



Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge

Ridgedale, Missouri | April 19-22, 2018

Media Contacts

Maureen Radzavicz, maureenradzavicz@pgatourhq.com, 607-273-3301

Chris Richards, chrisrichards@pgatourhq.com, 678-644-4258

Quick Facts

- **Golf Courses:**
 - Buffalo Ridge Golf Course (Tom Fazio designed 18 holes, opened 2014); 6,963 yards / Par 71
 - Top of the Rock (Jack Nicklaus Signature Par 3, opened 2014); 1,404 yards / Par 27
 - Mountain Top (Gary Player 13-hole Par 3, opened 2017); 1,927 yards / Par 39
- **Purse:** \$1,800,000 (Team: \$348,750)
- **Golf Channel Coverage (all times ET):** Friday: 12:30 – 3 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday: 3-6 p.m.
- **Social Media:** Twitter ([@BassProLegends](https://twitter.com/BassProLegends)), Instagram ([@bassprolegendsofgolf](https://www.instagram.com/bassprolegendsofgolf)), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/bassprolegendsofgolf)

Tournament Schedule / Format

- **Thursday** – All players will play Buffalo Ridge (tee times from 9:00-10:36 a.m.)
 - Format (Buffalo Ridge): Best ball
- **Friday** – 18 teams will play 18 holes at Top of the Rock; the other 18 teams will play 13 holes at Mountain Top (tee times from 9:00-10:36 a.m.)
 - Format (Top of the Rock): Front nine – Alternate shot; Back nine – Best ball
 - Format (Mountain Top): Best ball
- **Saturday** – 18 teams will play 18 holes at Top of the Rock; the other 18 teams will play 13 holes at Mountain Top (tee times from 12:00-1:36 p.m.)
 - Format (Top of the Rock): Front nine – Alternate shot; Back nine – Best ball
 - Format (Mountain Top): Best ball
- **Sunday** – All players will play 18 holes at Top of the Rock (tee times TBD)
 - Format (Top of the Rock): Front nine – Alternate shot; Back nine – Best ball

Tournament Overview

The 41st-annual Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf will take place at Big Cedar Lodge for the fifth year. Sam Snead and Gardner Dickinson won the inaugural event in 1978, and this tournament is often credited with creating the foundation for what would become PGA TOUR Champions. It is the second-oldest tournament in senior golf, as the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship is the only tournament that exceeds its longevity.

The Gary Player Mountain Top short course has been added to the tournament rotation, which also includes Buffalo Ridge and Top of the Rock. This year's 36-team field includes 12 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame: Ben Crenshaw, Hale Irwin, Tom Kite, Bernhard Langer, Davis Love III, Sandy Lyle, Colin Montgomerie, Mark O'Meara, Jose Maria Olazabal, Vijay Singh, Tom Watson and Ian Woosnam. In addition, each of the top-15 players in the Charles Schwab Cup will compete, including the winners of all seven tournaments this year: Jerry Kelly, Mark Calcavecchia, Joe Durant, Steve Stricker, Singh and Steve Flesch.

Franco, Singh Return to Defend Title

In last year's final round, Carlos Franco and Vijay Singh turned a seven-shot deficit into a one-shot victory after they carded a tournament-record score of 12-under 42 at Top of the Rock. Their 36-hole total of 15-under 93 was one shot better than three teams: first-round leaders Fred Funk / Jeff Sluman, Corey Pavin / Duffy Waldorf, and Paul Goydos / Kevin Sutherland. For Franco, it was his second career victory and first since he won the 2016 Shaw Charity Classic, while it was the first PGA TOUR Champions win for Singh. Should Franco and Singh win again, they would be the first team to successfully defend their title since Jim Colbert and Andy North won in 2000 and 2001.

Wisconsin's Dynamic Duo

Steve Stricker and Jerry Kelly are the Nos. 1 and 2 players in the Charles Schwab Cup, and they will be teammates for the 11th time since 2008. Their record includes a win at the 2009 QBE Shootout, and last year they finished T8 in their debut at the Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf. Next week, they are scheduled to make their second start as teammates at the Zurich Classic, where they finished T14 in 2017.

Tournament	Finish
2017 Zurich Classic	T14
2017 Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf	T8
2017 QBE Shootout	2nd
2015 QBE Shootout	T5
2014 QBE Shootout	T8
2012 QBE Shootout	T4
2011 QBE Shootout	T4
2010 QBE Shootout	T3
2009 QBE Shootout	Won
2008 QBE Shootout	T5

Flesch, Toms a Team to Watch

Steve Flesch and David Toms are the other tandem of players in the top-10 of the Charles Schwab Cup. Last week, Flesch moved to No. 8 in the standings after winning the Mitsubishi Electric Classic, his first win on PGA TOUR Champions. Toms has yet to breakthrough for a win of his own, but he is No. 5 in the standings thanks to five top-five finishes.

Common Bonds

- Teams that have won the Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf
 - Carlos Franco / Vijay Singh (2017)
 - Billy Andrade / Joe Durant (2015)
 - Andy North / Tom Watson (2008)
- College teammates
 - Lee Janzen / Rocco Mediate (Florida Southern)
 - Corey Pavin / Duffy Waldorf (UCLA)
 - Brandt Jobe / Scott McCarron (UCLA)
- Teams of World Golf Hall of Famers
 - Sandy Lyle / Ian Woosnam
 - Mark O'Meara / Colin Montgomerie
- Regional connections
 - Miguel Angel Jimenez / Jose Maria Olazabal (Spaniards)
 - Larry Mize / Scott Parel (residents of Augusta, Georgia)
 - Jerry Kelly / Steve Stricker (Wisconsin natives)
- Charles Schwab Cup connections
 - Paul Goydos / Kevin Sutherland (the last two winners of the Charles Schwab Cup Championship)
 - Tom Lehman / Bernhard Langer (the team has won a combined six Charles Schwab Cups)

Twenty-Two Teams Together Again

Of this year's 36 teams, 22 tandems are together for the second year in a row.

2017 Finish	Team
1st	Carlos Franco / Vijay Singh
T2	Corey Pavin / Duffy Waldorf
T2	Paul Goydos / Kevin Sutherland
T5	Olin Browne / Steve Pate
T8	Davis Love III / Scott Verplank
T8	Miguel Angel Jimenez / Jose Maria Olazabal
T8	Roger Chapman / David Frost
T8	Steve Stricker / Jerry Kelly
T13	John Daly / Michael Allen
T13	Lee Janzen / Rocco Mediate
T16	Billy Andrade / Joe Durant
T16	Tom Pernice Jr. / Bob Tway
T20	Mark Calcavecchia / Woody Austin
T22	Andy North / Tom Watson
T22	Sandy Lyle / Ian Woosnam
T26	Hale Irwin / Wes Short, Jr.
T26	Tom Kite / Gil Morgan
T30	Dan Forsman / Mike Reid
T30	Mark Brooks / John Huston
T33	Jerry Pate / Ben Crenshaw
36th	Scott Simpson / Wayne Levi
37th	Jim Thorpe / Dana Quigley

New Teammate, Same Results

Since the tournament began in 1978, seven players have won the Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf with two different teammates. This year, two players could become the first to win with three different teammates, as Jeff Sluman is teaming up with Jerry Smith, and Michael Allen is teaming up with John Daly.

	Teammate #1	Teammate #2
Jeff Sluman	Brad Faxon (2013)	Fred Funk (2014)
Michael Allen	David Frost (2012)	Woody Austin (2016)
Andy North	Jim Colbert (2000, 2001)	Tom Watson (2008)
Don January	Sam Snead (1982)	Gene Littler (1985, 1986)
Sam Snead	Gardner Dickinson (1978)	Don January (1982)
Gene Littler	Bob Rosburg (1981)	Don January (1985)
Roberto De Vicenzo	Julius Boros (1979)	Rod Funseth (1983)

Par 3 Prowess

Through the season's first six tournaments, six players have under-par scoring averages on par 3s this season. Of these six players, Michael Bradley is the only one not in this week's field. Joe Durant was among the Tour's leaders in this category in 2017, as well; he finished the year ranked T2 with a 2.93 average.

	Player	Avg.	Strokes	Holes	Rounds
1	Gene Sauers	2.93	246	84	21
2	Olin Browne	2.95	248	84	21
T3	Jerry Kelly	2.96	201	68	17
T3	Joe Durant	2.96	249	84	21
T5	Michael Bradley	2.97	214	72	18
T5	Miguel Angel Jiménez	2.97	214	72	18

Par 3 Contest Winners

The field features 12 players who have won the Masters Par 3 Contest, including 68-year-old Tom Watson, who became the event's oldest winner when he won two weeks ago.

Player	Year(s)
Ben Crenshaw	1987
Joe Durant	1999
Bob Gilder	1989
Jay Haas	1976, 1996
Davis Love III	1992
Sandy Lyle	1997, 1998
Rocco Mediate	1991
Mark O'Meara	2007
Jerry Pate	2005
Vijay Singh	1994
David Toms	2001, 2003
Tom Watson	1982, 2008

Hole-in-One History at Big Cedar Lodge

Since Big Cedar Lodge first hosted this event in 2014, there have been seven holes-in-one, including four last year.

Year	Player	Course	Hole	Club	Yardage	Round
2017	Russ Cochran	Top of the Rock	No. 7	8-iron	154	First round
2017	Rocco Mediate	Top of the Rock	No. 11	SW	109	First round
2017	Duffy Waldorf	Top of the Rock	No. 11	SW	109	First round
2017	Tom Jenkins	Top of the Rock	No. 6	9-iron	119	First round
2015	Mike Reid	Top of the Rock	No. 17	4-iron	194	Third round
2015	Joe Durant	Top of the Rock	No. 12	7-iron	167	Third round
2014	Dale Douglass	Top of the Rock	No. 2	SW	98	Third round

PGA TOUR Champions – 2018 Season Overview

PGA TOUR Champions is a membership organization of professional golfers age 50 and older, including 35 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 2018, the PGA TOUR Champions schedule includes 27 tournaments across the United States, Scotland and Canada, with purses totaling more than \$56 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 in excess of 190 countries and territories, reaching more than 330 million potential households. Follow PGA TOUR Champions online at PGATOUR.com, at facebook.com/PGATOURChampions, on Twitter @ChampionsTour and on Instagram @pgatourchampions.

Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs

In 2017, Kevin Sutherland became just the third player to win the Charles Schwab Cup Championship and the Charles Schwab Cup in the same season. His breakthrough win at the season-ending event was the first of his PGA TOUR Champions career, and it was enough for him to surpass Bernhard Langer, who had won the Charles Schwab Cup the previous three years.

The third edition of the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs will begin with 72 players at the Dominion Energy Charity Classic (Oct. 15-21). The top 54 will advance to the following week's PowerShares QQQ Championship, and the season will conclude with the top 36 players at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship (Nov. 5-11).

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 three 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 Energy 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. The player with the most points at the conclusion of the Charles Schwab Cup Championship will win the Charles Schwab Cup.

The 2018 Rookie Class

For players to become eligible to compete for PGA TOUR Champions events they must turn 50 years of age by the first competition round. If a player plays less than six tournaments in his first season of eligibility, he is considered a rookie the following season. Newcomers for 2018 with at least one PGA TOUR win include:

- Brent Geiberger (May 22)
- Robert Gamez (July 21)
- Dudley Hart (August 4)
- Darren Clarke (August 14)
- Chris DiMarco (August 23)

Upcoming rookie classes include:

- 2019 – Retief Goosen (February 3), Angel Cabrera (September 12), Ernie Els (October 17)
- 2020 – Jim Furyk (May 12), Mike Weir (May 12), K.J. Choi (May 19), Phil Mickelson (June 16)

PGA TOUR Champions – 2018 Schedule

1. **Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai:** Jerry Kelly birdied the 18th hole in the final round to turn a one-shot deficit into a one-shot victory over Colin Montgomerie. Leading by one on No. 18, Montgomerie found the fairway bunker off the tee and missed the green with his approach. After Kelly made his 18-foot birdie putt, Montgomerie had a chance to force a playoff, but his six-foot par putt slid by the hole.
 2. **Boca Raton Championship:** Mark Calcavecchia captured his fourth PGA TOUR Champions title in wire-to-wire fashion, finishing two shots better than Bernhard Langer. Langer, who trailed by as many as four on Sunday, evened the score at 16-under with two holes to play, but he bogeyed the last two holes and finished second. The win was Calcavecchia's first since the 2015 Principal Charity Classic.
 3. **Chubb Classic:** Over the last six holes at the Chubb Classic, Joe Durant and Steve Stricker traded two two-shot swings and one three-shot swing. In the end, it was Durant's birdie-birdie finish that produced a 19-under total and four-shot victory, the third of his PGA TOUR Champions career and first since the 2016 3M Championship.
 4. **ColoGuard Classic:** One year after bogeying No. 18 and finishing runner-up in his PGA TOUR Champions debut, Steve Stricker parred the closing hole en route to a 14-under total and two-stroke victory. It was his first win in his eighth start on Tour, and it was his first victory since the 2012 Sentry Tournament of Champions.
 5. **Toshiba Classic:** As many as six players shared the lead Sunday, and Vijay Singh was the last man standing as his five back-nine birdies helped him post an 11-under total and a one-shot victory. It was his first individual win since the Dell Technologies Championship on September 1, 2008, and he had played 237 individual tournaments since that triumph. Singh is the first FedExCup champion (2008) to win on PGA TOUR Champions.
 6. **Rapiscan Systems Classic:** For the first time, Steve Stricker claimed consecutive titles on PGA TOUR Champions with his 11-under-par effort at the Rapiscan Systems Classic. Stricker held a one-stroke lead through the front nine on Sunday before making four back-nine birdies to secure the title. His 4-under 68 on Sunday was his 25th consecutive round of par or better (the longest active streak on Tour) and kept his stat of never carding a round over par on PGA TOUR Champions intact.
 7. **Mitsubishi Electric Classic:** With a birdie on the second extra hole, Steve Flesch prevailed in a three-man playoff and won the Mitsubishi Electric Classic, his first win on PGA TOUR Champions. Flesch birdied No. 18 to get into a playoff with Bernhard Langer and Scott Parel, and he birdied it twice more in the playoff, first eliminating Langer on the first extra hole, and then Parel. Because of inclement weather in Sunday's forecast, both the second and final rounds were played on Saturday.
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| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 8. Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge 9. InSperty Invitational 10. Regions Tradition 11. KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship 12. Principal Charity Classic 13. American Family Insurance Championship 14. U.S. Senior Open 15. Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship 16. The Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex 17. 3M Championship | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 18. DICK'S Sporting Goods Open 19. Boeing Classic 20. Shaw Charity Classic 21. Ally Challenge 22. The Sanford International 23. PURE Insurance Championship 24. SAS Championship 25. Dominion Energy Charity Classic 26. PowerShares QQQ Championship 27. Charles Schwab Cup Championship |
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