

- This is the first time since the Official World Golf Ranking was introduced in 1986 that the top three players have missed the cut at the U.S. Open.
  - Dustin Johnson (No. 1), Rory McIlroy (No. 2), and Jason Day (No. 3) all missed the cut.

- Only two players in the top 20 have won a major.
  - Sergio Garcia (2017 Masters)
  - Martin Kaymer (2014 U.S. Open)

- Three players in the top 20 are playing in their first U.S. Open. They are all tied for eighth at 5-under 139.
  - Cameron Champ (a)
  - Si Woo Kim
  - Xander Schauffele

- The last time four players shared the 36-hole lead at the U.S. Open was in 1974 at Winged Foot G.C. (West Course).
  - Hale Irwin, Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Raymond Floyd were at 3-over 143.

- Round 2 co-leader Brooks Koepka
  - Prior to his two consecutive under-par rounds this week, Koepka had recorded only three rounds under par in his 14 U.S. Open rounds.
  - Koepka’s best finish at the U.S. Open is a tie for fourth in 2014 at Pinehurst R. & C.C. (Course No. 2), his only top-10 finish.
  - This is the fourth cut that Koepka has made in his five U.S. Open appearances.
    - In his three previous made cuts, he finished higher on Sunday than he placed after 36 holes.

- Round 2 co-leader Paul Casey
  - Casey posted five consecutive birdies and a triple-bogey 8 for a Round 2 score of 71.
    - The last U.S. Open champion to win with a triple bogey was Tiger Woods at Pebble Beach G.L. in 2000. He made a 7 on the par-4 third hole in the third round.
  - This is the first time Casey is under par after 36 holes in his 14 U.S. Open appearances.
  - Out of his 39 U.S. Open rounds, Casey has posted eight rounds under par, including Thursday and Friday at Erin Hills.

- Round 2 co-leader Tommy Fleetwood
  - This is Fleetwood’s second U.S. Open appearance.
    - He finished ties for 27th in 2015 with two under-par rounds of 69.
    - He has two European PGA Tour victories (2013 Johnny Walker Championship; 2017 Shenzhen International)

- Round 2 co-leader Brian Harman
  - This is Harman’s third U.S. Open appearance and the first cut he has made.
He missed the cut in 2012 and 2015.
  - Harman has won two PGA Tour events over his career (2014 John Deere Classic and 2017 Wells Fargo Championship).
    - This made him the sixth left-handed player in history to win multiple PGA Tour events.

- Round 1 leader Rickie Fowler posted a 1-over 73 to finish tied for fifth after 36 holes.
  - This is Fowler’s best U.S. Open placement after 36 holes.
    - Previously, his highest finish after 36 holes was 14th in 2014 at Pinehurst R. & C.C. (Course No. 2).
  - This is the first U.S. Open cut Fowler has made since 2014, when he finished tied for second.
  - Fowler’s 28 consecutive bogey-free holes are the most to start a U.S. Open since Rory McIlroy played the first 35 holes without a bogey in 2011.
    - Dustin Johnson started the 2016 U.S. Open by playing 27 consecutive bogey-free holes.
    - It is the most at any point in a U.S. Open since Martin Kaymer played 29 consecutive holes bogey-free in 2014 (first, second and third rounds).
  - Fowler made three consecutive bogeys on the 11th-14th holes.

- The lowest Round 2 scores of 7-under 65 were posted by Chez Reavie and Hideki Matsuyama.
  - Reavie’s best prior U.S. Open score was 1-under 70 in the first round in 2011 at Congressional.
  - This is Matsuyama’s third sub-par U.S. Open round in 16 rounds.

- Wisconsin residents Jordan Niebrugge and Steve Stricker shot identical scores for the second day in a row (73-72—145) and are tied for 55th.
  - This is the 18th cut Stricker has made out of 20 U.S. Open appearances.
  - This is Niebrugge’s first U.S. Open appearance.

- Finishes of the last five U.S. Open champions:
  - 2016: Dustin Johnson, Cut
  - 2015: Jordan Spieth, T-43, 73-71-- 144 (E)
  - 2014: Martin Kaymer, T-19, 72-69-- 141 (-3)
  - 2013: Justin Rose, Cut
  - 2012: Webb Simpson, T-55, 74-71-- 145 (+1)

- Erin Hills caddies prove indispensable
  - Eight caddies assisted players in practice rounds, including three players in the top five after 36 holes.
    - Mike Higgins worked with Brian Harman (T-1)
    - Sam Cianciola worked with Brooks Koepka (T-1)
    - Matt Bible worked with Rickie Fowler (T-5)
  - Five Erin Hills caddies were on the bags of players in the field this week.

- Haotong Li (T-43) is the first player in U.S. Open history from the People’s Republic of China to make the cut.
Cut

- The 1-over-par cut is tied for the lowest cut in relation to par with Medinah (Ill.) C.C. (No. 3 Course) in 1990.
  - 145 is tied for the fourth-lowest cut in U.S. Open history with six other championships.

- Five U.S. Open champions made the cut:
  - Ernie Els (1994, 1997)
  - Jim Furyk (2003)
  - Webb Simpson (2012)
  - Martin Kaymer (2014)
  - Jordan Spieth (2015)

- Two amateurs made the cut:
  - Cameron Champ (T-8, 70-69—139)
    - This is the highest place for an amateur after 36 holes since Nick Taylor in 2009 at Bethpage State Park (Black Course), T-7 73-65.
    - This is Champ’s first U.S. Open appearance.
    - Champ’s 5-under 36-hole total is the lowest in relation to par since Chick Evans in 1916 shot 69-70—139 at par-72 Midlothian C.C.
    - Champ remained the leader in driving distance through 36 holes, averaging 339.3 yards.
  - Scottie Scheffler (T-33, 69-74—143)
    - This is Scheffler’s second U.S. Open appearance.
      - He missed the cut in 2016 at Oakmont C.C.
  - This is Champ’s first U.S. Open appearance.

- Five players who qualified through local and sectional qualifying made the cut:
  - Cameron Champ (T-5)
  - Kevin Dougherty (T-33)
  - Tyler Light (T-55)
  - Jack Maguire (T-33)
  - Jordan Niebrugge (T-55)
  - This is the fourth consecutive year that five or more players who advanced through local and sectional qualifying made the cut.

Course

- At 676 yards, the 18th hole at Erin Hills played as the second-longest par 5 in U.S. Open history, behind the 694-yard 12th hole at Oakmont (Pa.) Country Club, in the first round of the 2016 championship.
  - No. 18 played ranked as the sixth-easiest hole in Round 2, with a cumulative scoring average of 4.826.