



Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship

Caves Valley Golf Club | Baltimore, Maryland | July 11-16, 2017

Media Contacts

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Quick Facts

Par/Yards: Par 72 / 7,196 yards

Course Designer: Tom Fazio (1991)

Purse: \$2,800,000 (Winner: \$420,000)

Golf Channel Coverage: Thursday and Friday, 1:30-4 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 3-6 p.m.

Field Overview (as of 7/11/17)

The 35th-annual Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship will be played at Caves Valley Golf Club for the first time. **Bernhard Langer** will return in hopes of winning for the fourth consecutive year, and he will be joined by six other past champions of the event, including **Mark O'Meara** and **Kenny Perry**. Perry won the U.S. Senior Open two weeks ago, and he'll try to replicate his 2013 season by winning the U.S. Senior Open and Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship in consecutive starts. The field also includes **Fred Funk**, who grew up 40 miles away in Takoma Park and is a University of Maryland alumnus and former Terrapins golf coach. In all, the 78-player field features 49 of the top-50 players in the current Charles Schwab Cup standings.

- 7 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame (Tom Kite, Bernhard Langer, Colin Montgomerie, Mark O'Meara, Jose Maria Olazabal, Vijay Singh, and 2017 inductee Ian Woosnam)
- 61 PGA TOUR winners with 334 total career victories
- 53 PGA TOUR Champions winners with 217 total career victories
- 20 players with a PGA TOUR Champions major victory; 17 with a PGA TOUR major

2016 Recap: Langer Wins Third Consecutive Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship

Bernhard Langer converted a 12-foot par putt on the 72nd hole at The Philadelphia Cricket Club to win the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship for the third year in a row. Langer led by three after 54 holes, but his lead shrunk on Sunday as he was unable to make a final-round birdie in windy conditions. A par save from the greenside bunker on No. 18 gave him a 1-over-par total and a one-stroke victory over Miguel Angel Jimenez and Joe Durant.

Tournament Storylines

PGA TOUR Champions in Maryland

This week will be the 15th PGA TOUR Champions event to be played in the state of Maryland. The Constellation Energy Classic was played from 1998-2006 (Constellation's title sponsorship ran from 2003-2006) in Hunt Valley and Columbia, and this marks the fifth time the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship has been played in Maryland.

This is also the second major hosted by Caves Valley Golf Club. In 2002, Dan Pooley posted a 10-under 274 total here and won the U.S. Senior Open in a five-hole playoff over Tom Watson.

Langer's Winning Ways

Bernhard Langer's win last year marked the eighth time in PGA TOUR Champions history that a player won the same event three years in a row. If he wins again this year, the four consecutive wins would be the second-longest streak in Tour history, trailing only Hale Irwin's five straight titles at the Turtle Bay Championship (2000-2005; no event in 2004).

His PGA TOUR Champions career includes 32 victories, which ranks second on the all-time wins list (Hale Irwin leads with 45). On four occasions, Langer has successfully defended his title: Regions Tradition (2016, 2017), Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship (2014, 2015, 2016) and Insuperity Invitational (2007, 2008).

This season, he has three victories and seven top-five finishes, and he has led the Charles Schwab Cup standings 11 of the 13 weeks. With his win at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, he became the Tour's all-time leader in major victories (9) and he became the first player to win all five majors on PGA TOUR Champions.

Perry in a Familiar Position

Kenny Perry was victorious in consecutive majors in 2013, winning the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship two weeks before hoisting the trophy at the U.S. Senior Open. He went on to win the Charles Schwab Cup later that year, and he's the last player to win before Bernhard Langer's current three-year winning streak.

This year, he's hoping to replicate the winning streak in reverse, as he will travel to Baltimore two weeks after winning the U.S. Senior Open at Salem Country Club. His victory earlier this month was his fourth major title, and he became the sixth player to win multiple U.S. Senior Opens. In addition to his one win, he has two runner-up finishes this season and is currently No. 2 in the Schwab Cup standings.

A Homecoming for Funk

Fred Funk's connections to Maryland run deep. Funk was born in Takoma Park, Maryland, 40 miles south of Caves Valley, and he went on to play (Class of 1980) and coach (1982-1988) at the University of Maryland. Before his PGA TOUR career started in 1989, he won many Middle Atlantic PGA events, including the Maryland Open in 1983 and 1987. He was inducted into the University of Maryland Athletic Hall of Fame in 2007 and the state of Maryland Athletic Hall of Fame in 2011, and he will be inducted into the MAPGA Hall of Fame in March 2018.

He has nine career wins on PGA TOUR Champions, including three major championships, and he has four top-10s in 10 previous starts at the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship. This season, he has four top-10s and is currently 18th in the Schwab Cup standings.

Tournament Storylines

Strong Rookie Class

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

- **David Toms** has posted three top-10s in 12 starts, including a T6 at the Regions Tradition and a seventh-place finish at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship. He is currently 25th in the Charles Schwab Cup standings.
- **Jerry Kelly** has seven top-15 finishes in nine starts, with his best being a T3 in his debut at the Chubb Classic. He is 22nd in the Schwab Cup standings.
- World Golf Hall of Famer **Jose Maria Olazabal** will make his eighth start of the season and first since the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship in May. He is 67th in the Schwab Cup standings.

Jobe, Verplank on the Rise

Two players on recent hot streaks will make their second starts at the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship. **Brandt Jobe** finished third at Salem Country Club, his third top-10 in his last four starts. Before the U.S. Senior Open, he broke through with a win at the Principal Charity Classic, his first professional victory in nearly 19 years, and finished T8 at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship. In this four-tournament stretch, Jobe has risen from No. 29 to No. 6 in the Schwab Cup standings. Jobe finished fourth in his Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship debut last year.

After posting just two top-10s in his first 37 starts on Tour, **Scott Verplank** has now posted three straight top-10s and has four on the year. Since missing the cut at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, he has finishes of T5, 2nd and T7, and has moved from No. 62 to No. 20 in the Schwab Cup standings. Verplank's only other appearance in this tournament came in 2015 when he finished T17.

Jockeying for Position in the Charles Schwab Cup Standings

Nine of the top-10 players in the Schwab Cup standings will compete at Caves Valley, with Fred Couples being the only top-10 player not in the field. **Kirk Triplett** is coming off a runner-up finish at the U.S. Senior Open, while **Kevin Sutherland** has eight top-10s, tied for the most on Tour this season. **Tom Lehman** has also shown good form as of late, as he finished T5 at the Principal Charity Classic and T4 at the U.S. Senior Open.

Player	Money	Season Summary	Tournament History
1. Bernhard Langer	\$1,815,666	Three wins, eight top-10s	2016: 1st Best: 1st (2014, 2015, 2016)
2. Kenny Perry	\$1,225,385	One win, four top-10s	2016: T13 Best: 1st (2013)
3. Fred Couples	\$1,103,147	Two wins, seven top-10s	Not in field
4. Scott McCarron	\$958,135	One win, six top-10s	2016: T13 (only start)
5. Miguel Angel Jimenez	\$840,587	One win, six top-10s	2016: T2 (only start)
6. Brandt Jobe	\$840,585	One win, four top-10s	2016: 4th (only start)
7. Kirk Triplett	\$788,276	Five top-10s	2016: T7 Best: 2nd (2015)
8. Kevin Sutherland	\$784,489	Eight top-10s	2016: T13 Best: T10 (2015)
9. Tom Lehman	\$726,637	One win, five top-10s	2016: T25 Best: 2nd (2012)
10. Stephen Ames	\$703,536	One win, six top-10s	Tournament debut

Tournament Storylines

From Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS to THE PLAYERS

Ever since Bobby Wadkins won in 2006, the winner of the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship has earned an exemption into the subsequent year's PLAYERS Championship. The tradition will continue in 2018, as this week's champion will earn a spot in The PLAYERS Championship next year (May 8-13, 2018). In all, the exemption has been used eight times, and Mark O'Meara is the only player of this group that has made the cut.

Year	Player	Scores (Finish)
2017	Bernhard Langer	71-78 (MC)
2016	Bernhard Langer	72-72 (MC)
2015	Bernhard Langer	73-73 (MC)
2014	Kenny Perry	77-70 (MC)
2013	Joe Daley	78-77 (MC)
2012	Fred Couples	DNP
2011	Mark O'Meara	66-74-79-77 (74th)
2010	Jay Haas	71-73 (MC)
2009	D.A. Weibring	WD
2008	Loren Roberts	DNP
2007	Bobby Wadkins	77-75 (MC)

Tournament History

The Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship is being contested for the 35th time, and it is the fourth-oldest event on PGA TOUR Champions. Only the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship (78 years), Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge (40 years) and the U.S. Senior Open (38 years) are older.

This year's field includes six past champions: **Joe Daley** (2012), **Jay Haas** (2009), **Bernhard Langer** (2014, 2015, 2016), **Mark O'Meara** (2010), **Kenny Perry** (2013) and **Loren Roberts** (2007).

2016	Bernhard Langer	2004	Mark James	1992	Dave Stockton
2015	Bernhard Langer	2003	Craig Stadler	1991	Jim Albus
2014	Bernhard Langer	2002	Stewart Ginn	1990	Jack Nicklaus
2013	Kenny Perry	2001	Allen Doyle	1989	Orville Moody
2012	Joe Daley	2000	Raymond Floyd	1988	Billy Casper
2011	Fred Couples	1999	Hale Irwin	1987	Gary Player
2010	Mark O'Meara	1998	Gil Morgan	1986	Chi Chi Rodriguez
2009	Jay Haas	1997	Larry Gilbert	1985	Arnold Palmer
2008	D.A. Weibring	1996	Raymond Floyd	1984	Arnold Palmer
2007	Loren Roberts	1995	J.C. Snead	1983	Miller Barber
2006	Bobby Wadkins	1994	Dave Stockton		
2005	Peter Jacobsen	1993	Jim Colbert		

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.

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| • Jerry Kelly (DOB: November 23, 1966) | • Jay Williamson (February 7, 1967) |
| • David Toms (January 4, 1967) | • Steve Stricker (February 23, 1967) |
| • Craig Perks (January 6, 1967) | • Steve Flesch (May 23, 1967) |
| • Kent Jones (January 8, 1967) | • Peter Lonard (July 17, 1967) |
| • Td Tryba (January 15, 1967) | • Len Mattiace (October 15, 1967) |
| • Mike Heinen (January 17, 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. **Inspirity Invitational:** One year after making his PGA TOUR Champions debut, John Daly captured his first victory at the Inspirity 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:** Brandt Jobe finished at 14-under and won the Principal Charity Classic by one over Kevin Sutherland and Scott McCarron, the defending champion and Jobe's roommate at UCLA. It was Jobe's first victory in his 32nd start on PGA TOUR Champions, and first professional victory since he won the 1998 Mizuno Open on the Japan Golf Tour (a span of 18 years, 11 months, 14 days). He was winless in 34 starts on the Web.com Tour and 337 starts on the PGA TOUR.
12. **American Family Insurance Championship:** Trailing by three at the start of the final round, Fred Couples birdied six of his first 11 holes en route to a final-round 66 and a two-stroke victory. It was Couples' 13th career win on PGA TOUR Champions, and it was his second win of the season. Tournament host Steve Stricker finished three shots behind Couples and tied for third.
13. **U.S. Senior Open Championship:** Kenny Perry carded a final-round 68 to finish at 16-under and win the U.S. Senior Open by two strokes over Kirk Triplett. It was his fourth senior major victory and his second U.S. Senior Open title (2013, 2017). His four-day total of 264 set a new U.S. Senior Open record for lowest 72-hole score, and his 16-under total was the third-best score in relation to par in tournament history.
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