



Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship

Exmoor Country Club | Highland Park, Illinois | July 9-15, 2018

Media Contacts

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Quick Facts

Course: Exmoor Country Club

Par: Par 72 / 7,149 yards

Course Designers: Donald J. Ross (1915); Ron Prichard (2003)

Purse: \$2,800,000 (Winner: \$420,000)

Television Coverage: (all local times) Golf Channel; Thursday and Friday, 1:30-4 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 5-7 p.m.

Social Media: [Twitter](#), [Instagram](#), [Facebook](#)

Field Overview (as of 7/9/18)

The 36th-annual Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship comes to Highland Park, Illinois in 2018 and will be played at Exmoor Country Club for the first time. **Scott McCarron** will return to defend his title, and he will be joined by five other past champions of the event: **Jay Haas** (2009), **Hale Irwin** (1999), **Bernhard Langer** (2014, 2015, 2016), **Mark O'Meara** (2010), **Kenny Perry** (2013) and **Loren Roberts** (2007).

In all, the 78-player field features 49 of the top-50 players in the current Charles Schwab Cup standings as well as 12 who have won this season: **Paul Broadhurst**, **Mark Calcavecchia**, **Joe Durant**, **Steve Flesch**, **Miguel Angel Jimenez**, **Jerry Kelly**, **Langer**, **Tom Lehman**, **McCarron**, **Vijay Singh**, **David Toms** and **Kirk Triplett**. Steve Stricker is the only player in the top-50 not competing in the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS.

Additional field highlights:

- 7 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame (Hale Irwin, Tom Kite, Bernhard Langer, Sandy Lyle, Colin Montgomerie, Mark O'Meara, Vijay Singh).
- 56 PGA TOUR winners with 328 total career victories
- 52 PGA TOUR Champions winners with 258 total career victories
- 20 players with a PGA TOUR Champions major victory; 16 with a PGA TOUR major

2017 Recap: McCarron Overcomes Six-Shot Deficit to Win Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship

Scott McCarron carded a final-round 66 and erased a six-shot deficit to overtake **Bernhard Langer** and **Brandt Jobe** and win the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship at Caves Valley Golf Club. The win was McCarron's first major championship on PGA TOUR Champions and his second of four wins in 2017. Leading by one with two holes to play, Langer double bogeyed the par-3 17th after hitting his tee shot in the water. With the late error, McCarron was in the clubhouse with a one-shot lead. The three-time SENIOR PLAYERS champion had a chance to force a playoff, but Langer's birdie putt on No. 18 lipped out, cementing McCarron as champion and bringing Langer's three-year winning streak to a close.

Way Back at the Western Open

The Chicagoland area has a long history hosting professional golf, dating back to 1899 when the first Western Open was contested at Glen View Golf Club in Chicago. This week, eight Western Open champions return to Illinois: **Stephen Ames** (2004), **Russ Cochran** (1991), **Joe Durant** (1998), **Jerry Kelly** (2002), **Tom Kite** (1986), **Billy Mayfair** (1995) and **Scott Verplank** (1985). Verplank is the only player in the field to win both the Western Am (1985) and the Western Open (1985), and at the time, he was the first amateur golfer in 29 years to win a professional tournament.

Referred to as the Western Open from 1899 to 1986, the tournament took on its first title sponsor in 1987 (Beatrice Western Open). Between 1987 and 2006, the tournament would take on seven different title sponsors. In 2007 at the genesis of the FedExCup Playoffs, the Western Open was rebranded as the BMW Championship – the third of four FedExCup Playoffs events on the PGA TOUR.

McCarron Makes His Return

Following his first major championship victory at the 2017 Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS, **Scott McCarron** went on to win two more tournaments, bringing his season win total to four (Boca Raton Championship; Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS; DICK'S Sporting Goods Open, Shaw Charity Classic). He went on to finish No. 3 in the Charles Schwab Cup, his second straight top-five finish in the season standings.

This season, McCarron earned his first victory three weeks ago at the American Family Insurance Championship, where he shot a final-round 64 to win by one over **Jerry Kelly**. It was his seventh victory in his 71st career start on Tour, and it marked the third straight year he has won. He is coming off a T52 finish at the U.S. Senior Open, and he enters the week ranked No. 6 in the Charles Schwab Cup.

Scott McCarron press conference: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday (media center)

Langer Always a Threat

In his last 10 starts at the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS, **Bernhard Langer** has finished inside the top-10 nine times, three of which were consecutive victories in 2014, '15 and '16. His win in 2016 marked the eighth time in PGA TOUR Champions history that a player won the same event three years in a row.

Langer remains the only player to win all five majors on PGA TOUR Champions and his 10 major victories is the most all-time. In 50 career starts in senior majors, he has 38 top-10s (76%) and 10 wins (20%), and his worst finish was a tie for 23rd at the 2010 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship. He is coming off a T16 finish at the U.S. Senior Open, and he finished 11th at the Regions Tradition in May. His streak of 28 consecutive starts in majors ended at this year's KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, as he attended his son's high school graduation in lieu of defending his title.

This season, Langer has seven top-10s, including a victory at the Insuperity Invitational and four runner-up finishes. His win extended his streak of 12 consecutive years with a victory, setting a Tour record and breaking a tie he previously shared with Hale Irwin. He enters this week ranked No. 4 in the Charles Schwab Cup and has led the standings three out of 14 weeks.

Bernhard Langer press conference: 4 p.m. Tuesday (media center)

Toms Reaches the Top

David Toms is coming off his first major victory on PGA TOUR Champions, as he won the U.S. Senior Open by one over **Miguel Angel Jimenez**, **Jerry Kelly** and **Tim Petrovic**. Toms became the second player in the last three years to make the U.S. Senior Open his first victory on PGA TOUR Champions (2016, Gene Sauers), and the victory broke a winless drought of 7 years, 1 month, 9 days, dating back to his win at the 2011 Fort Worth Invitational. The win also made Toms the 15th player with wins on the Web.com Tour, PGA TOUR and PGA TOUR Champions.

This season, Toms has eight top-10s and six top-five finishes, and following his victory he improved from No. 9 to No. 1 in the Charles Schwab Cup. Last year, Toms finished T31 in his tournament debut at the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship.

David Toms press conference: 2 p.m. Wednesday (after Pro-Am, media center)

Hometown Games

Jeff Sluman, a former resident of Hinsdale, Illinois, now splits his time between his downtown Chicago home and his family's Florida residence. He has six career wins on PGA TOUR Champions and eight top-20s in 11 previous starts at the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship. Sluman is currently No. 36 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings, which if maintained throughout the remainder of the season will earn him entry into the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs.

Born in Berwyn, Illinois, **Gary Hallberg** started playing golf at a young age, eventually earning a spot on the Wake Forest golf team. He returns home this week on the heels of his recent induction into the Illinois Golf Hall of Fame. Hallberg has one PGA TOUR Champions title (2010, Ensure Classic at Rock Barn) and three PGA TOUR titles (1983 Isuzu-Andy Williams San Diego Open; 1987 Greater Milwaukee Open; 1992 Buick Southern Open). This week will mark his 10th start at the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS, with his best finish being T15 at Baltimore Country Club in 2009.

A neighbor of Illinois, **Jerry Kelly** hails from Madison, Wisconsin. Kelly has led the Charles Schwab Cup standings for five out of 14 weeks this season, which is the most of anyone on Tour. Kelly opened the season first by being named 2017 Rookie of the Year, followed by a victory at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. From there he has tallied seven top-10s, including two runner-up finishes, and he is currently No. 2 in the Charles Schwab Cup.

Jerry Kelly press conference: 1:30 p.m. Wednesday (after Pro-Am, media center)

Major Performances, Major Results

Miguel Angel Jimenez and **Jerry Kelly** are the only players with top-10s in each of the first three majors. Winner of the Regions Tradition, Jimenez has a 68.25 scoring average in the three majors, the best among players that have played all 12 rounds. He also finished fifth at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship and is coming off a T2 finish at the U.S. Senior Open. Kelly's streak started at the Regions Tradition, as his T8 finish in Birmingham was the first of five consecutive top-10s. His major scoring average of 68.50 is tied for second best with **Paul Broadhurst**, who posted weekend rounds of 64-63 to win the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship.

Tim Petrovic carded the lowest round at the U.S. Senior Open, a 5-under 65 on Friday, en route to his second straight runner-up finish at a major. He is the only player that has been among Sunday's final three groups at all three majors, and a final-round 74 at the Regions Tradition is the only outlier on a record that has produced a 68.92 major scoring average. All three of Petrovic's top-10s this season are runner-up finishes (T2, Chubb Classic; 2nd, KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship; T2, U.S. Senior Open), and he is currently No. 8 in the Schwab Cup, the highest standing of his career.

Player	Scoring Average	Regions Tradition	Senior PGA	U.S. Senior Open	Schwab Cup
1. Miguel Angel Jimenez	68.25	1st	5th	T2	3rd
T2. Jerry Kelly	69.33	T8	T3	T2	2nd
T2. Paul Broadhurst	69.33	T16	1st	T5	4th
4. Tim Petrovic	68.92	T27	2nd	T2	8th
5. David Toms	69.33	T27	T10	1st	1st

Parity on PGA TOUR Champions

Six different players have won the last six major championships on PGA TOUR Champions. Of these six players, three became first-time major champions.

Tournament	Champion	Major Titles
2017 U.S. Senior Open	Kenny Perry	4
2017 Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship	Scott McCarron	1
2017 Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex	Bernhard Langer	10
2018 Regions Tradition	Miguel Angel Jimenez	1
2018 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship	Paul Broadhurst	2
2018 U.S. Senior Open	David Toms	1

The parity carries over to the Charles Schwab Cup, as there have been four different players to lead the standings over the last four weeks. The volatility began when **Paul Broadhurst** took the lead after winning the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, and it continued with **Bernhard Langer**, followed by **Jerry Kelly** and **David Toms**, who rose to No. 1 after winning the U.S. Senior Open. The fifth player that has led this season is **Steve Stricker**, who is currently No. 7 in the standings but is not in this week's field. In all, the 2018 season marks just the fourth time in the Cup's 18-year history that at least five players have been No. 1 (2003/6, 2004/5, 2015/7).

From Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS to THE PLAYERS

Ever since Bobby Wadkins won in 2006, the winner of the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship has earned an exemption into the subsequent year's PLAYERS Championship. The tradition will continue in 2019, as this week's champion will earn a spot in The PLAYERS Championship next year (March 14-17, 2018). In all, the exemption has been used eight times, and Mark O'Meara is the only player of this group that has made the cut.

Year	Player	Scores (Finish)
2018	Scott McCarron	79-73 (MC)
2017	Bernhard Langer	71-78 (MC)
2016	Bernhard Langer	72-72 (MC)
2015	Bernhard Langer	73-73 (MC)
2014	Kenny Perry	77-70 (MC)
2013	Joe Daley	78-77 (MC)
2012	Fred Couples	DNP
2011	Mark O'Meara	66-74-79-77 (74th)
2010	Jay Haas	71-73 (MC)
2009	D.A. Weibring	WD
2008	Loren Roberts	DNP
2007	Bobby Wadkins	77-75 (MC)

Tournament History

The Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship is being contested for the 36th time, and it is the fourth-oldest event on PGA TOUR Champions. Only the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship (79 years), Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge (41 years) and the U.S. Senior Open (39 years) are older.

This year's field includes seven past champions: **Jay Haas** (2009), **Hale Irwin** (1999), **Bernhard Langer** (2014, 2015, 2016), **Scott McCarron** (2017), **Mark O'Meara** (2010), **Kenny Perry** (2013) and **Loren Roberts** (2007).

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, [Facebook](#), [Twitter \(@ChampionsTour\)](#) and [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 Invesco 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 Invesco 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.

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.
8. **Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge:** Kirk Triplett holed a bunker shot for birdie on the first playoff hole to secure the victory with partner Paul Broadhurst at the Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge. The team of Bernhard Langer and Tom Lehman birdied five of their last seven holes (best ball) to get into a playoff at 24-under, but they settled for second place after they both missed birdie putts in sudden death.
9. **Insperty Invitational:** Bernhard Langer saved par on the 54th hole to win wire-to-wire and claim his fourth victory at the Insperty Invitational. Langer led by one through 36 holes, but he started the final round 2-over through eight holes and fell four shots off the pace. He played the last 10 holes bogey free, and birdies on Nos. 9, 10, 13 and 15 gave him an 11-under total and a one-shot win over Paul Goydos, Bart Bryant and Jeff Maggert.
10. **Regions Tradition:** Miguel Angel Jimenez birdied Nos. 16 and 18 to break a three-way tie for the lead and win his first major title. Jimenez had at least a share of the lead after every round, and his 19-under total was three

shots better than Steve Stricker, Joe Durant and Gene Sauers. It was Jimenez's fifth win on PGA TOUR Champions, and he extended his streak to five straight years with a victory.

11. KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship: Paul Broadhurst carded weekend rounds of 64-63 and won the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship by four strokes with a tournament record-tying total of 19-under 265. Broadhurst's 8-under 63 on Sunday erased the two-shot advantage held by the 54-hole co-leaders, Scott McCarron and Tim Petrovic.

12. Principal Charity Classic: After recording a second-round 65, Tom Lehman took a two-shot lead through 36 holes at the Principal Charity Classic. That lead turned into his margin of victory, as severe weather in Des Moines forced the cancellation of the final round and Lehman earned his 11th win on PGA TOUR Champions. Lehman's 13-under 131 total set the tournament's 36-hole scoring record at Wakonda Club, and it was two shots better than Bernhard Langer, Scott Parel, Woody Austin and Glen Day.

13. American Family Insurance Championship: Scott McCarron carded an 8-under-par 64 for a one-stroke victory over Wisconsin native Jerry Kelly. The seven-time PGA TOUR Champions winner birdied Nos. 14 through 16 and with pars on the final two holes took the American Family Insurance title with a 15-under-par 201 score. Tournament host Steve Stricker finished T3 with a 7-under-par 65 clean card on Sunday.

14. U.S. Senior Open: David Toms made a 15-foot birdie putt to take the lead at No. 16, then a long par putt at No. 17 on his way to a one-shot victory Sunday at the U.S. Senior Open. Toms' two-putt par on No. 18 closed out his final round of even-par 70. His 3-under-par 277 finish claimed his first victory on PGA TOUR Champions over Miguel Angel Jimenez (69), Tim Petrovic (70) and Jerry Kelly (72), who led after each of the first three rounds.

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. Invesco QQQ Championship
27. Charles Schwab Cup Championship