



SAS Championship

Prestonwood Country Club, Cary, North Carolina/October 13-15, 2017

First-Round Notes

Course Setup: Prestonwood Country Club/Par 72/7,237 yards/71.731 R1 scoring average.

Weather: Mostly cloudy with highs in the mid-70s. NNE wind 8-12 mph.

	Player	To Par	Scores
T1.	Jerry Smith **	-5	36-31 - 67
	David McKenzie	-5	33-34 - 67
	Gibby Gilbert III **	-5	33-34 - 67
T4.	Bart Bryant	-4	31-37 - 68
	Fran Quinn **	-4	34-34 - 68
	Jerry Kelly	-4	32-36 - 68

** Started on No. 10...

Quick Links:

- [Leaderboard](#)
- PGATOURmedia.com (transcripts and other resources available for download)

Jerry Smith, 36-31 - 67 (-5)

- Started on No. 10 and played his first nine holes in 6-under-par before he added a birdie on No. 1 to go to 7-under-par. However, bogeys on Nos. 4 and 9 led to a 5-under-par 67.
- This is the seventh time in his last eight starts he has opened with a sub-par round.
- Hit just nine of 18 greens in regulation today, but had the fewest putts - 23.
- This is his third start in this event. Was T22 a year ago and T64 in 2015.
- Best finish this year was a second-place effort at the Boeing Classic

David McKenzie, 33-34 - 67 (-5)

- Open qualified on Monday, the last of four players to do so after shooting a 3-under-par 69 and surviving a three-man playoff for the final spot.
- Is making just his fifth start this year with his best finish a T3 at the Pacific Links Bear Mountain Championship where he was the last of four open qualifiers.
- Shared the first-round lead at the Boeing Classic after a 7-under-par 65 before weekends rounds of 73-74 led to a T36 finish.
- Was T9 at the Senior Open Championship in Wales where he made an ace.
- The Australian native played six years on the Web.com Tour and played on PGA TOUR China Series from 2014-2016 with a pair of wins.

Gibby Gilbert III, 33-34 – 67 (-5)

- One of the four open qualifiers on Monday, shooting a 4-under-par 68.
- Is making just his fourth start of the 2017 season with his best showing a T55 at the 3M Championship.
- Father, Gibby, was a long-time member of the PGA TOUR Champions with six career wins.
- Finished T4 at last year's National Qualifying Tournament but missed out for one of the five fully-exempt spots, losing in a three-way playoff with Fran Quinn and Skip Kendall.
- Made over 90 starts on the Web.com Tour earlier in his career after playing collegiately at Tennessee.

Tournament Notes...

- The 5-under-par 67 posted by first-round co-leaders David McKenzie and Jerry Smith was the highest first-round score since 2008 when six players shared the lead at 4-under-par 68.
- Jerry Kelly's 4-under-par 68 was his 15th consecutive round in the 60s. In his last start at the PURE Insurance Championship, he broke the PGA TOUR Champions record of 13 by Hale Irwin set in 1999.
- Charles Schwab Cup money leader Bernhard Langer got off to a slow start on Friday, shooting an even-par 72. Langer was 2-over-par through 16 holes before making birdies on Nos. 17 and 18 to close out his round.
- Bart Bryant, who currently sits in the 72nd position on the money list, opened with a 4-under-par 68. The top 72 players on the money list after this week's event advance to the first of three Charles Schwab Cup playoffs next week at the Dominion Energy Charity Classic in Richmond.
- First round leaders/co-leaders have enjoyed success in this event. In the previous 16 tournaments, seven have been one by first-round leaders/co-leaders, including Doug Garwood in 2016.
- Defending champion Doug Garwood shot a 3-under-par 69 and is currently T7.
- Hole No. 4 was the most difficult on Friday with an average score of 4.244 (+.244). It yielded just six birdies. Hole No. 17 was the easiest with an average score of 4.244 (-.756). There was one eagle and 58 birdies.
- David McKenzie and Jerry Smith led all players with seven birdies.
- Brad Faxon one-putted 13 of 18 holes to lead in that category.
- The field scoring average was 71.731 which was the lowest first-round scoring average since 2013 when it was 71.468.