



Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai

Hualalai Golf Course | Ka'upulehu-Kona, Hawai'i | January 19-21, 2017

First-Round Notes

Course Setup: Par 72 / 7,107 yards (R1 scoring average: 69.298; Overall scoring average: 69.298)

Weather: A mix of sun and clouds with a high of 82. Wind from the W at 10-15 mph with gusts to 20 mph.

Summary: Bernhard Langer, Duffy Waldorf and Marco Dawson all posted rounds of 8-under-par 64 to share the first-round lead. Four players trail by just one stroke, including Fred Couples and John Daly.

Player	To Par	Scores
T1. Marco Dawson	-8	32-32 – 64
T1. Duffy Waldorf	-8	34-30 – 64
T1. Bernhard Langer	-8	32-32 -- 64
T4. John Daly	-7	34-31 – 65
T4. Olin Browne	-7	33-32 – 65
T4. Gene Sauers	-7	32-33 – 65
T4. Fred Couples	-7	33-32 – 65

Quick Links

- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-round starting times](#)
- [PGATOURMedia.com](#) (transcripts and other resources available for download)

Marco Dawson, 32-32 – 64 (-8)

Opened with an 8-under-par 64, one shy of his career-low round on PGA TOUR Champions (1st rd./2014 3M Championship).

He finished T19 here a year ago in his only other appearance in this event. Posted a 1-over-par in the first round a year ago.

Was a two-time winner in 2015 when he won the Tucson Conquistadores Classic and the Senior Open Championship at Sunningdale. His best finish a year ago was a T4 at the Tucson Conquistadores Classic.

Made over 400 starts on the PGA TOUR with best finish a second-place effort at the 1995 Greater Milwaukee Open.

College teammate of Lee Janzen and Rocco Mediate at Florida Southern.

Duffy Waldorf, 34-30 – 64 (-8)

The 2016 champion closed with a 6-under-par 30 on the back nine to claim a share of the lead in defense of his title.

Had come into the event with streak of 54 consecutive holes without a bogey after playing bogey-free golf when he captured the title last year. He increased that to 57 in a row before making his lone bogey at No. 4.

Enjoyed a successful 2016 season. In addition to his win here, he also had nine other top-10 finishes and finished 10th on the final money list.

A four-time winner on the PGA TOUR, the former UCLA product also won the 2015 Toshiba Classic on PGA TOUR Champions.

Bernhard Langer, 32-32 – 64 (-8)

The reigning 2016 Jack Nicklaus Award winner as the Player of the Year as well as the 2016 Charles Schwab Cup winner, Bernhard Langer matched his best opening-round in this event which he posted in 2009. He went on to win the first of two titles here that year.

The 59-year-old Langer's opening-round 8-under-par 64 was his 24th round in the 60s at Hualalai in 28 rounds. He owns an impressive 67.18 scoring average in this event.

Langer needed just 24 putts in his Thursday round, one shy of the fewest in the opening round by Jeff Maggert.

Comes into the 2017 season with 29 career titles which shares second place with Lee Trevino in that category, Hale Irwin leads with 45 wins on PGA TOUR Champions.

Tournament Notes:

John Daly's got his year off to a good start, shooting a 7-under-par 65. It was his best opening round in a Tour event since 2005 when he shot a 6-under-par 64 at the EDS Byron Nelson Championship. Today's 65 was also his low round on PGA TOUR Champions. His previous low was a pair of 66s last year, the most recent in the final round at the American Family Insurance Championship.

David Toms shot a 3-under-par 69 in his PGA TOUR Champions debut.

Fred Couples continues to play well in the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. Couples shot a 7-under-par 65 in just his second PGA TOUR Champions start in the last 11 months. After finishing second at last February's Chubb Classic, Couples was sidelined until late October with back issues. He returned to finish 37th at the PowerShares QQQ Championship, the first of three PGA TOUR playoffs. Coming into this event, he owns four consecutive top-five finishes here.

Hale Irwin bettered his age for the 17th time on PGA TOUR Champions when he fired a 3-under-par 69. The 71-year-old Irwin also bettered his age here a year ago when he fashioned a 3-under-par 69 in the second round. Irwin has won nearly \$4.5 million in the state.

Tom Pernice, Jr., increased his string of consecutive holes without a three-putt to 254 when he failed to have a three-putt on Thursday. His last three-putt came on No. 7 in the second round at last year's Toshiba Classic.

Doug Garwood and Lee Janzen each had two eagles today.

The most difficult hole was the par-3 eighth hole. It yielded just two birdies – Craig Stadler and Scott McCarron. The easiest was No. 7 which yielded five eagles and 27 birdies. There were no bogeys on the hole.

