

Golf

Kisner sets a daunting target at PGA Championship



Kevin Kisner hits from the fairway on the 16th hole during the second round of the PGA Championship golf tournament at the Quail Hollow Club Friday, Aug. 11, 2017, in Charlotte, N.C.

By DOUG FERGUSON
Associated Press

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — In the dozen times Kevin Kisner has played in majors, he has learned they are not much fun unless he's playing well.

He's having a blast so far in the PGA Championship.

Sticking to a simple plan on a challenging course at Quail Hollow, Kisner holed a 50-foot eagle putt from off the green that carried him to another 4-under 67. That gave him a five-shot lead among those who played in the Friday morning side of the draw.

Kisner was at 8-under 134 as Jordan Spieth, Dustin Johnson and others headed out in the afternoon just as a light rain began to fall. That might be the worst thing that happened all day to Kisner. The notorious greens of Quail Hollow were slick as ever, keeping low scores at a minimum.

"These guys going out in the afternoon, they break 70 they've done a hell of a job," Rory McIlroy said after he suffered another bad stretch and shot 72.

Kisner doesn't have the length for this 7,600-yard course, but he has golf smarts, a reliable swing and a good putting stroke for the greens. He saw the changes to the course earlier this year on a soft, damp day and wondered how he would manage.

The plan was to make birdie on the par 5s and the two short par 4s, and play for par everywhere else.

It has worked to near perfection through two rounds, particularly on the par 5s: a wedge to 10 feet on No. 10; a wedge to 5 feet on No. 15; and the eagle putt on No. 7 that rolled against the pin and disappeared.

Rickie Fowler tried to do his part. Playing conservative at times to be in the fairway, he avoided a big number early in his round when a 60-foot chip didn't quite get up a ridge and rolled all the way back to his feet. He lagged the next shot up to 5 feet and escaped with bogey.

Fowler picked up two birdies and then had to settle for pars the rest of the way for a 70 that put him at 3-under 139. No one else was closer to Kisner among the early starters, particularly not Phil Mickelson. He finally made a birdie on his 31st hole of the tournament, but by then it was much too late. Mickelson shot 74 and missed the cut for the first time in the PGA Championship since 1992.

Ryan Fox of New Zealand posted the low round of the tournament at 66 to reach 1 under overall.

McIlroy, meanwhile, made an amazing escape of his own with a shot that bounced so far down a cart path on the par-5 10th that it was pin-high, 100 yards away. He bounced a 6-iron from 110 yards up the

cart path, through the bunker and onto the fringe about 40 feet away, and got up-and-down for par.

Still lurking in range, McIlroy fell apart early on the front nine with four bogeys in five holes and had to rally with birdie on the two easiest holes on that side.

"Obviously, Kiz is on fire right now," McIlroy said. "But take him out of the equation, I feel like I'm still right there in the tournament."

That's a practical way of thinking whenever most anyone has a big lead, and the fact it's Kisner adds to the intrigue. He is tough to beat when he's hitting it where he's aiming because of his short game and his fortitude. Traveling the mini-tours toughened him, and he has won twice on the PGA Tour.

But he didn't play his first major until the 2014 U.S. Open at Pinehurst, and his finishes have largely been in the middle of the pack.

"I've been upset with how I've played in the majors so far in my career," Kisner said. "I feel like I have the game to compete in majors. That's kind of been our goal for the year. We haven't played well in them yet this year, but every year you learn more about the majors."

The biggest lesson? "They are really hard," he said. "And they are not a whole lot of fun unless everything is working out for you."

SCOREBOARD

Baseball

MLB AMERICAN LEAGUE East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boston	65	50	.565	—
New York	61	53	.535	3½
Tampa Bay	59	58	.504	7
Baltimore	57	59	.491	8½
Toronto	54	61	.470	11

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Cleveland	61	52	.540	—
Minnesota	58	56	.509	3½
Kansas City	57	58	.496	5
Detroit	52	63	.452	10
Chicago	45	68	.398	16

West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Houston	71	44	.617	—
Seattle	59	58	.504	13
Los Angeles	59	58	.504	13
Texas	55	59	.482	15½
Oakland	51	65	.440	20½

White Sox (Shields 2-4), 4:10 p.m.
Houston (Fiers 7-6) at Texas (Ross 2-2), 5:05 p.m.
Baltimore (Bundy 11-8) at Oakland (Manaea 8-6), 6:05 p.m.
L.A. Angels (Ramirez 10-10) at Seattle (Ramirez 4-4), 6:10 p.m.

NATIONAL LEAGUE East Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Washington	68	45	.602	—
Miami	54	60	.474	14½
New York	52	61	.460	16
Atlanta	51	62	.451	17
Philadelphia	42	71	.372	26

Central Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Chicago	60	54	.526	—
St. Louis	60	56	.517	1
Milwaukee	59	59	.500	3
Pittsburgh	58	58	.500	3
Cincinnati	49	67	.422	12

West Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Los Angeles	81	34	.704	—
Colorado	65	50	.565	16
Arizona	64	51	.557	17
San Diego	51	64	.443	30
San Francisco	46	70	.397	35½

Friday's Games
N.Y. Yankees 5, Boston 4
Pittsburgh 4, Toronto 2
Cleveland 5, Tampa Bay 0
Minnesota 9, Detroit 4
Texas 6, Houston 4
Chicago White Sox 6, Kansas City 3
Oakland 5, Baltimore 4
L.A. Angels 6, Seattle 5

Saturday's Games
Pittsburgh (Williams 5-4) at Toronto (Rowley 0-0), 10:07 a.m.
Boston (Pomeranz 11-4) at N.Y. Yankees (Severino 9-4), 1:05 p.m.
Cleveland (Clevinger 5-4) at Tampa Bay (Archer 8-6), 3:10 p.m.
Minnesota (Berrios 10-5) at Detroit (Zimmermann 7-9), 3:10 p.m.
Kansas City (Kennedy 4-8) at Chicago

San Francisco (Sarnardzija 7-11) at Washington (Scherzer 12-5), 4:05 p.m.
Cincinnati (Feldman 7-7) at Milwaukee (Suter 2-2), 4:10 p.m.
Colorado (Hoffman 6-3) at Miami (Nicolino 0-1), 4:10 p.m.
Atlanta (Sims 0-2) at St. Louis (Martinez 8-9), 4:15 p.m.
Chicago Cubs (Lester 8-6) at Arizona (Corbin 8-11), 5:10 p.m.
San Diego (Chacin 11-8) at L.A. Dodgers (Ryu 4-6), 6:10 p.m.

MLB Northwest League North Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Spokane	9	7	.563	—
Tri-City	9	7	.563	—
Everett	8	8	.500	1
x-Vancouver	8	8	.500	1

South Division				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Boise	8	8	.500	—
x-Hillsboro	8	8	.500	—
Eugene	7	9	.438	1
Salem-Keizer	7	9	.438	1

Friday's Games
Boise 11, Everett 8
Salem-Keizer 6, Vancouver 2
Eugene 3, Spokane 2, 10 innings
Tri-City 3, Hillsboro 1

Saturday's Games
Everett at Boise, 6:15 p.m.
Salem-Keizer at Vancouver, 7:05 p.m.
Spokane at Eugene, 7:05 p.m.
Hillsboro at Tri-City, 7:15 p.m.

Soccer

MLS
Saturday's Games
Sporting Kansas City at Seattle, 1 p.m.

Portland at Toronto FC, 3 p.m.
Real Salt Lake at D.C. United, 4 p.m.
Chicago at Columbus, 4:30 p.m.
Orlando City at New York, 4:30 p.m.
Colorado at FC Dallas, 5 p.m.
Montreal at Philadelphia, 5 p.m.
Vancouver at New England, 5 p.m.
San Jose at Houston, 6 p.m.
New York City FC at Los Angeles, 8 p.m.

Basketball

WNBA				
	W	L	Pct	GB
Connecticut	16	9	.640	—
Washington	15	10	.600	1
New York	14	12	.538	2½
Chicago	11	16	.407	6
Atlanta	10	17	.370	7
Indiana	9	18	.333	8

WEST				
	W	L	Pct	GB
x-Minnesota	21	4	.840	—
Los Angeles	19	7	.731	2½
Phoenix	14	12	.538	7½
Dallas	13	15	.464	9½
Seattle	10	16	.385	11½
San Antonio	6	22	.214	16½

Friday's Games
New York 83, Atlanta 77
Los Angeles 70, Minnesota 64

Saturday's Games
Dallas at Connecticut, 4 p.m.
Indiana at Washington, 4:30 p.m.
Atlanta at San Antonio, 5 p.m.
Seattle at Phoenix, 7 p.m.
Sunday's Games
Los Angeles at New York, Noon

Golf

PGA Tour
PGA Championship
Friday

At Quail Hollow Club
Charlotte, N.C.
Purse: \$10.5 million
Yardage: 7600; Par: 71

Partial Second Round Leaderboard
Kevin Kisner 67-67—134 -8
Hideki Matsuyama 70-64—134 -8
Jason Day 70-66—136 -6
Francesco Molinari 73-64—137 -5
Louis Oosthuizen 70-67—137 -5
Rickie Fowler 69-70—139 -3
Justin Thomas 73-66—139 -3
Paul Casey 69-70—139 -3
Byeong Hun An 71-69—140 -2
D.A. Points 68-73—141 -1
Ryan Fox 75-66—141 -1
Grayson Murray 68-73—141 -1
Sung Kang 70-71—141 -1
Brooks Koepka 68-73—141 -1
Others
Rory McIlroy 72-72—144 +2
Dustin Johnson 70-74—144 +2
Matt Kuchar 71-74—145 +3
Jordan Spieth 72-73—145 +3

LPGA Tour
Through Aug. 6

	Trn Money
1. So Yeon Ryu	15\$1,733,086
2. Sung Hyun Park	16\$1,541,115
3. Lexi Thompson	15\$1,337,783
4. In-Kyung Kim	13\$1,085,893
5. Brooke M. Henderson	20\$1,038,689
6. Mi Jung Hur	17\$996,906
7. Sei Young Kim	17\$995,405
8. Ariya Jutanugarn	19\$979,161
9. Amy Yang	16\$878,536
10. Cristie Kerr	16\$862,417
11. Danielle Kang	17\$806,828
12. Michelle Wie	17\$794,230

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\$125,000
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#16443563

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\$159,900 3 Bedroom 2 Bath Ranch Style Home near Sherwood School. Large fenced yard. 2 car Garage. Large Storage Shed. Very nice. MLS# 17078846

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\$239,000
OVERLOOKING Wallula Gap. Year around Weston Mountain living, 4.92acres, 1974sf(m/l) 2002 Marlette. Certified wood stove. 1840sf(m/l), 6bay garage/shop. Good well, paved road. Marsha 541-377-5152cell.
#17636025

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\$245,000
WELL-MAINTAINED, one-owner, custom home overlooking Grecian Heights park w/incredible views. 4bedrooms, 3baths, 2kitchens; park-like yard is easy maintenance, UGS, mature landscaping, lighting. Molly 541-969-4188cell.
#17511133

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\$329,000 BEAUTIFUL North Hill View. 3 Bed 2 Full Bath. 2 half Baths. Huge living room. Beautiful Oak Kitchen. Two lots. Two double car garages and much more. MLS# 17054486

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\$97,500
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