117th U.S. Open Championship – Round 3 Notes

Players

- Tommy Fleetwood (T-2) and leader Brian Harman both reached 12 under par during the third round. The 12-under scores are tied for the second-most strokes under par at any point during the U.S. Open.
  - Rory McIlroy’s record of 17 under par during the fourth round of the 2011 U.S. Open at Congressional C.C. (Blue Course), remains the most strokes under par at any point during the championship.
  - Only two other players have reached 12 under par in U.S. Open history:
    - Tiger Woods in the fourth round of the 2000 U.S. Open at Pebble Beach G.L.
    - Gil Morgan in the third round of the 1992 U.S. Open at Pebble Beach G.L.

- Harman’s 12-under 204 is the second-lowest 54-hole score in relation to par behind Rory McIlroy’s 14-under 199 en route to victory in 2011 at Congressional C.C.
  - Harman is trying to become the fourth in USGA history to win both the U.S. Open and U.S. Junior Amateur.
    - He won the 2003 U.S. Junior Amateur.
    - He would join Johnny Miller, Tiger Woods, and Jordan Spieth.
  - Harman currently ranks in the top 15 stat leaders in all categories, except driving yardage, in which he is tied for 58th.
    - He is tied for sixth in fairways hit and tied for seventh in greens in regulation.
  - 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 in his career (2014 John Deere Classic and 2017 Wells Fargo Championship).

- There are only two U.S. Open champions in history that have finished 72 holes double digits under par.
  - Rory McIlroy, 16-under 268, Congressional C.C., 2011
  - Tiger Woods, 12-under 272, Pebble Beach G.L., 2000

- There has never been a runner-up that has finished 72 holes double digits under par in the history of the championship.

- Justin Thomas’ 9-under 63 is the lowest round in relation to par in the history of the U.S. Open.
  - Thomas had 9 birdies, 2 bogeys and an eagle on the 18th hole.
  - Thomas surpassed Johnny Miller’s record of 8-under 63 in the final round of the 1973 U.S. Open at Oakmont C.C.
  - This is the fifth 63 recorded in U.S. Open history. The four previous are:
    - Johnny Miller, 8 under, fourth round, Oakmont C.C.
      - Miller had nine birdies and a bogey.
      - The six strokes Miller made up to win is the second-largest final-round comeback in U.S. Open history.
    - Jack Nicklaus, 7 under, first round, Baltusrol G.C. (Lower Course), 1980
      - Nicklaus had eight birdies and a bogey.
Nicklaus went on to win the championship with subsequent scores of 71-70-68.

- Tom Weiskopf, 7 under, first round, Baltusrol G.C. (Lower Course), 1980
  - Weiskopf had eight birdies and a bogey.
  - Weiskopf finished 37th with subsequent scores of 75-76-75.

- Vijay Singh, 7 under, second round, Olympia Fields C.C. (North Course), in 2003
  - Singh had seven birdies, an eagle and two bogeys.
  - Singh finished T-20 with a first-round score of 70 and third- and fourth-round scores of 72 and 78, respectively.
    - This is the 31st 63 recorded in a major championship.

This is Fleetwood’s second U.S. Open start.

- He is trying to become the third Englishman to win the U.S. Open since 1925. The previous winners are:
  - Tony Jacklin (1970)
  - Justin Rose (2013)
- He finished T-27 in 2015 with two under-par rounds of 69.
- He has two European PGA Tour victories (2013 Johnnie Walker Championship, 2017 Abu Dhabi Golf Championship).

Round 2 leader Paul Casey dropped to T-17 with a triple bogey on No. 3 en route to posting a 75.

- This was his second triple bogey during the championship.
- The last time a U.S. Open champion had two triple bogeys and won was Bob Jones in 1929. He had two triple bogeys in the fourth round on No. 8 and No. 15 at Winged Foot G.C. (West Course).

The highest ranking major winner in the field is Louis Oosthuizen (2010 British Open Champion), who is T-17.

The highest ranking U.S. Open winner in the field is Jim Furyk (2003), who is T-26.

Through 54 holes, five players have posted rounds of 7 under par or better.

- Justin Thomas, 9-under 63, third round
- Rickie Fowler, 7-under 65, first round
- Hideki Matsuyama, 7-under 65, second round
- Chez Reavie, 7-under 65, second round
- Patrick Reed, 7-under 65, third round
- Prior to this week, there had been only six rounds of 7 under par or better in U.S. Open history:
  - Johnny Miller, 8-under 63, fourth round, Oakmont C.C., 1973
  - Jack Nicklaus, 7-under 63, first round, Baltusrol G.C. (Lower Course), 1980
  - Tom Weiskopf, 7-under 63, first round, Baltusrol G.C. (Lower Course), 1980
  - Vijay Singh, 7-under 63, second round, Olympia Fields C.C. (North Course), 2003
  - Peter Jacobsen, 7-under 64, fourth round, The Country Club (Brookline, Mass.), 1988
  - Loren Roberts, 7-under 64, fourth round, Oakmont C.C., 1994
• At one point in Round 3, seven players shared the lead.
  o On only two occasions have four players tied for the lead after 54 holes:
    ▪ 2015, Chambers Bay: Jordan Spieth, Dustin Johnson, Branden Grace, Jason Day
    ▪ 1973, Oakmont C.C.: Arnold Palmer, Julius Boros, Jerry Heard, John Schlee

• The largest playoffs in U.S. Open history have been between three players.
  o There have been eight three-way playoffs in the history of the championship, the most recent in 1994 at Oakmont C.C. between Ernie Els, Loren Roberts and Colin Montgomerie.

• Cameron Champ’s 54-hole score of 212 is the lowest score by an amateur through 54 holes since Beau Hossler posted 212 at The Olympic Club (Lake Course) in 2012.

• In the third round, Wisconsin residents Steve Stricker and Jordan Niebrugge shot 69 to move up to T-30, and 73 to finish T-51, respectively.
  o They shot identical scores in the first two rounds (73-72—145).
  o This is Niebrugge’s first U.S. Open appearance and Stricker’s 20th.

Course

• The record of most under-par scores in Round 3 of the U.S. Open was broken today with 32 players posting scores under par.
  o The previous record was set at Congressional C.C. (Blue Course) in 2011 when 26 players posted sub-par scores in the third round.

• The 1,184 birdies posted over 54 holes is a record for the U.S. Open. This is the most birdies recorded through 54 holes since complete full-field scoring records have been kept, beginning in 1970.

• In the third round, the drivable par-4s – No. 15 and No. 2 – played as the easiest and second-easiest holes, respectively.
  o Nine players drove the green on the 288-yard 15th hole in the Round 3. No. 15 yielded 31 birdies and three eagles.
    ▪ The three players to record an eagle on No. 15 in the third round were: Kevin Na (distance to hole: 4 feet, 10 inches); Michael Putnam (distance to hole: 6 feet, 5 inches); and Ernie Els (distance to hole: 6 feet, 10 inches).
  o No players reached the green with their drives on the 331-yard second hole in the third round. However, it yielded 18 birdies.