



Boca Raton Championship

The Old Course at Broken Sound | Boca Raton, Florida | February 9-11, 2018

PGA TOUR Champions Media Contacts

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

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

Quick Facts

- **Golf Course:** The Old Course at Broken Sound (Par 72, 6,807 yards)
- **Designed by:** Joe Lee (1978), Gene Bates (2004)
- **Purse:** \$1,600,000 (Winner: \$240,000)
- **Golf Channel Coverage (all times ET):** Friday: Noon – 2:30 p.m.; Saturday: 3:30-5:30 p.m.; Sunday: 3-5 p.m.
- **Social Media:** Twitter ([@BRChampionship](https://twitter.com/BRChampionship)), Instagram ([@bocaratonchampionship](https://www.instagram.com/bocaratonchampionship)), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/BRChampionship)

Field Overview (as of 2/6/18)

The 12th-annual Boca Raton Championship is the first full-field event of the season, and 78 players will look for a fast start in their pursuit of the Charles Schwab Cup. A year after making the tournament-winning eagle on the 54th hole, Scott McCarron will return in hopes of becoming the tournament's first repeat champion. Eight other past champions are in the field, including Paul Goydos (2015), Corey Pavin (2012) Tom Lehman (2011) and Bernhard Langer (2010), who resides in Boca Raton and is a four-time winner of the Charles Schwab Cup.

The field also includes Kevin Sutherland, winner of the 2017 Charles Schwab Cup, as well as perennial contenders Colin Montgomerie and Miguel Angel Jimenez. In all, the field includes 32 of the top 36 players from last year's Charles Schwab Cup, as well as eight members of the World Golf Hall of Fame.

- 32 of the 36 players who qualified for the 2017 Charles Schwab Cup Championship
- 8 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame
- 9 former champions of the Boca Raton Championship
- 51 PGA TOUR winners with 284 total career victories
- 47 PGA TOUR Champions winners with 254 total career victories
- 19 players with a PGA TOUR Champions major victory; 15 with a PGA TOUR major

2017 Recap: McCarron Eagles No. 18 to Win by One

After hitting a 7-iron from 179 yards on the par-5 18th, Scott McCarron made his six-foot eagle putt to win the Boca Raton Championship, his third career PGA TOUR Champions victory. At one time, seven players were tied for the lead during last year's final round, but in the end McCarron's 17-under total was one stroke better than Carlos Franco and Kenny Perry. It was McCarron's first of four victories in 2017, and he went on to finish third in the final Charles Schwab Cup standings.

Tournament Storylines

Strong Fields in Boca Raton Lead to Strong Finishes

Last year, 10 of the top-12 players from the Boca Raton Championship advanced to the season-ending Charles Schwab Cup Championship. Additionally, 17 of the top-20 players in the final Charles Schwab Cup standings played in the 2017 Boca Raton Championship, including eventual winner Kevin Sutherland, who finished T6 in Boca Raton.

Player	2017 Boca Raton Championship	Final 2017 Charles Schwab Cup
Scott McCarron	1st	3rd
Carlos Franco	T2	38th
Kenny Perry	T2	4th
Paul Broadhurst	T4	31st
Doug Garwood	T4	26th
Stephen Ames	T6	18th
Fred Couples	T6	13th
Joe Durant	T6	16th
Fred Funk	T6	34th
Colin Montgomerie	T6	10th
Kevin Sutherland	T6	1st
Esteban Toledo	T6	50th

Langer's Record-Breaking 2017 Season

Bernhard Langer will make his 11th start in his hometown event, and his tournament record includes one win (2010) and six top-10s. Langer led the Charles Schwab Cup 23 of the first 25 weeks of the 2017 season, but he tied for 12th in the season finale and finished second in the final standings. Though he was unable to win his fourth straight Charles Schwab Cup, it was his sixth consecutive top-two finish in the season-long competition and he was named PGA TOUR Champions Player of the Year for the seventh time.

Langer also set many records in 2017. He became the second player to win three senior majors in one year, he became the Tour's all-time leader in major wins (10), he broke the single-season money record (\$3,677,359), and he won his sixth straight money title. The most elusive PGA TOUR Champions record remains, however, as his 36 career victories is nine shy of Hale Irwin's record 45 wins.

McCarron as a Defending Champion

Scott McCarron won four times in 2017, and the Boca Raton Championship will be his first attempt at a title defense this season. Last year, he returned to two tournaments as the defending champion – he finished T2 at the Principal Charity Classic and T8 at the Dominion Energy Charity Classic. He finished second on the money list with \$2,674,195, and it was his most lucrative season as a professional golfer.

The World's Best in Boca Raton

The field includes 11 players from 10 foreign countries: Stephen Ames (Canada), Paul Broadhurst (England), David Frost (South Africa), Miguel Angel Jimenez (Spain), Bernhard Langer (Germany), Sandy Lyle (Scotland), David McKenzie (Australia), Colin Montgomerie (Scotland), Jesper Parnevik (Sweden), Ken Tanigawa (Japan) and Ian Woosnam (Wales).

Jimenez and Montgomerie have already played twice this year, as they opened at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai and then played in the European Tour's Omega Dubai Desert Classic. Jimenez finished fourth and T19, respectively, while Montgomerie finished second in Hualalai and missed the cut in Dubai.

Tournament Storylines

Player Capsules

- **Kevin Sutherland** – The reigning Charles Schwab Cup champion will make his fourth start in Boca Raton, and he has top-10s at this tournament each of the last two years. Last year, he shot a final-round 64 and finished T6, the first of seven consecutive top-10 finishes.
- **David Toms** – Dating back to last season, Toms has tallied three straight top-five finishes. He closed his rookie season with a third and a T4 en route to an 11th-place finish in the Charles Schwab Cup, and he started this season with a third-place finish at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai.
- **John Daly** – Though this will be Daly's season debut on PGA TOUR Champions, he played in the PGA TOUR's CareerBuilder Challenge, carding rounds of 69-71-80 and missing the cut in January. Last season, Daly won the In斯perity Invitational and finished 14th in the Charles Schwab Cup.

Rookies to Begin 2018 Season in Boca Raton

Golf Channel analyst Charlie Rymer will make his PGA TOUR Champions debut in Boca Raton, as will Q-School graduates Tommy Tolles, Kent Jones and Ken Tanigawa. Tolles made five starts in 2017, open qualifying on all five occasions, and his best finish was T26 at the DICK'S Sporting Goods Open. Jones also played five tournaments last year, open qualifying four times, and he posted two top-11 finishes, including a T9 at the American Family Insurance Championship.

In December, Tanigawa became the first amateur to finish in the top-five at Q-School since Jim Roy in 2009. Though he will shed his amateur status, it will not be the first time he's played professionally. He was a pro for 11 years in Australia, Asia and Japan, and in 2003 he played 22 Web.com Tour events before regaining his amateur status. In August 2017, he won the Arizona Amateur for the second time in three years, and in 2013 he advanced to the quarterfinals at the U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship.

Rich History of Champions

In the tournament's first 11 years, the largest margin of victory is two (2007, Mark James; 2013, Rocco Mediate). The champion has won by one five times, including last year's win by Scott McCarron, and there have been four playoffs.

Year	Winner	Score
2017	Scott McCarron	-17
2016	Esteban Toledo ⁴	-11
2015	Paul Goydos	-12
2014	Michael Allen ³	-18
2013	Rocco Mediate	-17
2012	Corey Pavin ²	-11
2011	Tom Lehman	-13
2010	Bernhard Langer ¹	-17
2009	Mike Goodes	-15
2008	Scott Hoch	-14
2007	Mark James	-15

1. Bernhard Langer holed a 45-foot bunker shot for eagle on the first extra hole to defeat John Cook.
2. Corey Pavin birdied the first extra hole to defeat Peter Senior.
3. Michael Allen two-putted for birdie on the second extra hole to defeat Duffy Waldorf.
4. Esteban Toledo parred the third extra hole to defeat Billy Andrade.

Tournament Storylines

PGA TOUR Champions Record Book

- In 2014, Michael Allen shot a first-round 60, one of just 12 rounds of 60 in PGA TOUR Champions history. He and Duffy Waldorf set the tournament record with an 18-under 198 total, and Allen went on to win on the second hole of a playoff.
- In 2017, the field made a total of 1,096 birdies, the fourth-most in a 54-hole tournament in PGA TOUR Champions history.

Course Overview: The Old Course at Broken Sound

The Old Course at Broken Sound has hosted the Boca Championship every year since the tournament's inception. Last year's scoring average of 69.797 was the lowest in tournament history, and The Old Course at Broken Sound was one of four courses with a scoring average below 70.

For the fifth straight year, the 507-yard, par-5 18th was the easiest closing hole on Tour, yielding 12 eagles, 153 birdies and a 4.291 scoring average. Overall, it was the second-easiest hole on Tour last season. Conversely, the 429-yard, par-4 ninth is traditionally the toughest hole on the course, and in 2017 it played to a 4.266 average, 20th hardest on Tour.

Year	R1	R2	R3	Overall Average (Rank)
2017	71.063	69.114	69.192	69.797 (23rd)
2016	72.407	70.778	73.654	72.280 (10th)
2015	72.914	71.667	71.088	71.893 (15th)
2014	70.663	69.671	71.000	70.446 (22nd)
2013	71.173	71.309	72.296	71.592 (17th)
2012	70.975	72.432	72.788	72.062 (12th)
2011	70.741	72.425	71.900	71.685 (13th)
2010	70.925	69.810	71.671	70.803 (20th)
2009	71.750	71.423	69.987	70.996 (19th)
2008	71.756	70.103	72.282	71.380 (20th)
2007	71.367	71.051	71.731	71.381 (21st)

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](https://twitter.com/ChampionsTour) and on Instagram [@pgatourchampions](https://instagram.com/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 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 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.

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.

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
3. Chubb Classic
4. Colguard Classic
5. Toshiba Classic
6. Rapiscan Systems Classic
7. Mitsubishi Electric Classic
8. Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge
9. Insperity 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
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