



# 2017 Shaw Charity Classic Advance Media Information

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**Event:** Shaw Charity Classic, the 19th of 26 Charles Schwab Cup events.

Dates: August 28-September 3, 2017

Site: Canyon Meadows Golf & Country Club, Calgary, Alberta, Canada

**Par:** 35-35—70 **Yards:** 7,086

Course Designer: Otto Anderson/(1959)

Format: 78 players, 54 holes of stroke play, no cut

Purse: \$2,350,000 (\$352,500 to the winner)

**2016 Champion: Carlos Franco** (66-63-63—192/-18); defeated Bernhard Langer & Michael Allen by two strokes.

**Television:** The event will be televised on a tape-delayed basis all three days on GOLF CHANNEL. Friday and Saturday's telecast will be from 6:30-8:30 p.m., while Sunday's is slated for 5:00-7:00 p.m. All times are local.

**The 2017 Schedule:** The 5th annual Shaw Charity Classic is the 19th of 26 official events in 2017, a season that concludes with the Charles Schwab Cup Championship from November 9-12 at Phoenix Country Club in Phoenix, AZ.

**About PGA TOUR Champions:** 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, an average of \$2.1 million per event. 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 206 countries and territories, reaching more than 145 million 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.

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**2016 Recap**: Carlos Franco won for the first time on PGA TOUR Champions, and it came in his 25th start on Tour. It was also his first win in a PGA TOUR event since claiming the 2004 U.S. Bank Championship in Milwaukee, a span of 151 events without a victory. With weekend scores of 63-63—126, Carlos Franco's final two rounds were the lowest on the 2016 PGA TOUR Champions, surpassing Joe Durant's weekend total of 127 (17-under-par) at the 3M Championship. Franco's 54-hole total of 18-under-par 192 was one shy of the tournament record of 22-under-par 191 by Rocco Mediate in 2013. Franco recorded 21 birdies, which were the most in the four-year history of the event. The previous high was 20 by Bobby Clampett in 2013.

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## SHAW CHARITY CLASSIC STORYLINES...

**The 2017 Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs:** In 2016, Bernhard Langer won 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 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.

**Where the Charles Schwab Cup Race Stands:** Heading into this week's event, Bernhard Langer continues to lead the season-long race with \$2,594,635 followed by Scott McCarron with \$1,715,085, a margin of \$879,550. Kenny Perry is third with \$1,366,980. Rounding out the top five are Fred Couples (\$1,223,637) and Brandt Jobe (\$1,196,645).

**The 2017 Shaw Charity Classic Field:** Once again, the Shaw Charity Classic will have a stellar field competing for the \$2.35 million purse. Below is a breakdown of the field.

- 55 players in the field won 342 PGA TOUR titles
- 50 players in the field won 195 PGA TOUR Champions victories
- 15 players have won major titles on the PGA TOUR

- 17 players have won major titles on PGA TOUR Champions
- Six World Golf Hall of Famers Couples, Montgomerie, O'Meara, Olazabal, Singh and Faldo
- Players representing 12 different countries are in the field US, Canada, Australia, Sweden, Wales, Scotland, Mexico, England, South Africa, Fiji, Paraguay and Spain

**Former PGA TOUR Winners Highlight New Faces in 2017:** A host of former winners on the PGA TOUR are among the several new faces making their debuts at this year's Shaw Charity Classic. The former winners include Steve Flesch, Nick Faldo, Bob Estes, Vijay Singh, David Toms, Jose Maria Olazabal, and Jerry Kelly. In addition, long-time European Tour competitor Phillip Price will compete for the first time.

**Success for Players Age 56+ in 2017:** So far in 2017, an impressive eight of 18 tournament wins have been posted by players aged 56 and older. Coming into this season, nearly 85 percent of tournament winners in PGA TOUR Champions history have been between the ages of 50-55. The players aged 56 and older with victories this year include Bernhard Langer (4 wins), Fred Couples (2 wins), Kenny Perry and Tom Lehman. Ironically, Jerry Kelly became the first 50-year-old winner this year at last week's Boeing Classic.

## SHAW CHARITY CLASSIC NOTES...

**PGA TOUR Champions...Calgary...Canada:** When the Shaw Charity Classic became a stop on the PGA TOUR Champions in 2013, it marked the Tour's first venture into the city in 15 years. This year's event will be the seventh in Calgary. The first was 32 years ago when Don January defeated Miller Barber by two strokes to win the Peter Jackson Champions at Earl Grey Country Club. Fifteen years later, Brian Barnes closed with a 4-underpar 68 and finished two strokes better than Tom Jenkins, Dana Quigley and Bruce Summerhays to win the 1998 AT&T Canada Senior Open Championship at Glencoe Golf and Country Club. The Tour has a long history in Canada. The Montreal Championship's return to the schedule in 2010 ended an eight-year Canadian absence. The second annual Pacific Links Bear Mountain Championship will be staged September 11-17 at Bear Mountain Golf Resort's Mountain Course in Victoria, British Columbia.

Here is a rundown on the previous 22 events held in Canada.

### PETER JACKSON CHAMPIONS

PEIEK	IACKSON CHAMPIONS						
1981	Miller Barber	204*	Gene Littler	204	Capilano G&CC West Vancouver, BC		
1982	Bob Goalby	273	Gene Littler	274	St. Charles CC Winnipeg, Manitoba		
1983	Don January	274	Miller Barber	276	Earl Grey CC Calgary, Alberta		
du MAURIER CHAMPIONS							
1984	Don January	194	Miller Barber Lee Elder	199	Royal Ottawa GC Ottawa, Ontario		
1985	Peter Thomson	203	Ben Smith	204	Vancouver GC Coquitlam, BC		
1996	Charles Coody	271	Larry Mowry	272	Hamilton G&CC Ancaster, Ontario		
AT&T CANADA SENIOR OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP							
1997	Jack Kiefer	269	Jim Colbert	271	St. George's G&CC Etobicoke, Ontario		
1998	Brian Barnes	277	Dana Quigley Bruce Summerhays Tom Jenkins	279	Glencoe G&CC Calgary, Alberta		
1999	Jim Ahern	272*	Hale Irwin	272	Richelieu Valley GC (Rouville) Sainte-Julie, Quebec		
2000	Tom Jenkins	274	Kermit Zarley	275	St. Charles CC Winnipeg, Manitoba		

2001	Walter Hall	269*	Ed Dougherty	269	Mississaugua G&CC Mississaugua, Ontario	
2002	Tom Jenkins	195	Walter Morgan 198 Morris Hatalsky		Essex G&CC LaSalle, Ontario	
MONTF	REAL CHAMPIONSHIP					
2010	Larry Mize	199	John Cook	200	Club de Golf Fontainebleau Blainville, Quebec	
2011	John Cook	195	Chien Soon Lu	198	Club de Golf Fontainbleau Blainville, Quebec	
2012	Mark Calcavecchia	200	Brad Bryant	204	Richelieu Valley GC (Vercheres) Sainte-Julie, Quebec	
2013	Esteban Toledo	211*	Kenny Perry	211	Richelieu Valley GC (Rouville) Sainte-Julie, Quebec	
<u>QUEBE</u>	<u>C CHAMPIONSHIP</u>				, , , ,	
2014	Wes Short, Jr.	201	Scott Dunlap	202	La Tempete GC Quebec City, Quebec	
	<u>CHARITY CLASSIC</u>					
2013	Rocco Mediate	191	Tom Byrum	198	Canyon Meadows G&CC Calgary, Alberta	
2014	Fred Couples	195*	Billy Andrade	195	Canyon Meadows G&CC Calgary, Alberta	
2015	Jeff Maggert	194	Colin Montgomerie	198	Canyon Meadows G&CC Calgary, Alberta	
2016	Carlos Franco	192	Michael Allen Bernhard Langer	194	Canyon Meadows G&CC	
PACIFIC LINKS BEAR MOUNTAIN CHAMPIONSHIP						
2016	Colin Montgomerie	198*	Scott McCarron	198	Bear Mountain Resort Victoria, B.C., Canada	

### \*Playoff

**Lucky Number 13 for Kelly:** Number 13 proved to be the lucky number for PGA TOUR Champions rookie Jerry Kelly. Making his 13<sup>th</sup> start on Tour, Kelly birdied two of the last three holes to hold off Jerry Smith to win the Boeing Classic. Kelly closed with a bogey-free 6-under-par 66 and became the fourth player to make the Boeing Classic his first Tour win. He was also the first opening-round leader to win the event.

**Shaw Charity Classic Field Includes Three Canadians:** Three Canadians will be competing in the fifth annual Shaw Charity Classic. Former Calgary resident Stephen Ames leads the trio and he'll be making his fourth start in the event, including a T5 finish in 2015. He'll be joined by Jim Rutledge (Victoria) and Rod Spittle (St. Catharine's), who have been competing on the PGA TOUR Champions for the last several years. Spittle won the 2010 AT&T Championship in San Antonio and his best finish in this event was a T12 in 2015. He was T14 last year. He is a two-time Canadian Amateur champion. Rutledge will also be playing in this event for the fifth time.

**Some Previous Winners in Canada:** Several current PGA TOUR Champions players have enjoyed success in Canada previously with victories at the RBC Canadian Open as well as the Air Canada Championship, an event no longer on the PGA Tour schedule. Among the players in the Shaw Charity Classic field with wins at the RBC Canadian Open are Bob Tway (2003), Mark Calcavecchia (2005), Billy Andrade (1998), Mark O'Meara (1995), Scott Verplank (2001), Vijay Singh (2004), David Frost (1993) and Bob Gilder (1980). Among the winners in Vancouver were Gene Sauers (2002) and Calcavecchia (1997).

**Triplett Has a History in Alberta:** Kirk Triplett was a two-time winner in Alberta, winning the first Alberta Open in 1988 staged by the Canadian Tour at Wolf Creek, and followed that with a victory the next week at Fort McMurray in the Fort McMurray Charity Classic. He came back in 1989 and also played in the 1989 Canadian PGA Championship at Glencoe.

**When the Web.com Tour Played Here:** The Web.com Tour had a presence in the Calgary area from 2003-'05 and a number of current PGA TOUR Champions players competed at the events which were hosted by The Links of Glen Eagles in 2003 and Glen Meadows G&CC in 2004-'05. Jim Rutledge played in all three of those with his best showing a T5 in 2004. Others who competed at various times include Scott Dunlap, Esteban Toledo, Gary Hallberg, Wes Short, Jr., and Michael Allen.

**Jobe Enjoyed Success in Canada**: Brandt Jobe has a history of success in Canada as a young professional. Jobe competed on the Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada in 1990 and led that Tour in earnings and claimed the British Columbia Open that year before embarking on a playing career in Asia for a period and then on to the PGA TOUR. Jobe is enjoying a productive 2017 season, including a victory at the Principal Charity Classic. He was also T2 at the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship.

**A Look at the Host Course:** Canyon Meadows has yielded some of the lowest scoring averages of any of the courses on PGA TOUR Champions over the years. It ranked 21<sup>st</sup> out of 26 courses in both 2014 and 2016 and was 21<sup>st</sup> out of 24 venues in 2015. However, in the inaugural event in 2013, it was 26<sup>th</sup> out of 26 sites on Tour. Here are the scoring averages for the previous four years by round.

Year	Rd. 1	Rd. 2	Rd. 3	Overall Avg.
2013/Par 71	69.074/-1.926	69.370/-1.630	68.568/-2.432	69.004/-1.996
2014/Par 70	68.457/-1.543	69.012/988	68.877/-1.123	68.782/-1.218
2015/Par 70	69.247/753	68.889/-1.111	69.198/802	69.111/889
2016/Par 70	68.235/-1.765	68.950/-1.050	69.513/487	68.896/-1.104

**Shaw Charity Classic News and Notes:** Michael Allen has enjoyed great success in this event. Although h has not yet won, Allen finished T2 a year ago, his third top-10 finish in this tournament in four starts. He was T5 in both 2013 and 2015...A year ago, Willie Wood started the week as the third alternate. However, when Bobby Wadkins withdrew, Wood took full advantage of his good fortune, posting rounds of 67-65-64 to finish fourth overall. It remains his best finish in an event since he won the 2012 Pacific Links Hawai'i Championship...Two players who open qualified a year ago finished in the top 10. Miguel Angel Martin and Jose Coceres each finished T6...Scott Dunlap staged one of the best comebacks in tournament history a year ago. He was T72 after an openinground 2-over-par 72, but rebounded with rounds of 65-63 on the weekend to finish T6...Rocco Mediate is the only second-round leader to win the event.

Here is how each round has played out in the previous four years of the event.

<u>Round-by-Round leaders: (score/par/lead)</u>					
<u>Year</u> 2013	<u>Round 1</u> Rocco Mediate (63/-8/+1	Round 2 Rocco Mediate (127/-15/+2)	<u>Winner</u> Rocco Mediate (191/-22/+7)		
2014	Bart Bryant Tom Pernice, Jr. (62/-8)	Joe Daley Joe Durant Bob Tway (130/-10)	Fred Couples (195/-15/Playoff)		
2015	Colin Montgomerie	Colin Montgomerie	Jeff Maggert		

	(62/-8/+1)	Miguel Angel Jimenez (128/-12)	(194/-16/+4)
2016	David Frost	Jeff Maggert	Carlos Franco
	(62/-8/+1)	(133/-11/+2)	(192/-18/+2)