



PORSCHE

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Golf star from California off to an excellent start at the Porsche European Open

Feel good climate for Bryson DeChambeau

Hamburg. Seven birdies and just one bogey: US golf star Bryson DeChambeau could not have got off to a better start at the Porsche European Open. At six under par, he quickly led the field that defied the 6,934-meter Porsche North Course belonging to the Green Eagle Golf Courses to return to the clubhouse with a string of low scores on the first day of the long-established professional tournament. Local hero Benedict Staben (Germany) in particular enjoyed a dream start after shooting a 67 around the par 72 course to finish one shot behind the leader.

Whilst the 7,100 spectators had trouble in bearing up to the heat, the Californian DeChambeau really got into the swing of things in conditions that were very familiar to him. "As far as I'm concerned, it could get a couple of degrees hotter." The 24-year old pro from Modesto can well imagine that the unusual temperatures could give the players normally at home on the US PGA Tour a little – quite possibly a decisive – advantage. "We're used to staying concentrated right up until the last putt in these conditions."

The threesome containing Bryson DeChambeau, Paul Casey (England) and Adrian Otaegui (Spain), which teed-off early on at 8 o'clock, were clearly at the focus of spectator interest. The physics-lover DeChambeau, who has been given the nickname "Professor Golf" due to his extremely analytical approach in everything technique, equipment and course management, has shown himself in Hamburg as everything but somebody that is guided solely by his head. Away from the course, he is very

approachable for his fans and has secured the support of the knowledgeable crowd. This could also quite possibly be down to him letting on for the first time in the past few days that he has “German roots on my mother’s side”.

The other top players on the PGA Tour were initially all queuing up behind Bryson DeChambeau: Paul Casey (-3) is in shared 14th place, Masters Champion Patrick Reed (USA) and Charl Schwartzel (South Africa), both -2, are in shared 26th place. Besides Benedict Staben, amateur Allen John (Ludwigshafen/Rhine) also surprised on the shared 6th place (-4). Philipp Mejiow from Berlin (-3) and Maximilian Kiefer (-3, Bergisch Gladbach) are in a good position in 14th place.

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