

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Bernhard Langer and Defending Champion Scott McCarron Highlight 2017 Principal Charity Classic Field

Tournament competition tees off June 9 at Wakonda Club in Des Moines

DES MOINES (June 6, 2017) – The [Principal Charity Classic®](#), presented by Wells Fargo, is pleased to announce the player field for this year's tournament, set for June 6-11 at historic Wakonda Club near downtown Des Moines.

The Principal Charity Classic was named the PGA TOUR Champions Tournament of the Year in 2016 and has raised nearly \$10 million to benefit Iowa children's charities in the past decade.

Defending tournament champion **Scott McCarron**, now a three-time PGA TOUR Champions winner after earning his first career PGA TOUR Champions victory at the 2016 Principal Charity Classic, will be joined by 77 additional competitors, including:

- **Bernhard Langer**, the 2016 PGA TOUR Champions Player of the Year and defending Charles Schwab Cup champion. The two-time Masters champion and World Golf Hall of Fame member has 32 career PGA TOUR Champions wins, the second-highest total in TOUR history (Hale Irwin leads with 45). With his recent victory at the 2017 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, Langer became the first player to win all five majors on the PGA TOUR Champions and surpassed Jack Nicklaus' record for the most senior major titles (Langer now has nine total). Langer last competed in the Principal Charity Classic in 2015.
- Past Principal Charity Classic champions **Mark Calcavecchia** ('15), **Russ Cochran** ('13), **Jay Haas** ('07, '08, '12), **Bob Gilder** ('02, '11) and **Tom Pernice, Jr.** ('14).
- PGA TOUR Champions rookies **Jerry Kelly**, a native of Madison, Wisconsin, and **David Toms**, winner of the 2001 PGA Championship and 13 career PGA TOUR events.
- Perennial fan favorites **Fred Funk**, **Tom Lehman**, **Jesper Parnevik**, **Fuzzy Zoeller** and **Billy Andrade**, who set a new Wakonda Club course record (63) during the second round of the 2016 Principal Charity Classic.
- Iowa native **Jerry Smith**, a 2017 inductee into the Iowa Golf Hall of Fame. Smith, who received a sponsor exemption to play in the 2014 Principal Charity Classic, went on to earn PGA TOUR Champions Rookie of the Year honors in 2015. He has played in the Principal Charity Classic for the past three years, with a best finish of T14 in 2016.

Also included in the 2017 Principal Charity Classic field are five players who received sponsor exemptions: **Jay Don Blake**, owner of more than three dozen top-10 career finishes in official

PGA TOUR events; **Damon Green**, past Principal Charity Classic participant ('11, '12) and professional caddie for PGA TOUR star and Iowa native Zach Johnson; **Gary Hallberg**, one of only 12 players to win a tournament on the PGA TOUR, Web.com Tour and PGA TOUR Champions; **Brian Henninger**, two-time PGA TOUR winner and second-place finisher at the 2015 Principal Charity Classic; and **Lonnie Nielsen**, Iowa native and member of the Iowa Golf Hall of Fame.

Principal Charity Classic tickets start at just \$20, and may be purchased online at www.principalcharityclassic.com or at the tournament gates. Kids 15 and under may attend the tournament for free if accompanied by a ticketed adult. Complimentary admission is also provided for all active duty, retired and reserve military along with their dependents.

For more information, visit www.principalcharityclassic.com.

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About the Principal Charity Classic

The Principal Charity Classic is an annual PGA TOUR Champions event focused on philanthropic giving. In 2016, the Principal Charity Classic was recognized as the PGA TOUR Champions Tournament of the Year. This premier golf event raises contributions for the tournament's "**FORE Our Kids**" charities, including: 1) **Tournament Charity Partners**, select organizations that provide a broad level of support to children of Iowa in the areas of education and culture, financial security and stability, and/or health and wellness. These organizations are supported through net proceeds of the tournament; and 2) **Birdies for Charity Partners**, which includes more than 100 additional children's charities across Iowa that receive support through individual pledges and contributions made prior to and during the tournament.

The 2017 Principal Charity Classic tournament will be played June 6-11, 2017, at Wakonda Club in Des Moines, Iowa. For more information on the charities and the tournament, visit principalcharityclassic.com and follow via [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#).

About PGA TOUR Champions

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](#).

2017 Principal Charity Classic – Final Player Field

Michael Allen
Stephen Ames
Billy Andrade
Tommy Armour III
Woody Austin
Jay Don Blake +
Michael Bradley
Paul Broadhurst
Mark Brooks
Olin Browne
Bart Bryant
Tom Byrum
Mark Calcavecchia
Jim Carter
Russ Cochran
Marco Dawson
Glen Day
Scott Dunlap
Joe Durant
Steve Flesch
Dan Forsman
Carlos Franco
David Frost
Fred Funk
Bobby Gage
Doug Garwood
Bob Gilder
Bill Glasson
Mike Goodes
Paul Goydos
Damon Green +
Jay Haas
Gary Hallberg +
Todd Hamilton
Brian Henninger +
John Huston
Peter Jacobsen
Lee Janzen
Brandt Jobe
Jerry Kelly
Skip Kendall
Bernhard Langer
Tom Lehman
Steve Lowery
Billy Mayfair
Blaine McCallister
Scott McCarron *
Larry Mize
Lonnie Nielsen +

Scott Parel
Jesper Parnevik
Craig Parry
Steve Pate
Tom Pernice Jr.
Tim Petrovic
Phillip Price
Tom Purtzer
Fran Quinn
Loren Roberts
Gene Sauers
Wes Short, Jr.
Joey Sindelar
Jeff Sluman
Jerry Smith
Rod Spittle
Kevin Sutherland
Esteban Toledo
David Toms
Kirk Triplett
Bob Tway
Scott Verplank
Duffy Waldorf
Willie Wood
Fuzzy Zoeller

Field notes

Final field will include 78
players; 4 event qualifiers
currently TBD

* denotes defending
champion

+ denotes players
receiving 2017 sponsor
exemptions