ALFRED DUNHILL LINKS CHAMPIONSHIP

The Links Times

Daily News & Order of Play

Round 4

Sunday 8 October, 2017



Hatton at the double

'To win at the Home of Golf once is incredible, but to do it again would be a dream come true' says Tyrrell Hatton after brilliant third round 65

Tyrrell Hatton stands on the verge of history on the Old Course today as he takes a five-shot lead into the final round of the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship.

No one has ever won back-toback Alfred Dunhill Links titles before, but few will be willing to bet against him achieving the feat after a brilliant third round 65 at Kingsbarns took him to 18-under-par.

Most thought Hatton would face stiff competition from Tommy Fleetwood, but the World No 17 struggled for much of the day and

dropped back to seven-under-par. The nearest opposition now comes from France's Gregory Bourdy, who shot an excellent 66 at Carnoustie.

Hatton, who had seven birdies and no dropped shots, said: "This event last year was a fantastic moment for me. It's great to be back and I'm enjoying my first defence. To win at the Home of Golf once is incredible, but to do it again would be a dream come true "

He also paid tribute to his amateur partner, the actor Jamie Dornan, with whom he is playing in the Team Championship. "It's good fun playing with Jamie again. We did well last year and we're having good fun again. The format helps me quite a lot. It keeps me quite relaxed at times."

Will he benefit from winning last year, or will it create added pressure? Hatton said: "Last year was a new experience going out leading, and I managed to do a really good job. I made myself difficult to catch. Hopefully I can do that again. I like knowing where I am on the leaderboard, so I'll certainly keep an eye on that."

PRO LEADERS after Round 3

Tyrrell Hatton	-18
Grégory Bourdy	-13
Paul Dunne	-11
Luke Donald	-10
Ross Fisher	-10

TEAM LEADERS after Round 3

Bourdy / Heavey	-28
Lagergren / Getty	-27
Levy / Jermoluk	-27
Chang / Botha	-27









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Bourdy: I'll fight until the final hole

Frenchman shoots 66 at Carnoustie to set up last day chase and leads Team Championship by a single shot

Gregory Bourdy has promised he won't give up the chase on runaway leader Tyrrell Hatton on the Frenchman's favourite course in the world.

Hatton has been untouchable over two bogey-free rounds and, playing Carnoustie yesterday, Bourdy's six-under-par round of 66 – one of the best of the day – was still not enough to prevent the Englishman pulling further ahead. However, Bourdy has been lethal on the greens all week, and if he could pick anywhere in the world to chase down Hatton, it would be the Old Course at St Andrews.

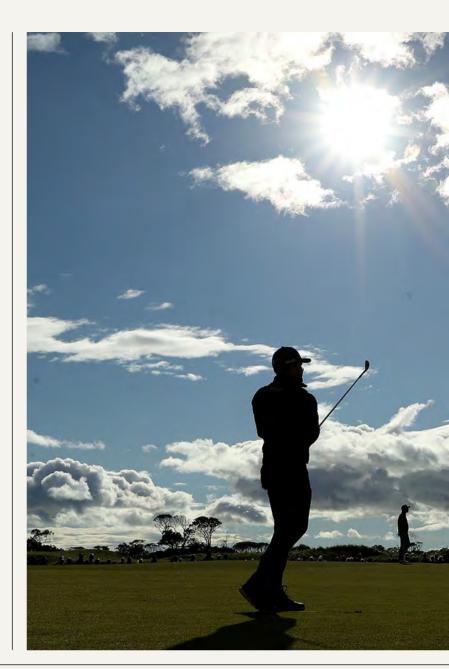
"I'm looking forward to having a lovely day, and I will do my best. I will fight from the beginning until the end," said Bourdy. "It's just great to be in that position on my favourite golf course in the world, the famous Old Course, and we are doing very well as a team, also, my partner, and really enjoy the moment."

Bourdy and amateur team-mate Aidan Heavey lead the Team Championship by a single point, and the Frenchman would love to make his duel with Hatton as tight with an early charge

Crucial to his hopes will be the brilliant putting that has kept him in contention this week. At Carnoustie, his round included a run of four consecutive birdies that moved him through the pack. He added: "Especially great putting today, and yesterday, as well. I feel very confident on the greens, and it's very important in the links conditions and in the wind, as well.

"Carnoustie is one of my favourite links courses, as well. I feel good on it, and yeah, I knew I can do a good score there."

Bernd Ritthammer is in a group of players who are drawing a target not on Hatton, but on Bourdy for that second-place finish. "It looks like Tyrrell is running away, but at the moment second spot seems in reach," said the German. "It's my first time playing this event and it's absolutely brilliant. Playing the Old Course is going to be very special."



Drysdale's home help

David Drysdale says the best part of having his wife caddying for him is that she can deliver honest criticism when he most needs it.

Vicky has been on the Scotsman's bag since the start of the year and the arrangement has grown and developed since then.

"When you are paying a caddie they're sometimes a little bit scared of you and scared to lose their job," said Drysdale, who is 8-under par.

"They probably don't say what needs to be said at times, whereas Vicky tells me what I need to hear all the time. It's working as I'm playing well and I had a nice spell over the summer when I made a lot of cuts. Long may it continue."

Vicky added: "I know how he ticks and when he gets down I can tell him to snap out of it. When I started caddying, we made a pact that we would become husband and wife off the course. Otherwise we would drive each other mad!"





Narayen hits a hole-in-one and says 'I didn't even see it'

Amateur's amazing run of eagle, ace at the 11th and hitting the pin at the 12th sees him and pro Dubuisson climb the Team Championship leaderboard

Shantanu Narayen made the first hole-in-one of the Championship at the par three, 11th at St Andrews.

The CEO of Adobe Systems said: "I was hoping to just get it on the green because it ballooned up in the air. Then the people at the next hole were clapping. They saw it go in the hole, but I didn't.

"I had a hole-in-one in California. I did see that go in, but this one was special with it being at St Andrews – it doesn't get better than that."

Thanks to the hole-in-one, which was a net zero because Narayen had a shot, he and French pro partner Victor Dubuisson are now on 26-under in the Team Championship.

Narayen, making his first appearance in the tournament, added: "My expectations for the final day are to have fun. This is my first time and it's just been a dream." The Indian

pieced together a superb sequence of holes in the middle of his round, topped off by the ace.

He said: "Previous to that, on the par four ninth, I drove the green and

made the putt of about 20 feet for a net eagle. On the 11th I got the hole-in-one then on the 12th I hit the pin. Again, I didn't see it hit the pin but someone told me it had."





Strong pack still in team prize hunt

The Team Championship is sure to go down to the wire with 11 groups within four shots of the leaders.

Three pairs top the chasing pack as they plan to challenge Aidan Heavey and pro Gregory Bourdy for the prestigious title.

One shot back from them on 27-under are Erwee Botha and Yikeun Chang, Tom Jermoluk and Alexander Levy and Billy Getty and Joakim Lagergren, above.

South African trader Botha and South Korean professional Chang produced a 65 at Carnoustie. US tech investor Jermoluk and his French playing partner carded an impressive 63 on the Old Course.

American golf course developer Getty and Swede Lagergren shot a 64 at St Andrews, with Lagergren's score keeping him in the individual championship at 9-under, some nine shots behind leader Tyrrell Hatton.

Still in contention on 26-under are Schalk Burger and Jaco Ahlers, along with Shantanu Narayen and Victor Dubuisson.

And in with a chance one shot back are Barry Sternlicht and Kiradech Aphibarnrat, Shane Warne and Ryan Fox, Jamie Dornan and Tyrrell Hatton and Dermot Desmond and Robert Karlsson

The galleries could yet see a winner coming through the pack with two teams on 24-under.

John Hegarty and Scott Gregory along with Kieran McManus and Jamie Donaldson will still believe they have a chance to come out victorious

Other amateurs to have made the cut include singer Brian McFadden and ex-South African cricketer Jacques Kallis.



The Alfred Dunhill Links Championship celebrates links golf at its finest and is played over the Old Course at St Andrews, the Championship Course at Carnoustie and Kingsbarns Golf Links. The final round, after the cut is made on Saturday, is played over the Old Course.

With a total prize fund of US\$5 million, there are two separate competitions - an individual professional tournament and the Team Championship, in which each professional is paired with an amateur.



JB's flying success as he makes the cut

'It's a great event, I'm glad I came' says US star as he looks forward to a fun day out on the Old Course

American Ryder Cup star JB Holmes is delighted he made the effort to fly in for this year's Alfred Dunhill Links. At five-under-par after the first three days, he made the cut and is now looking forward to today's final round on the Old Course at St Andrews.

"I'd heard so much about the tournament over the years, I decided

I wanted to make a visit this time," said the 35-year-old from Kentucky. "It has been a great event, and great fun, and so nice to have had this experience."

Holmes, now ranked No 56 in the world, made headlines in 2011 when he had to undergo brain surgery, with a metal plate inserted into the



base of his skull, following bouts of extreme dizziness and his withdrawal from that year's US PGA Championship after a first round 80 in which he again felt unwell.

He has won plaudits for the way he has fought back from the operation, and a period of rehabilitation, to rebuild his golf career. Holmes has inspired others suffering from the rare condition, caused by structural defects in the brain.

The highlight of his week so far was a second round 66 at Carnoustie. "That was a lot of fun and it's always a treat to play the Old Course," added Holmes, who also enjoyed scenic Kingsbarns.







Myself and @RobRockAcademy shot -13 (59) at St. Andrews today to make the cut at @dunhilllinks -23 total.





Having an amazing time playing in the @dunhilllinks at the home of golf #lucky #fun

Goodbye... and thanks

The amateurs who missed the cut still have unforgettable memories from a great week at St Andrews:

Jamie Redknapp

Playing with Luke Donald is great. Just watching the way he putts and chips makes you realise what an average golfer you really are.

Ronan Keating

I played awful all week but actually played well at Kingsbarns. Enjoyed playing with Jamie Dornan.

Kelly Rohrbach

In my front nine at Kingsbarns I shot one over par, and that was the best I've played all week.

Sir Anthony McCoy

Playing is an absolute honour, so it's a pity I didn't play that well. Hopefully I'll get invited back and I can play better.

Paul O'Connell

As a golf nerd when I was younger, it has just been incredible to play all these great courses alongside great players and in a real tournament









Today's Order of Play

10th Tee

Game	Tee	Tee	Professional/Amateur		Profes	ssional	s Score	:	Team
No		Time		R 1	R 2	R 3		+/- Par	Score
1	10	09.20	Joost Luiten	70	69	71	210	-6	
			Rhein Gibson	70	72	68	210	-6	
			Matthew Giles	73	67	70	210	-6	
2	10	09.31	Oliver Fisher	68	71	71	210	-6	
			Graeme Storm	75	69	67	211	-5	
			Dylan Frittelli	70	71	70	211	-5	
3	10	09.42	Branden Grace	70	69	72	211	-5	
			David Horsey	<i>7</i> 5	70	66	211	-5	
			JB Holmes	73	66	72	211	-5	
4	10	09.53	Richard Bland	73	65	73	211	-5	
			Darren Fichardt	74	68	69	211	-5	
			Peter Hanson	71	72	68	211	-5	
5	10	10.04	Aaron Rai	70	70	71	211	-5	
			George Coetzee/Brian Higgins	69	73	69	211	-5	-22
			Connor Syme	72	70	69	211	-5	
6	10	10.15	Mike Lorenzo-Vera	74	67	70	211	-5	
			Gavin Moynihan	70	70	72	212	-4	
			Liam Johnston	72	70	70	212	-4	
7	10	10.26	Anthony Michael	73	65	74	212	-4	
			Jason Scrivener	72	71	69	212	-4	
			Jeunghun Wang	69	71	72	212	-4	
8	10	10.37	Christiaan Bezuidenhout/Jacques Kallis	73	70	69	212	-4	-23
			Ulrich Van Den Berg	73	68	71	212	-4	
			Laurie Canter	72	69	71	212	-4	
9	10	10.48	Julien Quesne	71	69	72	212	-4	
			Rory McIlroy	73	71	68	212	-4	
			Richard Sterne	72	75	65	212	-4	
10	10	10.59	Benjamin Hebert	69	72	71	212	-4	
			Lasse Jensen	71	69	72	212	-4	
			Scott Gregory/John Hegarty	71	71	70	212	-4	-24
11	10	11.10	James Morrison	71	69	72	212	-4	
			Yikeun Chang/Erwee Botha						-27
12	10	11.21	Ryan Fox/Shane Warne						-26
			Jamie Donaldson/Kieran McManus						-24
13	10	11.32	Robert Karlsson/Dermot Desmond						-24
			Phachara Khongwatmai/Liam Botham						-23
14	10	11.43	Thorbjørn Olesen/Donald Colleran						-23
			Aron Price/Ross Desmond						-23



1st Tee

Game	Tee	Tee	Professional/Amateur				s Score		Team
No		Time		R 1	R 2	R 3		+/- Par	Scor
15	1	09.20	Graeme McDowell	69	71	70	210	-6	
			Nino Bertasio	70	69	71	210	-6	
			Matt Wallace	69	67	74	210	-6	
16	1	09.31	Raphaël Jacquelin	71	69	70	210	-6	
			Ashley Chesters	71	69	70	210	-6	
			Haydn Porteous	74	71	65	210	-6	
17	1	09.42	Eddie Pepperell	72	69	69	210	-6	
			Jaco Ahlers/Schalk Burger	71	69	70	210	-6	-26
18	1	09.53	Ricardo Gouveia	71	71	67	209	-7	
			Niclas Fasth/John Tyson	73	65	71	209	-7	-23
			Matthew Fitzpatrick	73	68	68	209	-7	
19	1	10.04	Stephen Gallacher	72	67	70	209	-7	
			Ben Evans	69	68	72	209	-7	
			Gary Stal	72	67	70	209	-7	
20	1	10.15	Tommy Fleetwood	70	63	76	209	-7	
			Brandon Stone	71	67	71	209	-7	
			Shane Lowry/Gerry McManus	68	75	66	209	-7	-22
21	1	10.26	Martin Kaymer	71	71	67	209	-7	
			Marcel Siem	69	66	74	209	-7	
			Bradley Dredge	70	70	69	209	-7	
22	1	10.37	Grégory Havret	70	69	69	208	-8	
			Romain Wattel	70	68	70	208	-8	
			David Drysdale	69	67	72	208	-8	
23	1	10.48	Marc Warren	70	71	67	208	-8	
			Mikko Ilonen	74	67	67	208	-8	
			Robert Rock/Brian McFadden	71	68	69	208	-8	-2:
24	1	10.59	Victor Dubuisson/Shantanu Narayen	74	66	68	208	-8	-20
_ '	_	15.55	Nicolas Colsaerts	67	67	73	207	-9	۷
25	1	11.10	Kiradech Aphibarnrat/Barry Sternlicht	70	66	73	207	-9	-25
23		11.10	Alexander Levy/Tom Jermoluk	70	69	68	207	-9 -9	-23
26	1	11.21	Bernd Ritthammer	70	66	71	207	-9 -9	-2,
20	1	11.21							2-
27	4	11.70	Joakim Lagergren/Billy Getty	69	67	71	207	-9 10	-27
27	1	11.32	Ross Fisher	71	68	67	206	-10	
			Luke Donald	70	70	66	206	-10	
			Paul Dunne	67	68	70	205	-11	
28	1	11.43	Grégory Bourdy /Aidan Heavey	70	67	66	203	-13	-28
			Tyrrell Hatton/Jamie Dornan	68	65	65	198	-18	-25









Warne's eleventh heaven

Former cricketer Shane finally makes the cut after a decade of missing out and reveals how he wants to win the Team Championship for his partner Ryan Fox

his 11th Alfred Dunhill Links Championship to qualify for the Team Championship's last day finale.

Shane Warne has had to wait until legend now wants to try to win it for competition lead, but New Zealand's his professional partner Ryan Fox.

The Aussie-Kiwi combo of Warne and Fox tee off for their final That ambition realised, the cricket round just two shots off the team

Fox did not make the cut in the individual event after a bad back nine in his third round at Kingsbarns.

Warne said: "I really feel for Foxy. He was playing so well but in four holes from the 12th he dropped six strokes - including a triple bogey at the 13th.

"It ruined his chances of making the cut, but it was the mark of the man that he kept trying for our team, birdieing the 18th to get us to 26-under par for three rounds.

"I would love nothing more than to help him win the top prize money in the Team Championship. That would be cool, because I so wanted him to make the cut in the individual event too.

"He played extremely well over the first three days, apart from that bad stretch, and as a team we have 'ham and egged' it brilliantly.

"To get to play in the final day at last is just great, but now I'd love to win it for Ryan."



Surfer Kelly lets rip with bar singsong

Surfing legend Kelly Slater posed for photos and belted out tunes when he dropped into a St Andrews pub during Friday's live music night, put on to coincide with the Alfred Dunhill Links Championship week.

The American 11-time world champion, partnered with South African pro Dylan Fritelli in the tournament, showed off his guitar and singing talents, wooing punters in the town's Brewpub.





Huey's tribute to music idol Petty

Lewis joins other musicians in poignant rendition of late singer's Free Fallin' at tournament's gala dinner

American rocker Huey Lewis paid a warm tribute to music legend Tom Petty, who died recently, at the Alfred Dunhill Links gala dinner last night.

He joined several other musicians playing in the Championship in a performance of Free Fallin', one of Petty's greatest hits.

Lewis said: "Tom wasn't a golfer, but I and others here knew him well. He was a great song-writer and a man of integrity." Despite missing the Team Championship cut with American professional Cliff Kresge, he added. "This is my favourite week of the year. We have fun no matter how the golf goes.

"Sometimes the practice rounds, when Tico Torres, myself, Dave Farrell and Brian McFadden played a 'musical' four-ball, are as good as the tournament itself."





Tyrrell 'too good' at 9

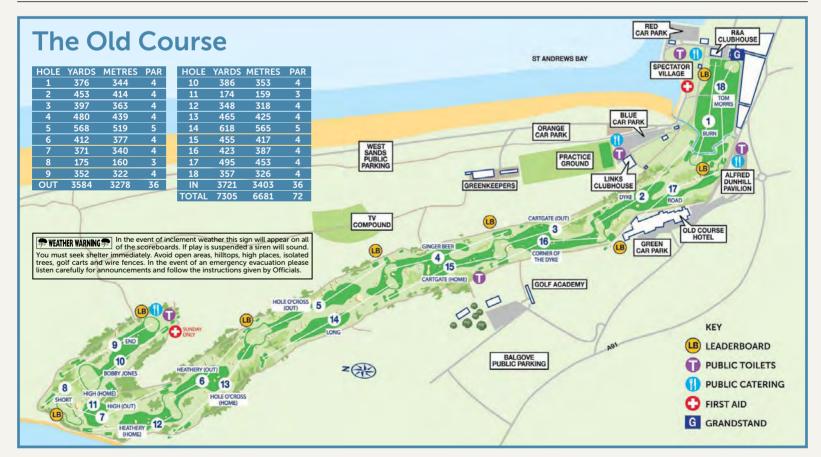
Sir Steve Redgrave told how he banned a nine-year-old Tyrrell Hatton from his charity golf day because the boy was so dominant. The British Olympic legend recalls the talent of the young Englishman, chasing his second consecutive Alfred Dunhill Links title today.

He said: "Tyrrell won a competition and was invited as a nine-year-old to play. We had to ban him because his team used to win it all the time! Even though I don't know him, we had a long chat a couple of days ago and it's great to see him up there again."

The former rower – who finished on 18-under par in the Team Championship with pro partner Graeme Storm – has fond memories of the tournament.

He said: "When I first came 17 years ago I hadn't played links golf. I wasn't sure what to expect. I turned up at the Old Course on the Tuesday night and booked in to play practice on Wednesday. They put me with two Campbells – I thought it would be a couple of Scottish guys, but it was New Zealand golfer Michael Campbell and his dad.

"Michael must have seen how nervous I was on the first so he said: 'Don't worry, just stay left on this course and you won't have any problems'. I had a really good round and we stayed friends. That's what this tournament is all about."

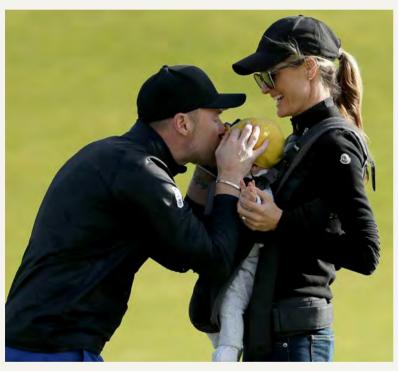


It needs only a glance at the list of past Open Champions at the Old Course to understand why St Andrews holds such an illustrious place in golfing history. The majestic setting, with the 18th green in particular providing an iconic sporting scene, just adds to the unique appeal of the Home of Golf

Among the winners of the 28 Open Championships staged here since 1873 are both modern masters and older legends of the game. Tiger Woods won in both 2000 and 2005, Jack Nicklaus in 1970 and 1978, Severiano Ballesteros in 1984 and Bobby Jones in 1927. The most recent winner was Zach Johnson two years ago.







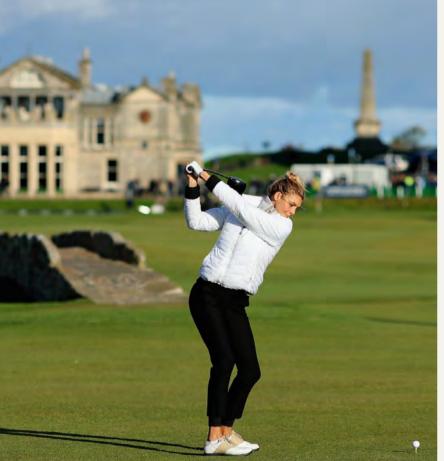




















Aidan Turner, London, May 2017



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