



## Regions Tradition

Greystone Golf & Country Club (Founders Course) | Birmingham, Alabama | May 15-21, 2017

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**Par/Yards**.....Par 72 / 7,299 yards  
**Course Designers**.....Bob Cupp / Hubert Green (1991, 2015)  
**Purse**.....\$2,300,000 (Winner: \$345,000)  
**Golf Channel Coverage** ...Thursday and Friday: 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. CT, Saturday and Sunday: 2-4 p.m. CT

### Field Overview (as of 5/15/17)

The 29th-annual Regions Tradition is the first major of the year on PGA TOUR Champions, and it will be played at Greystone Golf & Country Club for the second year in a row. The 79-player field features eight of the top-11 players from last year’s final leaderboard, including defending champion **Bernhard Langer**. **John Daly** will be making his first start since his breakthrough victory at the Insuperity Invitational, while three players will play on the heels of competing in last week’s PLAYERS Championship (Langer, **Vijay Singh**, **Steve Stricker**). Stricker is one of three prominent rookies in the field, as he will be joined by **David Toms** and World Golf Hall of Famer **Jose Maria Olazabal**.

- 24 of the top-25 players in the current Charles Schwab Cup standings
- 8 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame (including Ian Woosnam, who will be inducted in September 2017)
- 8 former champions of the Regions Tradition
- 63 PGA TOUR winners with 382 total career victories
- 60 PGA TOUR Champions winners with 258 total career victories
- 22 players with a PGA TOUR Champions major victory; 19 with a PGA TOUR major

### 2016 Recap: Langer Cruises to Six-Stroke Victory

**Bernhard Langer** carded four rounds in the 60s and finished at 17-under, six strokes ahead of runner-up **Olin Browne**. On the week, Langer tallied one eagle, 19 birdies and just four bogeys, and he hit 47 of 52 fairways. The win was his sixth major victory on PGA TOUR Champions, and he would add a seventh title later in the year at the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship.

## *Tournament Storylines*

### Regions Tradition the First of Five Majors

Starting this week, five of the next seven tournaments are major championships on PGA TOUR Champions.

1. Regions Tradition | May 18-21 | Greystone Golf & Country Club (Birmingham, Alabama)
2. KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship | May 25-28 | Trump National Golf Club (Washington, D.C.)
3. U.S. Senior Open Championship | June 29 – July 2 | Salem Country Club (Peabody, Massachusetts)
4. Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship | July 13-16 | Caves Valley Golf Club (Baltimore, Maryland)
5. The Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex | July 27-30 | Royal Porthcawl Golf Club (Bridgend, Wales)

### From THE PLAYERS to the Regions Tradition

Three players will travel to Birmingham after playing in THE PLAYERS Championship last week. At age 59, **Bernhard Langer** was the oldest player in the field. He earned his 26th start at TPC Sawgrass as the 2016 champion of the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship, and he missed the cut after carding rounds of 71-78.

**Vijay Singh**, 54, entered the weekend in fourth at 6-under, and he finished T16 after closing with rounds of 79-70. **Steve Stricker**, 50, also made the cut, finishing T41 at 3-over.

### Daly Carrying Momentum into Season's First Major

**John Daly** will be making his first start since he captured his first PGA TOUR Champions victory at the Insuperity Invitational. The win came in Daly's 22nd start on Tour, and he earned \$322,500 to move from No. 42 to No. 8 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings. He has carded five consecutive rounds under-par (67.60 average) and has three straight top-15 finishes. Last year, Daly finished tied for 15th in his debut at the Regions Tradition.

Before the win, the last time Daly won a PGA TOUR-sanctioned event was the 2004 Buick Invitational, a span of 13 years, 2 months and 22 days. He is now the 12th player with victories on the Web.com Tour, PGA TOUR and PGA TOUR Champions.

### Sutherland, Jimenez Extend Streaks

Two players continued top-10 streaks at the Insuperity Invitational, as **Kevin Sutherland** finished fourth and **Miguel Angel Jimenez** finished T7. For Sutherland, it was his ninth straight top-10, dating back to the final two events of last season. He now has 30 top-10s in 62 starts, though he has yet to claim victory. On the season, he leads the Tour in Greens in Regulation (78.09%) and is third in scoring average (68.50).

Jimenez's streak is now at five straight top-10s, and this stretch includes his fourth career victory at the Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic. He has carded 19 consecutive rounds under-par and he has the fourth-best scoring average on Tour this season (68.59). He is rated as the Tour's best overall driver, as he is 13th in driving distance (288.5 yards) and 12th in driving accuracy (78.15%).

### Strong Rookie Class

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

- **David Toms** will make his ninth start of the season, and he's currently 26th in the Charles Schwab Cup standings. He opened the season with a T4 finish at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, and since then he's added three more top-20 finishes.
- **Steve Stricker** will make his fourth start of the season, and he is one of three players to top-10 in every start he's made this season. He has a 67.33 scoring average in six rounds, and his highest score is 70. He is currently 16th in the Charles Schwab Cup standings.
- World Golf Hall of Famer **Jose Maria Olazabal** will make his sixth start, and most recently he finished T8 with partner Miguel Angel Jimenez at the Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge. His best individual finish this season is a tie for 27th at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic. He is 62nd in the Schwab Cup standings.

## Tournament Storylines

### Player Capsules

- **Bernhard Langer** – Langer’s career scoring average at the Regions Tradition is 69.59, the lowest in tournament history. In eight starts at the Regions Tradition, he has seven top-10s, including a win in 2016 and a tie for second in 2012. Winner of the last three Charles Schwab Cups, Langer has one victory and five top-10s this season, and he has led the Schwab Cup standings each of the last four weeks.
- **Scott McCarron** – McCarron has one win and three top-10s this season, and he is fifth in the Charles Schwab Cup standings. He has three victories since June 2016, and Langer is the only other player with three wins in this span. McCarron is sixth on Tour in putting average (1.703) and fifth in driving distance (293.9).
- **Colin Montgomerie** – After being sidelined for over two months with torn ligaments in his left ankle, Montgomerie returned to action at the Insuperity Invitational and finished T34. He is currently on a streak of 33 consecutive rounds of par or better, and he’s within five rounds of matching the Tour record of 38, set by Jay Haas in 2014. He will make his fifth start of the season and is currently 46th in the Schwab Cup standings.

### SEC Connections

Eight players in the field attended a SEC university: **Steve Lowery** (Alabama), **John Daly** (Arkansas), **John Huston** (Auburn), **Mark Calcavecchia** (Florida), **Scott Dunlap** (Florida), **Scott Parel** (Georgia), **David Toms** (LSU) and **Jeff Maggert** (Texas A&M).

### PGA TOUR Champions and Regions Bank announce extension of Regions Tradition through 2023

In April, PGA TOUR Champions and Regions Bank announced a title sponsorship extension of the Regions Tradition through 2023. The current agreement runs through 2018, with the extension adding five years to one of the Tour’s five major championships. Greystone Golf & Country Club, which debuted as the tournament venue in 2016, will remain as host through the 2023 event.

Since 2011, Regions has been title sponsor of the Tradition, a major championship introduced in 1989. Prior to sponsoring the Tradition, Regions and the PGA TOUR presented the Regions Charity Classic from 2006-2010.

### Charitable Impact

The Regions Tradition has raised over \$4.5 million for area charities since 2011, with Children’s of Alabama serving as the primary beneficiary of the tournament. In 2016, the tournament raised \$1.1 million, supporting the work of Children’s and more than 60 other charities from throughout Alabama that participated in the Birdies for Charity presented by SouthWest Water Company fundraiser.

### Second Year at Greystone

The Founders Course at Greystone Golf & Country Club, which hosted the Bruno’s Memorial Classic from 1992 through 2005, returns as host after a successful first year in 2016. The course was originally designed by Bob Cupp and Alabama native Hubert Green, and it underwent significant renovations in 2015 in advance of hosting last year’s event.

With a scoring average of 72.287, Greystone Golf & Country Club was one of 12 courses on PGA TOUR Champions with a scoring average over par in 2016. Overall, it ranked as the ninth toughest course on Tour last season.

**Hardest hole:** No. 3 (par 4, 453 yards) – 38 birdies, 4.244 average

**Easiest hole:** No. 2 (par 5, 532 yards) – 10 eagles, 127 birdies, 4.651 average

**Noteworthy hole:** No. 15 (par 5, 609 yards) – fourth-toughest par 5 on Tour in 2016 (4.994 average)

Year	R1	R2	R3	R4	Overall Average (Rank)
2016	71.630	71.235	73.136	73.148	72.287 (9th / 26)

## *Tournament Storylines*

### Eight Past Champions in the Field

This week's field includes each tournament champion since 2010. Overall, eight past champions are in the field: **David Frost, Fred Funk, Tom Kite, Bernhard Langer, Tom Lehman, Jeff Maggert, Kenny Perry** and **Loren Roberts**.

Since the Regions Tradition began in 1989, the list of former winners features six World Golf Hall of Famers, including four-time champion Jack Nicklaus, Lee Trevino, Raymond Floyd, **Tom Kite**, Tom Watson and defending champion **Bernhard Langer**.

#### *The Tradition at Desert Mountain*

1989 – Don Bies  
1990 – Jack Nicklaus  
1991 – Jack Nicklaus

#### *The Tradition*

1992 – Lee Trevino  
1993 – Tom Shaw  
1994 – Raymond Floyd  
1995 – Jack Nicklaus  
1996 – Jack Nicklaus  
1997 – Gil Morgan  
1998 – Gil Morgan  
1999 – Graham Marsh

#### *The Countrywide Tradition*

2000 – Tom Kite  
2001 – Doug Tewell  
2002 – Jim Thorpe

#### *JELD–WEN Tradition*

2003 – Tom Watson  
2004 – Craig Stadler  
2005 – Loren Roberts  
2006 – Eduardo Romero  
2007 – Mark McNulty  
2008 – Fred Funk  
2009 – Mike Reid  
2010 – Fred Funk

#### *Regions Tradition*

2011 – Tom Lehman  
2012 – Tom Lehman  
2013 – David Frost  
2014 – Kenny Perry  
2015 – Jeff Maggert  
2016 – Bernhard Langer

## ***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 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.