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CHAMPIONS

Principal Charity Classic

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

Media Contact

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- Par/Yards**..... Par 72 / 6,959 yards
- Course Designer** Williams B. Langford (1922)
- Purse**..... \$1,750,000 (Winner: \$262,500)
- Golf Channel Coverage** ... Friday through Sunday: 6-8 p.m. CT (tape delay)

Field Overview (as of 6/5/17)

The 17th Principal Charity Classic will be played at the Wakonda Club for the fifth year. **Bernhard Langer** headlines the field and will try to extend his two-tournament winning streak. In May, Langer won the Regions Tradition and the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship to complete the Senior Slam and become PGA TOUR Champions’ all-time leader in major wins (9). The 78-player field also includes last year’s champion **Scott McCarron**, who posted top-five finishes in the season’s first two majors and is currently No. 2 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings. Other notable players in the field include three-time champion **Jay Haas**, **Tom Lehman**, **David Toms** and **Jerry Kelly**.

- 32 of the top-40 players in the current Charles Schwab Cup standings
- 7 former champions of the Principal Charity Classic
- 57 PGA TOUR winners with 275 total career victories
- 46 PGA TOUR Champions winners with 222 total career victories
- 16 players with a PGA TOUR Champions major victory; 13 with a PGA TOUR major

2016 Recap: McCarron Notches First PGA TOUR Champions Victory

Scott McCarron birdied the final three holes to cap off a bogey-free 65 and a one-stroke victory, the first of his PGA TOUR Champions career. He started the final round tied for sixth and two shots behind the three co-leaders, and five birdies and one eagle led to a 15-under-par total and a one-stroke victory over **Miguel Angel Jimenez** and **Billy Andrade**. Despite hitting just 24 of 42 fairways, McCarron made just one bogey over the course of the 54 holes.

It All Started in Des Moines

Since his breakthrough win at last year’s Principal Charity Classic, **Scott McCarron** has added 10 top-10s and two more tournament titles. He won the Dominion Energy Charity Classic during last year’s Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs, and earlier this year he eagled the 54th hole to win by one at the Allianz Championship. He is coming off back-to-back top-five finishes in majors (T2, Regions Tradition; T5, KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship), and he is currently No. 2 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings.

Tournament Storylines

Langer's Winning Streak

Bernhard Langer will arrive in Des Moines having won the last two tournaments, both of which were majors. He successfully defended his title at the Regions Tradition, and one week later he completed the Senior Slam by winning the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship. He is now the all-time leader with nine career major victories on PGA TOUR Champions, which is one more than Jack Nicklaus' eight titles.

In all, Langer has 32 career victories, which is second on the all-time wins list (Hale Irwin leads with 45). 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. If he wins this week, Langer would be the first player to win three consecutive starts since Fred Couples in 2010.

The One That's Gotten Away

The Principal Charity Classic is one of just 11 tournaments on this year's 26-event schedule that **Bernhard Langer** has not won. Of those 11 tournaments, he has not played in two of them (Japan Airlines Championship, PowerShares QQQ Championship). 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.

Perfect 10s in the Hawkeye State

Combined, **Tom Lehman** and **Joe Durant** have eight top-10s in eight starts at the Principal Charity Classic. Lehman has five top-10s, including a tie for sixth last year, and all 15 of his rounds have been under par (68.53 average). Since winning the Tucson Conquistadores Classic in March, he has posted six consecutive top-20 finishes and is eighth in the Schwab Cup standings.

Durant finished seventh in 2014 and T2 in 2015, and last year he finished T4 after starting the final round as one of the three co-leaders. All nine of his rounds at Wakonda Club have been under-par (68.44 average), with his low score being 65 in last year's second round. This season, Durant has two top-10s and is 28th in the Charles Schwab Cup standings.

Strong Rookie Class

This week's field includes three PGA TOUR Champions rookies with decorated PGA TOUR careers.

- **David Toms** is one of just three players that finished in the top 10 of the season's first two majors. After a tie for sixth at the Regions Tradition and a seventh-place finish at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, Toms is now 15th in the Charles Schwab Cup standings. He won 13 times on the PGA TOUR, including two wins at this week's tournament, the FedEx St. Jude Classic.
- **Jerry Kelly** finished tied for eighth at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship and moved to No. 25 on the Charles Schwab Cup money list. He has three top-10s in six starts this season, and he has yet to card an over-par round on PGA TOUR Champions.
- **Steve Flesch** turned 50 on May 23 and in his PGA TOUR Champions debut, he missed the cut at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship. During his PGA TOUR career, he tallied 63 top-10s and won four times, and he was named PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year in 1998.

Player Capsules

- **Kevin Sutherland** has seven top-10s this season and is fifth in the Charles Schwab Cup standings. His career includes 30 top-10s in 64 starts, but he has yet to enter the winner's circle.
- **Stephen Ames** became the third Canadian to win on PGA TOUR Champions when he won the Mitsubishi Electric Classic in April. He has made two holes-in-one this season, and his three top-10s have placed him seventh in the Charles Schwab Cup standings.

Tournament Storylines

Principal Charity Classic Named 2016 PGA TOUR Champions Tournament of the Year

In 2016, the Principal Charity Classic earned the President's Award, given annually to the PGA TOUR Champions Tournament of the Year. The President's Award is the highest tournament honor awarded by the PGA TOUR Champions and recognizes overall excellence and the intangibles that make a tournament stand out among many successful events.

Notes about the 2016 Principal Charity Classic:

- Attracted a record 83,389 spectators to Wakonda Club during 2016 tournament week.
- Donated a record \$2,053,725 to Iowa children's charities, including six regional Tournament Charity Partners and more than 100 statewide charity organizations through the tournament's Birdies For Charity program.
- Inspired increased engagement, with the tournament's record 2016 donation representing a 46% increase over the previous year; the Principal Charity Classic's all-time charitable giving total now stands at nearly \$10 million in 10 years.
- Introduced the MidAmerican Energy "Green Canyon" on holes 16 and 17 at Wakonda Club as a fan enhancement, designed to provide continuous content via LED ribbon boards and ease of access to food, drink and merchandise.
- Also finished as one of the top nominees for the PGA TOUR Champions 2016 "Players Award" as voted on by the Player Advisory Council.

Fifth Year at Wakonda Club

The tournament was played at Glen Oak Country Club from 2001-2004 and 2006-2012, with one year at the Tournament Club of Iowa in 2005. Since 2013, the Principal Charity Classic has been played at Wakonda Club. In 2016, the par-72 layout played to a 71.350 average, which made Wakonda Club the ninth-easiest course on Tour.

Hardest hole: No. 1 (par 4, 431 yards) – 7 birdies, 4.280 average

- It was the second-hardest opening hole on Tour in 2016, and the 39th-toughest overall

Easiest hole: No. 13 (par 5, 529 yards) – 6 eagles, 116 birdies, 4.514 average

Noteworthy hole: No. 18 (par 4, 311 yards) – It was the shortest finishing hole on Tour in 2016. It was the fifth-easiest hole at Wakonda Club last year, yielding 61 birdies and only 17 bogeys (3.819 average).

Year	R1	R2	R3	Overall Average (Rank)
2016	71.086	71.198	71.765	71.350 (18th / 26)
2015	71.198	71.852	70.778	71.276 (17th / 24)
2014	71.457	70.568	72.325	71.446 (14th / 26)
2013	73.469	71.575	72.675	72.577 (8th / 26)

Seven Past Champions in the Field

This week's field includes each tournament champion since 2011. Overall, eight past champions are in the field: **Mark Calcavecchia**, **Russ Cochran**, **Tom Jenkins**, **Tom Pernice Jr.**, defending champion **Scott McCarron**, two-time champion **Bob Gilder**, and three-time champion **Jay Haas**.

2001	Jim Thorpe	2009	Mark McNulty
2002	Bob Gilder	2010	Nick Price
2003	Don Pooley	2011	Bob Gilder
2004	D.A. Weibring	2012	Jay Haas
2005	Tom Jenkins	2013	Russ Cochran
2006	Gil Morgan	2014	Tom Pernice Jr.

2007	Jay Haas	2015	Mark Calcavecchia
2008	Jay Haas	2016	Scott McCarron

2017 PGA TOUR Champions – Season Overview

PGA TOUR Champions is a membership organization of golf's most recognizable and accomplished players, age 50 and older, including 32 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame. The Tour's mission is to provide financial opportunities for its players, entertain and inspire its fans, deliver substantial value to its partners, create outlets for volunteers to give back and generate significant charitable and economic impact in tournament communities. In 2017, the PGA TOUR Champions schedule includes 26 tournaments in 18 states, Japan, Wales and Canada, with purses totaling more than \$55 million. The Charles Schwab Cup, which includes the Regular Season and the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs, is used to determine the season-long champion. All events are televised in the United States, with most receiving complete coverage on Golf Channel, the exclusive cable-television partner of PGA TOUR Champions. Internationally, telecasts air live, tape-delayed or in a highlights-package format in excess of 190 countries and territories, reaching more than 330 million potential households. The PGA TOUR's web site is PGATOUR.COM, the No. 1 site in golf, and the organization is headquartered in Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla. Follow PGA TOUR Champions at facebook.com/PGATOURChampions, on Twitter @ChampionsTour and on Instagram @pgatourchampions.

The 2017 Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs

In 2016, Bernhard Langer prevailed in the inaugural Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs and won the Charles Schwab Cup for the third year in a row, and fourth time overall. This year's three-tournament playoff series begins in Richmond, Virginia, before heading west to Thousand Oaks, California, and concluding in Phoenix.

- October 16-22 | Dominion Energy Charity Classic (The Country Club of Virginia, Richmond, Virginia)
- October 23-29 | PowerShares QQQ Championship (Sherwood Country Club, Thousand Oaks, California)
- November 6-12 | Charles Schwab Cup Championship (Phoenix Country Club, Phoenix, Arizona)

At the start of the playoffs, each player's regular-season money total will become the equivalent number of points (e.g. \$330,000 equals 330,000 points). During the first two playoff events, each dollar earned is worth two points, and those points will be added to a player's regular-season point total. After the Dominion Energy Charity Classic, the top 54 players will advance, and after the PowerShares QQQ Championship, the top 36 players will qualify for the season-ending Charles Schwab Cup Championship.

Points will be reset for the Charles Schwab Cup Championship, similar to the reset in the FedExCup Playoffs before the TOUR Championship. Any of the top-five players will win the Charles Schwab Cup with a victory in the season finale, and all 36 players are mathematically capable of winning the Charles Schwab Cup, depending on his performance and the results of the rest of the field.

Tour Welcomes Several New Faces in 2017

A number of long-time PGA TOUR performers will turn 50 and become eligible to compete on PGA TOUR Champions this season.

- Jerry Kelly (DOB: November 23, 1966)
- David Toms (January 4, 1967)
- Craig Perks (January 6, 1967)
- Kent Jones (January 8, 1967)
- Td Tryba (January 15, 1967)
- Mike Heinen (January 17, 1967)
- Jay Williamson (February 7, 1967)
- Steve Stricker (February 23, 1967)
- Steve Flesch (May 23, 1967)
- Peter Lonard (July 17, 1967)
- Len Mattiace (October 15, 1967)

2017 PGA TOUR Champions – Tournament Recaps

1. **Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai:** Bernhard Langer claimed his 30th career victory on PGA TOUR Champions after high winds forced the cancellation of the final round at Hualalai. Langer closed Friday's second round with birdies on four of his last five holes, and his 36-hole total of 15-under-par (64-65) held up as the winning score over Fred Couples (-14) and Kirk Triplett (-13). The victory came on his 33rd wedding anniversary with his wife, Vikki, who was in attendance along with two of Langer's children.
2. **Allianz Championship:** After hitting a 7-iron from 179 yards on the par-5 18th, Scott McCarron made his six-foot eagle putt to win the Allianz Championship, his third career PGA TOUR Champions victory. At one time, seven players were tied for the lead during Sunday's final round, but in the end McCarron's 17-under total was one stroke better than Carlos Franco and Kenny Perry.
3. **Chubb Classic:** Fred Couples closed with a bogey-free 67 and defeated second-round leader Miguel Angel Jimenez by three strokes. The win was Couples' 12th victory on PGA TOUR Champions, and first since he defeated Billy Andrade in a playoff to win the 2014 Shaw Charity Classic.
4. **Tucson Conquistadores Classic:** Tom Lehman birdied two of his last three holes to erase a two-stroke deficit and win with a 20-under-par total. In his PGA TOUR Champions debut, Steve Stricker led by two with three holes to go, but he three-putted for bogey on No. 16 and hit his tee shot into a hazard on No. 18, leading to his runner-up finish.
5. **Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic:** Miguel Angel Jimenez successfully defended his title, but it took one extra hole for him to settle the matter. Holding a two-stroke advantage going to the 54th hole, Jimenez made a double bogey to fall back into a playoff with Gene Sauers, the 36-hole-leader. Steadying his nerves, the Spaniard calmly drained his 10-foot birdie putt to end the affair.
6. **Mitsubishi Electric Classic:** Stephen Ames became the third Canadian to win on PGA TOUR Champions, carding a final-round 66 to win by four strokes. The victory came in his 49th start on Tour, and he became the 11th player to have wins on the Web.com, PGA TOUR and PGA TOUR Champions.
7. **Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge:** Vijay Singh and Carlos Franco teamed up to win the weather-shortened Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge. The tandem posted a 15-under total after shooting a tournament-record 12-under 42 in the second and final round, which consisted of nine holes of modified alternate shot and nine holes of better ball at the Top of the Rock Par 3 Course. The win was Franco's second on PGA TOUR Champions, while Singh claimed his first victory in his 13th start on Tour.
8. **Insperty Invitational:** One year after making his PGA TOUR Champions debut, John Daly captured his first victory at the Insperty Invitational. Daly carded a second-round 65 to take a one-stroke advantage into Sunday, and he began his final round with an eagle on No. 1. He finished with a final-round 69, a 14-under-par total and a one-stroke victory over Kenny Perry and Tommy Armour III. The win came in Daly's 22nd start on Tour, and he became the 12th player with victories on the Web.com Tour, PGA TOUR and PGA TOUR Champions.
9. **Regions Tradition:** Bernhard Langer shot a final-round 64 and overcame a two-shot deficit en route to his second straight win at the Regions Tradition. The win was his eighth major championship on PGA TOUR Champions, which tied him with Jack Nicklaus for most senior major titles. His 20-under-par total was five shots better than Scott McCarron and Scott Parel.

10. **KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship:** Bernhard Langer finished at 18-under-par and outlasted Vijay Singh to win the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship by one stroke. It was his ninth senior major victory, and he passed Jack Nicklaus for the most major victories in PGA TOUR Champions history. Langer also became the first player to win all five majors on PGA TOUR Champions. With the victory, Langer earned an invitation to play in the PGA Championship at Quail Hollow in August.
11. Principal Charity Classic
12. American Family Insurance Championship
13. U.S. Senior Open Championship
14. Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship
15. Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex
16. 3M Championship
17. DICK'S Sporting Goods Open
18. Boeing Classic
19. Shaw Charity Classic
20. JAPAN AIRLINES Championship
21. Pacific Links Bear Mountain Championship
22. PURE Insurance Championship
23. SAS Championship
24. Dominion Energy Charity Classic
25. PowerShares QQQ Championship
26. Charles Schwab Cup Championship