



DENMARK LEADS AT 12-UNDER 132; HOST IRELAND IS SECOND

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When: 5 September 2018

What: 31st World Amateur Team Championship for the Eisenhower Trophy

Where: Carton House, Montgomerie and O'Meara Courses, County Kildare/Dublin, Ireland

Rapid Recap:

Denmark, with John Axelsen shooting 8-under 64 and Rasmus Hojgaard firing 4-under 68, posted a 12-under-par 132 to slide past host Ireland for a two-stroke first-round lead.

The Danish pair, playing the Montgomerie Course, combined to tie for the second-lowest first-round score in Eisenhower Trophy history, just one behind the record of 131 set by the USA in Turkey in 2012.

"Everything just worked today," said Axelsen, a University of Florida sophomore, who won the Danish Amateur in 2017 and 2018. "I was going up to the ball and just feeling like this is going to be close."

Host Ireland, playing in the first group of the morning off the second nine, made a home-course statement with a 10-under par total of 134.

Robin Dawson began with six birdies in his first 11 holes on his way to a 7-under 65 and John Murphy and Conor Purcell posted identical 3-under 69s. World No. 10 Dawson won the 2018 Irish Amateur Open and was runner-up at the Amateur and European Amateur earlier this year.

"We knew coming into the week it was going to be a big birdie fest," said Dawson, an equine business graduate from nearby Maynooth University. "It helps drive us on every time. When you make one [birdie] you want to make another one. I think making a lot of birdies is key out here and going low."

India and Switzerland shared third place at 9 under, followed by New Zealand and Japan in fifth at 7 under and Thailand, Spain, England, Portugal and Republic of Korea tied in seventh at 6 under.

Defending champion Australia was tied for 21st at 3 under.

Quotable:

Captain John Carroll, Ireland: “I’m delighted with the start we made. I couldn’t ask for any more on day one - Robin (Dawson) with his seven under and the two boys three under each. Fantastic golf. And, we’re certainly looking forward to the next few days.”

Rasmus Hojgaard of Denmark: “The conditions were very good. There wasn’t a lot of wind and so, it wasn’t affecting the ball much. So, we could pretty much do whatever we wanted without the wind touching it. I’m looking forward to tomorrow.”

Conor Purcell of Ireland (whose father is a golf professional): “Some people would think there’s pressure on us, but I think any time you can play under pressure it’s somewhat a privilege to be in that position and to have all the spotlight on us. It’s good going out there and you get a clap for hitting a good shot and that just pulls us on. Once you get into the flow of things, pressure becomes non-existent. You’re just playing your game.”

Mitchell Waite of England (who was a co-runner-up in the 2018 European Amateur): “That’s a good opening round from Denmark There are so many good players here – it is the World Championships.”

Daniel Hillier of New Zealand (who was co-medalist in the 2018 U.S. Amateur on the weather worsening by Wednesday afternoon): “Windy Wellington – I should be used to it. It’s always a good challenge when the wind gets up and especially playing Montgomerie. There are a lot of fairway bunkers, so it will make it more demanding off the tee.”

Notable:

- *John Axelsen’s nine-hole score of 29 (front nine) was one stroke shy of the record of 28 shot by Denny McCarthy of the USA in the final round in 2014. It included seven birdies and an eagle against one bogey.*
- *Denmark was tied for third following the first round in Argentina in 2010 and finished with a silver medal, its only trip to the podium in the 24 previous Eisenhower Trophy competitions.*
- *Both Axelsen and Rayhan Thomas of India shot 64, the day’s best score. The Dane was 8 under at Montgomerie and Thomas was 9 under at the O’Meara. Those scores are one stroke off the first-round individual low score of 63 by Jason Dawes of Australia in 1994. Thomas, who lives in Dubai and was a semifinalist in the 2017 U.S. Junior Amateur, has committed to play college golf at Oklahoma State. “It’s great play Monty now having that nine under – it takes the weight off the mind,” said Thomas, whose round included eight birdies, an eagle and one bogey. “We are a good team – and I am sure these boys will start firing tomorrow. I have full faith in this team. So, it’s not a surprise to see us up there on the leaderboard.”*
- *With the announcement today of the European Ryder Cup captain’s picks, the total number of players who have played in the Eisenhower Trophy is 12. For the European side (7), Italy’s Francesco Molinari (2002 and 2004), Spain’s Jon Rahm (2014) and Sergio Garcia (bronze medal in 1996 and 1998), Ireland’s Rory McIlroy (2006), Sweden’s Alex Noren (bronze medal in 2004) and Henrik Stenson (1998) and England’s Paul Casey (silver medal in 2000) have participated. For the USA (5), Bryson DeChambeau (gold medal in 2014), Rickie Fowler (silver medal in 2008), Phil Mickelson (silver medal in 1990), Justin Thomas (gold medal in 2012) and Tiger Woods (gold medal in 1994) have played.*

- *Jovan Rebula of South Africa, the winner of the Amateur, conducted by The R&A, withdrew due to an injured back. Malcolm Mitchell took an overnight flight and replaced him in the field. See related story: <https://www.golfrsa.com/mitchell-replaces-rebula-in-eisenhower-team-for-sa/>*
- *Denmark's twins Rasmus and Nicholai Hojgaard (who, in 2018, won the European Amateur and played in the Open Championship) totaled 5-under 139, which would have placed T-12th as a team.*
- *The USA was T19th at 4 under with 3 under from Justin Suh and a 1 under from Cole Hammer.*
- *The last host nation to win the Eisenhower Trophy was the USA at Pinehurst Resort & Country Club in 1980. Only 10 countries have won gold (USA, 15; Australia and Great Britain and Ireland, 4; Canada, Sweden, Japan, New Zealand, France, Netherlands and Scotland, 1).*

What's Next:

Round 2 begins Thursday at 7:45 a.m. with a two-tee start on both courses.

More

Spectators are encouraged to attend, and entry into Carton House for the 2018 World Amateur Team Championships. For more information, please visit igfgolf.org/watc/watc-2018/

County Kildare/Dublin, Ireland – Results from Wednesday's first round at the 2018 World Amateur Team Championship, played at Carton House's O'Meara (O) and Montgomerie (M) Courses will be set up at 7,070 yards/6,462 meters and 7,179 yards/6,560 meters, respectively. The courses will play a par of 37-36—73 and 36-36—72, respectively.

1. Denmark (DEN) - 132 (-12) M
John Axelsen 64
Rasmus Hojgaard 68
Nicolai Hojgaard 71
2. Ireland (IRL) - 134 (-10) M
Robin Dawson 65
John Murphy 69
Conor Purcell 69
- T-3. India (IND) - 137 (-9) O
Rayhan John Thomas 64
Kshitij Naveed Kaul 73
Aadil Bedi 74
- T-3. Switzerland (SUI) - 137 (-9) O
Perry Cohen 65
Jeremy Freiburghaus 72
Loic Ettlin 73
- T-5. Japan (JPN) - 137 (-7) M
Takumi Kanaya 66
Daiki Imano 71
Keita Nakajima NC
- T-5. New Zealand (NZL) - 139 (-7) O
Daniel Hillier 69

Denzel Ieremia 70
Kerry Mountcastle 73
T-7.England (ENG) - 140 (-6) O
Gian Marco Petrozzi 70
Mitchell Waite 70
Matthew Jordan 73
T-7.Portugal (POR) - 138 (-6) M
Pedro Lencart 67
Afonso Girao 71
Vitor Lopes 72
T-7.Republic of Korea (KOR) - 138 (-6) M
Seungtaek Oh 67
Hoyoung Choi 71
Seungbo Jang 73
T-7.Spain (ESP) - 140 (-6) O
Victor Pastor 70
Alejandro Del Rey 70
Angel Hidalgo 73
T-7.Thailand (THA) - 140 (-6) O
Sadam Kaewkanjana 66
Kosuke Hamamoto 74
Witchayanon Chothirunrungrueng 75
T-12.Argentina (ARG) - 141 (-5) O
Mateo Fernandez de Oliveira 68
Martin Contini 73
Andres Schonbaum 76
T-12.Austria (AUT) - 139 (-5) M
Lukas Lipold 69
Niklas Regner 70
Maximilian Steinlechner 73
T-12.Canada (CAN) - 139 (-5) M
Garrett Rank 68
Joey Savoie 71
Hugo Bernard 74
T-12.Norway (NOR) - 141 (-5) O
Viktor Hovland 70
Kristoffer Reitan 71
Jarle Volden 72
T-12.Sweden (SWE) - 141 (-5) O
Oliver Gillberg 70
Tim Widing 71
Fredrik Nilehn 74
T-12.Wales (WAL) - 141 (-5) O
Ben Chamberlain 69
Jake Hapgood 72
Tom Williams 73
T-12.Zimbabwe (ZIM) - 141 (-5) O
David Amm 68
Jack Allard 73
Stuart Krog 74
T-19.Chile (CHI) - 140 (-4) M

Agustin Errazuriz 68
Gabriel Morgan Birke 72
Tomas Gana 80
T-19.Czech Republic (CZE) - 142 (-4) O
Simon Zach 69
Petr Hruby 73
Jiri Zuska 74
T-19.France (FRA) - 140 (-4) M
Frederic Lacroix 70
Victor Veyret 70
Jeremy Gandon 75
T-19.United States of America (USA) - 140 (-4) M
Justin Suh 69
Cole Hammer 71
Collin Morikawa 72
T-23.Australia (AUS) - 141 (-3) M
David Micheluzzi 69
Min Woo Lee 72
Shae Wools-Cobb 72
T-23.Dominican Republic (DOM) - 141 (-3) M
Juan Guerra 70
Rhadames Pena 71
Enrique Jose Valverde A 77
T-23.Italy (ITA) - 141 (-3) M
Lorenzo Filippo Scalise 68
Giovanni Manzoni 73
Stefano Mazzoli 79
T-23.People's Republic of China (CHN) - 143 (-3) O
Huachuang Zhang 71
Enqi Liang 72
Yilong Chen 77
T-27.Bermuda (BER) - 144 (-2) O
Jarryd Dillas 72
Walker Campbell 72
Mikus Ming 77
T-27.Netherlands (NED) - 144 (-2) O
Jerry Ji 70
Stan Kraai 74
Nordin van Tilburg 75
T-27.Poland (POL) - 142 (-2) M
Philipp Pakosch 71
Alejandro Pedryc 71
Jan Szmids 78
T-30.Colombia (COL) - 143 (-1) M
Ivan Camilo Ramirez Velandia 70
Esteban Restrepo 73
Carlos Ardila 73
T-30.Germany (GER) - 143 (-1) M
Allen John 69
Hurly Long 74
Marc Hammer 77

T-30.South Africa (RSA) - 143 (-1) M
Matt Saulez 70
Wilco Nienaber 73
Malcolm Mitchell 78
T-30.Venezuela (VEN) - 145 (-1) O
Jorge Garcia 68
Konrad Brauckmeyer 77
Ezequiel Prieto 82
T-34.Belgium (BEL) - 144 (Even) M
Adrien Dumont de Chassart 71
Jean de Wouters d'Oplinter 73
Alan De Bondt 74
T-34.Croatia (CRO) - 146 (Even) O
Lucas Buerk 73
Ivan Vucemil 73
Marko Stepinac 76
T-34.Hong Kong, China (HKG) - 146 (Even) O
Leon Philip D'Souza 73
Terrence Ng 73
Matthew Cheung 75
T-34.Peru (PER) - 144 (Even) M
Luis Fernando Barco 70
Patricio Freundt-Thurne 74
Santiago Zubiarte 75
T-34.Scotland (SCO) - 144 (Even) M
Ryan Lumsden 71
Sandy Scott 73
Euan Walker 73
T-39.Mexico (MEX) - 145 (+1) M
Alvaro Ortiz Becerra 72
Raul Pereda 73
Aaron Terrazas 81
T-39.Puerto Rico (PUR) - 145 (+1) M
Max Alverio 71
Jeronimo Esteve 74
Erick Morales 79
T-41.Brazil (BRA) - 148 (+2) O
Lucas Park 73
Herik Machado 75
Daniel Kenji Ishii 77
T-41.Estonia (EST) - 146 (+2) M
Kevin Christopher Jegers 73
Joonas Turba 73
Carl Hellat 75
T-41.Guatemala (GUA) - 146 (+2) M
Daniel Gurtner 71
Alejandro Villavicencio Calderon 75
Pablo Enrique Castellanos Conde 78
T-41.Qatar (QAT) - 148 (+2) O
Saleh Al Kaabi 72
Ali Al Shahrani 76

Jaham Al Kuwari 86
T-41.Singapore (SGP) - 146 (+2) M
Gregory Foo 70
Joshua Ho 76
Donovan Lee 77
T-46.Finland (FIN) - 147 (+3) M
Matias Honkala 72
Veeti Mahonen 75
Sami Valimaki 76
T-46.Iceland (ISL) - 147 (+3) M
Aron Snaer Juliusson 73
Gisli Sveinbergsson 74
Bjarki Petursson 74
T-46.Serbia (SRB) - 147 (+3) M
Branimir Gudelj 70
Dane Cvetkovic 77
Mihailo Dimitrijevic 78
T-49.Luxembourg (LUX) - 150 (+4) O
Charles Weis 75
Georges Weis 75
David Winandy 76
T-49.Morocco (MAR) - 148 (+4) M
Ayoub Id Omar 74
Othman Raouzi 74
Soufiane Dahmane 75
T-49.lovakia (SVK) - 148 (+4) M
Pavol Mach 73
Michal Brezovsky 75
Branislav Lucansky 80
T-49.Uruguay (URU) - 148 (+4) M
Miguel Reyes 73
Nicholas Teuten 75
Facundo Alvarez 75
T-53.Costa Rica (CRC) - 149 (+5) M
Luis Gagne 73
Alvaro Ortiz 76
Paul Chaplet 77
T-53.Malta (MLT) - 151 (+5) O
Ruud Critien 75
John Junior Micallef 76
Andrew Borg 81
T-53.Turkey (TUR) - 149 (+5) M
Taner Yamac 74
Leon Kerem Acikalin 75
Hamza Esmer 78
T-56.Saudi Arabia (KSA) - 150 (+6) M
Othman Almulla 73
Ali Alsakha 77
Khalid Attieh 77
T-56.Slovenia (SLO) - 152 (+6) O
Vid Potocar 75

Kristjan Vojteh Burkelca 77
Mark Trnovec 78
58.Liechtenstein (LIE) - 153 (+7) O
Elias Schreiber 76
Fabian Schredt 77
Sebastian Schredt 79
T-59.Chinese Taipei (TPE) - 152 (+8) M
Wei-Hsuan Wang 76
Yu-Cheng Ho 76
Chia-I Lai 77
T-59.Republic of Moldova (MDA) - 154 (+8) O
Dennis Volostnykh 71
Alexei Coica 83
Artiom Podgainii 85
T-61.Panama (PAN) - 156 (+10) O
Miguel Ordonez 77
Jean Louis Ducruet 79
Luis Cargiulo 83
T-61.United Arab Emirates (UAE) - 156 (+10) O
Khalid Al Jasmi 73
Ahmad Skaik 83
Saif Thabet 87
T-63.Cayman Islands (CAY) - 157 (+11) O
Justin Hastings 78
Aaron Jarvis 79
Payten Wight 82
T-63.Guam (GUM) - 155 (+11) M
Redge Camacho 75
Daryl Poe 80
Robert Manalo 82
65.Bulgaria (BUL) - 158 (+12) O
Ryan Staykov 77
Vladislav Marinov 81
Dimitar Savov 82
T-66.Lithuania (LTU) - 161 (+15) O
Gediminas Markevicius 77
Mindaugas Vaicius 84
Darius Momkus 86
T-66.Nigeria (NGR) - 161 (+15) O
Jordan Thompson 80
George Inalegwu 81
Oladipo Thompson 85
68.Ghana (GHA) - 164 (+18) O
Alan Angel 82
Yao Dogbe 82
Kofi Kusi-Boateng 90
69.Haiti (HAI) - 167 (+21) O
Jean-Philippe Mehu 79
Roger Saint-Fort 88
Maurice Pasha Brandt 95
T-70.Armenia (ARM) - 175 (+29) O

Roman Balyan 84
Levon Karakhanyan 91
Aram Saghatelyan 103
T-70.Iraq (IRQ) - 175 (+29) O
Amer Radee 85
Husam Al-Hashimi 90
Laith Barnouti 93
72.Gabon (GAB) - 193 (+47) O
Alexandre Illien 84
David Perez Ayo 109

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