



PGA



CHAMPIONS

2017 KITCHENAID SENIOR PGA CHAMPIONSHIP MEDIA INFORMATION

- The 78th KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship will be played in the Washington, DC area for the first time when it visits the Trump National Golf Club in Potomac Falls, VA. Designed by Tom Fazio in 1991 and redesigned again in 2014, the Championship Course boasts views of the nearby Potomac River on 13 of 18 holes. The course will play at par-72, 7,130 yards for the championship. Two of the course's signature holes are No. 13, a 544-yard, par-5 and No. 15, a 175-yard par-3.
- This year's KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship will be the second of five major championships on PGA TOUR Champions in 2017. The Regions Tradition kicked things off last week at Greystone Golf and Country Club in Birmingham with Bernhard Langer defending his 2016 title. The final three major championships will get under way starting in five weeks at the U.S. Senior Open at Salem Country Club in Peabody, MA where Gene Sauers will defend (June 29-July 3). After a one-week break, the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship will take place at Caves Valley Golf Club in suburban Baltimore (July 10-16). The Senior Open Championship will be the fifth and final major championship and will be contested at Royal Porthcawl Golf Club in Bridgend, Wales (July 24-30).
- PGA TOUR Champions is certainly no stranger to the Washington, DC area. In 1995 Tom Weiskopf defeated Jack Nicklaus by four strokes at the U.S. Senior Open at Congressional Country Club in Bethesda, MD. Fifteen years later, Mark O'Meara won the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship in a playoff with Michael Allen at the TPC Potomac at Avenel Farm in Potomac, MD.
- The Senior PGA Championship is the oldest tournament in senior golf. The championship was born in 1937 on the grounds of another of golf's majors, at the invitation of one of the game's greatest players. At the suggestion of renowned amateur Bobby Jones, the inaugural Senior PGA Championship was played at Augusta National Golf Club three years after the first Masters Tournament. It was established in the fall of 1937 to provide an opportunity to PGA members ages 50 and over to compete with their peers. The purse was \$2,000. To find better weather conditions, the event moved to Florida in 1940 and was played in various cities in the Sunshine State through 2000. The championship was held at PGA National Golf Club in Palm Beach Gardens, FL, from 1982 to 2000. Beginning in 2001, the tournament moved to some of the great golf courses in the United States.
- A total of 10 players earned their first victory on PGA TOUR Champions in this event. That list includes Arnold Palmer (1980), Tom Wargo (1993), Doug Tewell (2000), Fuzzy Zoeller (2002), Mike Reid (2005), Denis Watson (2007), Michael Allen (2009), Roger Chapman (2012), Kohki Idoki (2013) and Colin Montgomerie (2014).

- Tom Watson's victory at the 2011 Senior PGA Championship at Valhalla was the sixth major championship of his PGA TOUR Champions career, tying him with Gary Player for third place on the circuit's all-time list of major wins. Jack Nicklaus leads all players with eight major titles followed by Hale Irwin and Bernhard Langer with seven major victories, each. Watson's victory at 61 years, 8 months made him the oldest Senior PGA Championship winner since the start of the Tour in 1980 and the second-oldest winner overall in event history. Jock Hutchison remains the oldest at 62 years (1947).
- When Colin Montgomerie won the 2014 KitchenAid Senior PGA TOUR Championship, he became the first Scot to win on PGA TOUR Champions and the third player born in Scotland to win the event, joining Jock Hutchison (1937, 1947) and Fred McLeod (1938).
- Only three players have successfully defended titles in this event. Paul Runyan defended his 1961 victory in 1962 and Hale Irwin defended in both 1997 and 1998. Colin Montgomerie was the only other to do so, defending his 2014 title in 2015 at the French Lick Resort.
- Hale Irwin has earned the most money in this event --\$1,763,108 in 20 appearances. A four-time champion (1996-98 and 2004), Irwin owns nine top-10 finishes, the most recent coming at the 2012 Senior PGA Championship, finishing third at Harbor Shores. Jay Haas, a two-time winner (2006 and 2008) is second, with \$1,385,403, while Tom Watson, the winner of the 2001 and 2011 Senior PGA Championship, is third with \$1,281,216. Colin Montgomerie, also a two-time winner, is the only other player with over \$1 million in earnings (\$1,175,000).
- Hale Irwin's four KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship victories (1996-98, 2004) are second only to legend Sam Snead's six wins (1964-65, 1967, 1970, 1972-73). Gary Player (1986, 1988, 1990), Al Watrous (1950-51, 1957) and Eddie Williams (1942, 1945-46) each have three wins in this event. With his victory in 2011, Tom Watson (2001, 2011) joined Irwin, Snead, Player, Jock Hutchison (1937 and 1947) and Don January (1979 and 1982) as just the sixth player to win the Senior PGA Championship in two separate decades.
- Hale Irwin's 12-stroke victory in the 1997 Senior PGA Championship is the second largest winning margin for 72 holes in PGA TOUR Champions history, but it is not the largest margin in tournament history. Sam Snead prevailed by 15 strokes in 1973. Snead also owned the lowest single round each day on the way to winning a sixth Championship. In 2014, Bernhard Langer established a new record with his 13-stroke victory at the Senior Open Championship at Royal Porthcawl in Wales.
- Rocco Mediate matched Kenny Perry's KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship record for the lowest 18-hole score a year ago and tied the lowest score ever posted in a men's major when he fired a 9-under-par 62. Perry posted his score in the final round of the 2012 event at Harbor Shores. Mediate's 72-hole total of 19-under-par 265 set a record, eclipsing Sam Snead's previous mark (1973) by three strokes.
- This year's field includes seven former Ryder Cup captains, four for the United States and three for Europe. The U.S. contingent includes Tom Kite (1997), Tom Lehman (2006), Tom Watson (1993, 2014) and Corey Pavin (2010). The European captains include Bernhard Langer (2004), Ian Woosnam (2006) and Colin Montgomerie (2010).

- Since 2000, nine of 17 players leading or sharing the lead after 54 holes have gone on to win the event, including each of the last three years and four of the last five years. The lone exception during that span came in 2013 when Kenny Perry was unable to hold off Kohki Idoki at Bellerive CC near St. Louis.
- The KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship has had 14 playoffs in its history, including four since 2000. Below are the results of those four playoffs. Prior to 2000, the last playoff was in 1993 when then-PGA club professional Tom Wargo defeated Bruce Crampton with a par on the second extra hole at PGA National.

2005: Mike Reid defeated Dana Quigley and Jerry Pate with a birdie on the first extra hole

2006: Jay Haas defeated Brad Bryant with a par on the third extra hole

2010: Tom Lehman defeated Fred Couples and David Frost with a par on the first extra hole

2011: Tom Watson defeated David Eger with a birdie on the first extra hole

- Hale Irwin holds the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship mark for most rounds in the 60s, with 24, seven more than Sam Snead. Irwin also now holds the mark for most rounds under par in the tournament with 35, two more than Snead.
- There are seven World Golf Hall of Fame members in this year's field. That list includes Hale Irwin, Bernhard Langer, Colin Montgomerie, Tom Watson, Mark O'Meara, Sandy Lyle and Tom Kite. Ian Woosnam will join that select group later this year.
- Among the more than two dozen players playing in their first KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship is Steve Flesch. A four-time winner on the PGA TOUR and the winner of one title on the Web.com Tour, the former PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year turned 50 on May 23rd.
- Several competitors in this year's tournament enjoyed success in the area when competing at the PGA TOUR's Kemper Open. Among the players posting wins at what was then TPC Avenel were Tom Kite (1987), Tom Byrum (1989), Gil Morgan (1990), Billy Andrade (1991), Lee Janzen (1995) and Steve Stricker (1996). Craig Stadler won back-to-back titles in the event at Congressional CC in 1981 and 1982.
- Should Bernhard Langer prevail at this week's KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, he would become the first player to have won all five major championships on PGA TOUR Champions. It would also be his ninth major championship on Tour, taking over the top spot in that category from Jack Nicklaus. It would also mark the fourth time in his career he has won multiple major championships in a year. He also did so in 2010, 2014 and 2016.
- Bernhard Langer has posted five top-10 finishes in eight previous starts in this championship. His best showing came in his first start in 2008 at Oak Hill CC in Rochester, NY. He was the 54-hole leader by one stroke over Jay Haas and Jeff Sluman, but was undone by a 6-over-par 41 on the front nine. His final-round 6-over-par 76 left him one shy of eventual champion Haas. Langer was also T3 in 2014 and 2016.
- The winner of the 2017 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship will earn a lifetime exemption into the event, as well as exemptions into the 2017 PGA Championship, the 2017 Senior Open Championship and the 2017 U.S. Senior Open.
- Since the start of PGA TOUR Champions in 1980, a total of 13 players have won this event in their first attempt with Colin Montgomerie being the most recent in 2014.

