



Insperity Invitational

The Woodlands Country Club | The Woodlands, Texas | May 4-6, 2018

Media Contacts

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Quick Facts

- **Golf Course:** The Woodlands Country Club (Par 72, 7,018 yards)
- **Designed by:** Robert Von Hagge / Bruce Devlin (1978)
- **Purse:** \$2,200,000 (Winner: \$330,000)
- **Golf Channel Coverage (all times ET):** Friday: 6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.(tape delay); Saturday and Sunday: 3-5:30 p.m.
- **Social Media:** Twitter ([@InsperityInvtnl](https://twitter.com/InsperityInvtnl)), Instagram ([@InsperityInvitational](https://www.instagram.com/InsperityInvitational)), [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/InsperityInvitational)

Field Overview (as of 5/1/18)

For the 15th consecutive year, PGA TOUR Champions returns to the Insperity Invitational, hosted at The Woodlands Country Club. The 78-player field holds seven of the 12 past champions, including defending champion John Daly and three-time champion Bernhard Langer. The tournament will host 32 of the top 36 players in the current Charles Schwab Cup standings and six members from the World Golf Hall of Fame, including 2015 winner Ian Woosnam. The ninth tournament of the year will include six 2018 champions: Paul Broadhurst, Mark Calcavecchia, Joe Durant, Steve Flesch, Jerry Kelly, and Kirk Triplett.

- 32 of the top 36 players in the current Charles Schwab Cup standings
- Six members of the World Golf Hall of Fame
- 60 PGA TOUR winners with 306 total career victories
- 56 PGA TOUR Champions winners with 245 total career victories
- 19 players with a PGA TOUR Champions major victory; 15 with a PGA TOUR major

2017 Recap: Daly Claims First PGA TOUR Champions Title

John Daly claimed his first PGA TOUR Champions title on his 22nd start on Tour at the 2017 Insperity Invitational. Daly eagled the par-5 first and by the 15th hole on Sunday, moved to 17-under-par and led by two strokes. He finished with three straight bogeys to hang on a one-stroke victory after a 3-under 69 in the final round. His win cleared his 13-year drought without a victory in a PGA TOUR event, previously winning the 2004 Buick Invitational. Daly's victory entered him into the elite club of just 12 players at the time to have wins on the Web.com, PGA TOUR and PGA TOUR Champions.

Tournament Storylines

Looking for a Daly Double

As the Insuperity Invitational defending champion, **John Daly** is looking for his second victory on PGA TOUR Champions. In Daly's first appearance at the Insuperity Invitational in 2016 he finished T17 with a 2-under-par 214 score before claiming the title at 14-under-par the following year. In 22 starts on the Champions Tour, this was Daly's first victory. He would follow this win by posting five top-20 finishes, three coming in the top-10, and he ended the 2017 season ranked 14th in the Charles Schwab Cup.

This year, Daly has made three starts on the PGA TOUR and six on PGA TOUR Champions. On Champions Tour, Daly has two top-10 finishes with his best coming in his last appearance at Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf. He worked alongside **Michael Allen**, who will also compete in the field this week, to finish T5 with an 18-under-par 198. Daly ranks No. 49 on the Charles Schwab Cup money list.

Broadhurst and Triplett Back in Action

The 2018 Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf winners **Paul Broadhurst** and **Kirk Triplett** enter the Insuperity Invitational off their first wins since 2016. The duo parred the final three holes to enter a playoff with Bernhard Langer and Tom Lehman and with a birdie on the extra hole, Broadhurst and Triplett claimed the title and totaled 67 bogey-free holes.

In five appearances at the Insuperity Invitational, Triplett has three top-20 finishes, with his two latest starts finishing at T7. This will be Broadhurst's second time at the tournament as he finished T28 in his debut last year.

Flesch on Fire

Two appearances ago, **Steve Flesch** claimed his first title on PGA TOUR Champions after birdying the final hole in a three-man playoff at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic. The defeat over **Bernhard Langer** and **Scott Parel** broke a streak of 169 consecutive starts without a win and he became the 14th player to own a title on the Web.com Tour, PGA TOUR and PGA TOUR Champions. Most recently, at his Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf debut, Flesch partnered with **David Toms** to finish T5, his fifth career top-10.

This will be Flesch's first appearance at the Insuperity Invitational and will enter with a chance to claim the top spot on the Charles Schwab Cup money list as he currently ranks No. 8 at \$367,650.

Kelly Keeping Momentum

Four days after being presented as the 2017 Rookie of the Year, **Jerry Kelly** began his 2018 season with his third victory on PGA TOUR Champions winning the season-opening Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. Since, he has placed in the top10 three times, two coming in the top five. In his latest appearance at Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf, Kelly recorded a T5 finish alongside two-time PGA TOUR Champions winner **Steve Stricker**.

Like Flesch, this will be Kelly's first appearance at the Insuperity Invitational and at No. 2 on the Charles Schwab Cup money list, he is in position to take the top spot with Stricker, the leader, absent from the field this week. Kelly holds \$539,890 in earnings, \$90,345 behind Stricker.

International Input

In the last five years of the Insuperity Invitational, four of the five titles have been claimed by international-born players: Esteban Toledo (Mexico), Bernhard Langer (Germany), Ian Woosnam (Wales) and Jesper Parnevik (Sweden). This year, including the United States, 14 countries will be represented. The others include Canada, Wales, Australia, Germany, England, Mexico, Paraguay, Spain, Scotland, Singapore, South Africa, Ireland and Sweden.

Insperty Inspires First-Time Winners

Six players broke through for their first victories on PGA TOUR Champions here including the three past winners, **John Daly** (2017), **Jesper Parnevik** (2016) and **Ian Woosnam** (2015). Other first-time winners here include **Bernhard Langer** (2007), **Brad Faxon** (2011) and **Esteban Toledo** (2013).

Not Lonely in the Lone Star State

Six PGA TOUR Champions players currently call home to the Lone Star State. This week will be a true home game for Houston residents **Jeff Maggert** and **Mark O'Meara**, while **Mark Brooks** (Fort Worth), **Clark Dennis** (Fort Worth), **Tom Kite** (Austin) and **Wes Short Jr.** (Austin) are from the surrounding cities. Five players attended a university in the state of Texas including Maggert (Texas A&M) and **Colin Montgomerie** (Houston Baptist), while Brooks, Kite and Short attended the University of Texas. **Bart Bryant** (Florida) and **Scott Verplank** (Oklahoma) are originally from Texas, but now reside elsewhere.

Notable Players

- **Bernhard Langer** – In 10 starts at this tournament, Langer has three wins with two coming in his first two appearances (2007, 2008, 2014) and two top-5s (2009, 2012). Most recently, Langer rebounded from the two worst finishes of his career to finish runner-up back-to-back weeks at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic and then again at Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf. Langer sits at No. 5 on the Charles Schwab Cup money list with \$472,721 in earnings and enters in a position to take the lead.
- **Scott Parel** – This will mark Parel's second appearance at the Insperty Invitational. Last year, he finished T13 with a 7-under-par 209. Since, Parel has seven top-10 finishes with three coming in eight starts this year. His best finish this season came at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic where he finished T2 alongside Bernhard Langer in a playoff loss to Steve Flesch. Parel ranks No. 12 on the Charles Schwab Cup money list at \$305,710.
- **Jesper Parnevik** – Since claiming his first title on PGA TOUR Champions at the 2016 Insperty Invitational, Parnevik has recorded eight top-10 finishes, with three coming in eight starts this year. His best finish of the season came at the Rapisan Systems Classic where he finished T3 with a 7-under-par 209. Parnevik enters the week off a T10 finish at the Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf.

By the Numbers: The Woodlands Country Club

The field average has been over par four of the past five tournaments at The Woodlands Country Club. Last year's scoring average of 71.970 was just one of two times the average was below par in 10 years at The Woodlands Country Club. The course ranked fourth hardest across all courses on Tour last season, and it was the hardest among non-majors.

- **Easiest Hole (2017):** The 520-yard par-5 played to a 4.560 average, yielding 6 eagles and 102 birdies.
- **Hardest Hole (2017):** The 382-yard par-4 hole played to a 4.201 average, yielding just 25 birdies. In 2017, It ranked 44th hardest across all holes on Tour.

	R1	R2	R3	Total
2017	72.582	71.500	71.818	71.970
2016	73.203	72.857	73.067	73.043
2015	71.772	71.823	73.532	72.376
2014	72.759	73.618	74.267	73.535
2013	75.778	74.444	73.684	74.643
2012	71.901	72.038	71.886	71.941
2011	72.241	72.064	--	72.153
2010	73.818	71.853	71.878	72.531

Past Champions in the Field

Seven of the past 12 champions will return to this week's field, including defending champion John Daly. In the past 10 years that the tournament has been played at The Woodland Country Club, the margin of victory has exceeded two just two times, with a one stroke margin six times. The tournament's largest margin of victory came at eight strokes in 2007 when Bernhard Langer won with a tournament-record score of 191 at Augusta Pines Golf Club in Spring, Texas. Fred Couples holds the tournament record at The Woodlands Country Club, as he won by seven in 2010 with a 17-under 199 total.

Year	Champion	Total	To Par
2017	John Daly	202	-14
2016	Jesper Parnevik	204	-12
2015	Ian Woosnam*	205	-11
2014	Bernhard Langer	205	-11
2013	Esteban Toledo*	210	-6
2012	Fred Funk	202	-14
2011	Brad Faxon	134	-10
2010	Fred Couples	199	-17
2009	John Cook	205	-11
2008	Bernhard Langer	204	-12
2007	Bernhard Langer	191	-25
2006	Jay Haas	128	-16
2005	Mark McNulty	200	-16
2004	Larry Nelson*	202	-14

*Won by playoff

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](https://www.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.
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. 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