

Principal Charity Classic

Wakonda Club | Des Moines, Iowa | June 5-11, 2017

First-Round Notes

Friday, June 9, 2017

Course Setup: Par 72 / 6,716 yards (R1 scoring average: 70.705)

Weather: Mostly sunny with a high in the low 90s. Wind from the SW at 8-15 mph, with gusts up to 20 mph.

	Player	To Par	Scores
T1.	Kevin Sutherland	-6	32-34 – 66
T1.	Glen Day	-6	35-31 – 66
T1.	Bernhard Langer	-6	33-33 – 66
T4.	Mark Calcavecchia	-5	33-34 – 67
T4.	Scott Verplank	-5	33-34 – 67
T4.	Russ Cochran	-5	33-34 – 67
T4.	Brandt Jobe	-5	35-32 – 67
T4.	Jerry Kelly	-5	34-33 – 67
T4.	Scott McCarron	-5	36-31 – 67

Quick Links:

- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Tee Times](#)
- [PGATOURmedia.com](#) (transcripts and other resources available for download)

Bernhard Langer, 33-33 – 66 (-6)

- Langer birdied all four par 5s Friday en route to a 6-under 66. His bogey on the par-4 16th was his only score greater than 4 all day.
- It is the 28th time Langer has had at least a share of the lead after the first round. The last three times he's been a first-round leader, he has gone on to win. In all, he has converted a first-round lead into a victory 12 times.
- Langer is coming off back-to-back major wins and if he wins this week, he would be the first player to win three consecutive starts since Fred Couples in 2010. His nine major victories is the most in PGA TOUR Champions history, and his 32 total victories is second only to Hale Irwin's total of 45.
- The Principal Charity Classic is one of just 11 tournaments on this year's 26-event schedule that Langer has not won. (Of those 11 tournaments, he has not played in two of them.) In his four previous starts in Des Moines, Langer has posted just one top-10 finish (T10, 2012), and in his two starts at Wakonda Club, he has finished T31 (2013) and T48 (2015) with a scoring average of 71.67. The tie for 48th is his second-worst finish in his 196 starts on PGA TOUR Champions.
- He has three wins this season, his sixth season with at least three victories, and he has led the Charles Schwab Cup standings six weeks in a row. His \$1,664,651 in winnings is more than twice the total of his nearest competitor (Scott McCarron – \$784,351).

Glen Day, 35-31 – 66 (-6)

- Starting his round on the back nine, Day opened with a birdie on No. 10 and followed with a birdie-eagle-birdie stretch on Nos. 14-16. The 66 is his best first-round score since he opened with a 65 at the 3M Championship in August 2016.
- This is the second time Day is a first-round leader on PGA TOUR Champions. Last year, he led after a first-round 65 at the 3M Championship; he went on to finish T5.
- Last year at the Principal Charity Classic, he finished T32 at 4-under-par.
- His 2017 season includes two top-10s – a T6 finish at the Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic and a tie for 10th at the Regions Tradition. He is currently No. 41 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings.

Kevin Sutherland, 32-34 – 66 (-6)

- Sutherland's bogey-free 66 included six birdies, and he hit 14 of 18 greens in regulation. On the season, he ranks third on Tour in that category (77.53%).
- Friday was Sutherland's 197th round on PGA TOUR Champions, and this is just the fifth time he is a leader at the end of a round. This is the first time he is a first-round leader and he has been a second-round leader four times. He has 30 top-10s in 64 starts, but he has yet to win.
- Sutherland opened the season with seven consecutive top-10 finishes, and in the season's first two majors he finished T13 and T17. At No. 5 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings, he is the Tour's leading money winner without a victory.

First-Round Lead Notes

- The last first-round leader that has gone on to win the Principal Charity Classic was **Jay Haas** in 2007. Overall, first-round leaders have won just three times in the tournament's 16-year history.
- The highest first-round score by a Principal Charity Classic winner is 71 (**Russ Cochran**, 2013).
- Last year, **John Inman** led after a first-round 65; he went on to finish T8. The 2016 champion **Scott McCarron** was T7 after a first-round 68.
- This season, **Bernhard Langer** is the only player to convert a first-round lead into a victory, and he has done it twice. At the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, he was part of a three-way tie for the lead after 18 holes, and he went on to win after the tournament was shortened to 36 holes due to weather. At the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, he was a co-leader after day one and went on to win by one.

Other Player Notes

- A year after making just one bogey en route to the tournament title, **Scott McCarron** made two bogeys in his opening-round 67. He made the turn at even-par, but made birdies on Nos. 11-13 and 15-17 coming in.
- **Russ Cochran** needed just 23 putts in his first-round 67. It is just his fifth round in the 60s in 24 rounds this year.
- When Cochran won the Principal Charity Classic in 2013, he shot an opening-round 71 and was tied for 13th.
- The round of 67 is **Mark Calcavecchia**'s lowest score this season. He finished T20 at the team event, the Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge, and his best individual finish this season is a tie for 28th at the season-opening Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. He is currently 74th in the Schwab Cup standings.
- When Calcavecchia won the Principal Charity Classic in 2015, he also carded a first-round 67. He was T3 after 18 holes and went on to win by one.
- **Scott Verplank** started birdie-eagle on Nos. 10-11 and finished birdie-birdie on Nos. 8-9 en route to a 5-under 67. It is his lowest first-round score since he shot 67 to start the 2016 American Family Insurance Championship. He is currently No. 62 in the Schwab Cup standings.
- Coming off a tie for eighth at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, **Brandt Jobe** shot 67 and is T4. It was his 17th straight round of par or better, which is tied with **Jerry Kelly** for the longest active streak on Tour.
- **Jerry Kelly** is T4 after shooting a 5-under 67. In his rookie campaign on PGA TOUR Champions, Kelly has three top-10s in six starts and is 25th in the Schwab Cup standings.
- Playing in his second PGA TOUR Champions tournament, **Steve Flesch** carded a 3-under 69 and is T18. He turned 50 on May 23 and in his debut at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, he missed the cut.
- The 431-yard, par-4 first hole was the second-hardest opening hole on Tour in 2016, and the 39th-toughest overall (4.280). On Friday, it played to a 4.179 average and was the toughest hole.