



CHAMPIONSHIP
at Hualalai

Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai

Hualalai Golf Course | Ka'upulehu-Kona, Hawaii | January 15-20, 2018

PGA TOUR Media Contact

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Quick Facts

- Golf Course: Hualalai Golf Course (Par 72 / 7107 yards)
- Designed by: Jack Nicklaus (1993)
- Purse: \$1,800,000 (Winner: \$300,000)
- Golf Channel Coverage: all three rounds live from 7-10 p.m. ET
- Social Media: @mec_golf ([Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#))
- [Charles Schwab Cup Standings](#)

Field Overview

The Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai includes tournament champions from the 2016 and 2017 seasons, winners of PGA TOUR Champions majors since 2013, eight additional invitees based on career PGA TOUR wins and major championship titles, and World Golf Hall of Fame members who played a minimum of eight PGA TOUR Champions events in 2017. The nine World Golf Hall of Fame members committed to compete include Fred Couples, Hale Irwin, Tom Kite, Bernhard Langer, Sandy Lyle, Colin Montgomerie, Mark O'Meara, Vijay Singh and Tom Watson. Also in the field are **eight players who have won the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai** since the event moved to Hualalai Golf Course in 1997: **Duffy Waldorf** (2016), **Miguel Ángel Jiménez** (2015), **Bernhard Langer** (2017, 2014, 2009), **Fred Funk** (2008), **Hale Irwin** (2007, 1997), **Loren Roberts** (2006), **Tom Watson** (2010), and **Tom Kite** (2002). New to the field this season is 2017 Charles Schwab Cup winner Kevin Sutherland. Sutherland won for the first time on PGA TOUR Champions in November at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship, finishing at 15-under to win by one, defeating Vijay Singh and Lee Janzen. With the win, Sutherland broke the three-year winning streak held by Langer, who finished the tournament T12 and was second in the final standings.

- Nine World Golf Hall of Fame members in the field
- Eight players who have won the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai
- 13 players who have a combined total of 27 major titles on the PGA TOUR; of those 13 players, they have a combined total of 300 PGA TOUR wins and 227 more on PGA TOUR Champions
- Seven Charles Schwab Cup champions, spanning 15 years
- Six players in the field have won a collective 15 Player of the Year awards

2017 Recap: Langer wins by one over Couples in forced 36-hole event

In 2017, **Bernhard Langer** held a one-stroke lead after 36 holes over Fred Couples when wind gusts up to 45 mph forced a cancellation of the final round of the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. Langer and Couples were on the first hole when play was suspended. Following a 50-minute delay, the decision was made to make it a 36-hole tournament with Langer, a one-stroke winner over Couples, finishing the tournament at 15-under. His victory was his

third in this event and marked the fourth time in his PGA TOUR Champions career that he won an event three times. Couples second-place finish was his third runner-up effort in this tournament and his sixth top-10 in eight visits.

Major Winners in the Field

Of the 44 players in this year's field, 13 have won 27 major titles on the PGA TOUR. As a group they have won 300 PGA TOUR events and 277 more on the PGA TOUR Champions. Below is a list of those who claimed major titles on the PGA TOUR.

Masters	U.S. Open	Open Championship	PGA Championship
Vijay Singh (2000)	Hale Irwin ('74, '79, '90)	Tom Watson ('75, '77, '80, '82, '83)	Vijay Singh ('98, '04)
Mark O'Meara (1998)	Tom Watson (1982)	Mark O'Meara (1998)	David Toms ('01)
Bernhard Langer ('85, '93)	Tom Kite (1992)	Tom Lehman (1996)	Jeff Sluman (1988)
Fred Couples (1992)		Mark Calcavecchia (1989)	
Crag Stadler (1982)		Sandy Lyle ('85)	
Tom Watson ('77, '81)			
Sandy Lyle ('88)			

Can Langer Continue His Dominance in 2018?

The 2017 campaign was another banner year for the World Golf Hall of Fame member Bernhard Langer. Last year was the sixth straight season he finished first or second in the final Charles Schwab Cup standings (1st – 2016, 2015, 2014; 2nd – 2017, 2013, 2012). The native of Germany posted seven victories in '17, was a runner-up three times, and in 22 events, finished outside the top 25 just once. Additionally, he received a record ninth Arnold Palmer Award as the Tour's leading money winner in 2017 and became the second player to win three majors in one season, pushing his all-time majors count to a record 10 titles. So, what's in store for Langer in the upcoming season? A victory at Hualalai in 2018 would be the 37th of his PGA TOUR Champions career, moving the Boca Raton, Florida, resident closer to breaking the all-time victories mark on Tour, held by Hale Irwin with 45.

Fresh Faces in Hualalai

This year's field includes four players making their debuts at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. New faces include Stephen Ames, Brandt Jobe, Jerry Kelly and 2017 Charles Schwab Cup champion Kevin Sutherland.

- **Kevin Sutherland:** Among the four players making their debut this week is 2017 Charles Schwab Cup winner, Kevin Sutherland. Last November at Phoenix Country Club, Sutherland became just the third player to win the Charles Schwab Cup Championship and the Charles Schwab Cup in the same season, joining Tom Watson (2005) and Tom Lehman (2012). His win in Phoenix was his first victory on PGA TOUR Champions since joining in 2014. Sutherland finished third on the money list with \$1.9 million.
- **Jerry Kelly:** A rookie in the 2017 season, Kelly had a standout year on PGA TOUR Champions. The only rookie to win in '17, Kelly posted two victories (Boeing Classic and Pacific Links Bear Mountain Championship) and tallied 10 top-10s in 20 starts. He finished the season sixth on the money list with over \$1.4 million, and seventh in the final Schwab Cup standings. His appearance at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai this week will be his second showing in Hawaii this month after competing at the Sony Open, where he shot all four rounds in the 60s, finishing just outside the top 10 at T14.
- **Brandt Jobe:** Before finishing the year ranked No. 9 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings, Jobe experienced an impressive 2017 season. The Texan earned his spot in the Hualalai field this week with a win at the Principal Charity Classic, where he maintained a lead throughout the final round over his former college roommate and defending champion, Scott McCarron. Jobe shot a 3-under 69 in the final round at the Wakonda Club to end a winless drought that had stretched back to 1998.
- **Stephen Ames:** After 49 starts on PGA TOUR Champions, Ames captured his first win at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic in April of 2017. Ames held off a charging field at TPC Sugarloaf while shooting an impressive bogey-free 6-under 66. He finished at 15-under for the week, four shots ahead of Bernhard Langer.

Along with the win, the Canadian closed out the season with six top-10s and finished the Charles Schwab Cup ranked No. 18.

Other Players to Watch

- **Fred Couples:** 2017 will mark Couples' ninth consecutive start at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship. Although historically a high-performer in Hualalai, Couples has yet to capture a win. In eight starts, the Newport Beach, California, resident has posted three second-place finishes (2010, '14, '17) and finished outside the top 10 only twice. Keeping par with his standout showings in Hawaii over the years was his performance in the 2017 season where Couples won both the Chubb Classic and the American Family Insurance Championship. In his 12 starts last season, the World Golf Hall of Famer notched eight top-10s and finished the season ranked No. 13 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings. Additionally, he slipped into the top 10 on the money list at No. 10 with \$1,278,637.
- **Scott McCarron:** Playing all 26 tournaments on the 2017 PGA TOUR Champions schedule developed into a successful season for McCarron. Kicking off the year inside the top 20 at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship, McCarron went on to win four tournaments (Boca Raton Championship, Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship, DICK'S Sporting Goods Open, Shaw Charity Classic) and earn three second-place finishes. He concluded the season at No. 3 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings and second on the money list with \$2,674,195.
- **David Toms:** The 2017 Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai marked David Toms' debut on PGA TOUR Champions, where he finished T4 after rounds of 69-63 – 132/-12. In his rookie season, Toms tallied seven top-10s in 22 starts. He closed the year with a T4 finish at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship, and was the only player to finish the season with back-to-back top-fives. His final rank in the Charles Schwab Cup standings was No. 11 and he was 17th on the money list with \$925,819.

Field Includes Seven Former Charles Schwab Cup Winners

Seven players entered in this year's tournament have won 15 of the 17 previous Charles Schwab Cups. This list includes Hale Irwin (2002, '04), Tom Watson (2003, '05), Jay Haas (2006, '08), Loren Roberts (2007, '09), Bernhard Langer (2010, '14, '15, '16), Tom Lehman (2011, '12) and Kevin Sutherland (2017). The two other previous winners not in the event are Allen Doyle (2001) and Kenny Perry (2013)

Player of the Year Recipients in the Field

Six players in the field hold 15 Jack Nicklaus Player of the Year awards, spanning almost 20 years: Hale Irwin (1997, 98', 02'); Tom Watson (2003); Craig Stadler (2004); Jay Haas (2006, 07'); Bernhard Langer (2008, '09, '10, '14, '15, '16); Tom Lehman (2011, '12).

High Performers from Start to Finish

Over the years, there have been three players who began their season with a victory at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai and ended it as recipient of the Player of the Year Award. Those players are Hale Irwin (1997), Dana Quigley (2005) and Bernhard Langer (2009 and 2014).

The 2017 Player of the Year Award will be presented on Tuesday, January 16 at the PGA TOUR Champions Annual Awards Dinner. A press release will be issued the following morning highlighting the Player of the Year and Rookie of the Year, in addition to several other accolades awarded to PGA TOUR Champions players.

Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai – Past Champions, Scores and Runners Up

Champions since the event moved to Hualalai Golf Course in 1997.

Year	Champion	Score	Runner Up
2017^	Bernhard Langer	129 / -15	Fred Couples
2016	Duffy Waldorf	198 / -18	Tom Lehman
2015	Miguel Angel Jiménez	199 / -17	Mark O'Meara
2014	Bernhard Langer	194 / -22	Fred Couples, Jeff Sluman

2013	John Cook	199 / -17	David Frost
2012	Dan Forsman	201 / -15	Jay Don Blake
2011	John Cook	194 / -22	Tom Lehman
2010	Tom Watson	194 / -22	Fred Couples
2009	Bernhard Langer	198 / -18	Andy Bean
2008	Fred Funk	195 / -21	Allen Doyle
2007	Hale Irwin	193 / -23	Tom Kite, Jim Thorpe
2006	Loren Roberts	191 / -25	Don Pooley
2005	Dana Quigley	198 / -18	Tom Watson
2004	Fuzzy Zoeller	196 / -20	Dana Quigley
2003	Dana Quigley	198 / -18	Larry Nelson
2002	Tom Kite	199 / -17	John Jacobs
2001	Larry Nelson	197 / -19	Jim Thorpe
2000	George Archer	207 / -9	Hale Irwin, Graham Marsh, Dana Quigley, Lee Trevino
1999	John Jacobs	203 / -13	Jim Colbert, Raymond Floyd
1998	Gil Morgan	195 / -21	Gibby Gilbert, Hale Irwin
1997	Hale Irwin	209 / -7	Gil Morgan

* *Won by playoff* | ^ 36-hole tournament

Tournament History

- The Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai was first played as the Senior Tournament of Champions in 1984 and the venue was La Costa Country Club in Carlsbad, Calif., from 1984-94. The limited-field tournament then moved to the Hyatt Dorado Beach in Puerto Rico from 1995-96 before relocating again to Hualalai on the Big Island in 1997. Miller Barber (1986, '89), Al Geiberger (1992, '93), George Archer (1990 and 2000), Dana Quigley (2003, '05), John Cook (2011, '13), Hale Irwin (1997 and 2007) and Bernhard Langer (2010, '14, '17) have all won this event multiple times with Archer being the only player to claim titles at two different venues (1990 at La Costa and 2000 at Hualalai). This will be the tenth year for Mitsubishi Electric as title sponsor of the event.
- As it begins its 22nd year at the Hualalai Golf Course, the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai holds the distinction of being the longest running event on PGA TOUR Champions held at the same venue. The Toshiba Classic held that distinction previously at 21 years through 2016, but was not on the 2017 schedule due to a move from the fall to the spring. It will return in 2018.
- Nine players have claimed this championship in their first appearances, including recent champions Miguel Angel Jiménez (2015) and Duffy Waldorf (2016). Prior to Jiménez, the last to do so was Loren Roberts (2006). Others to accomplish the feat are John Jacobs (1999), John Bland (1996), George Archer (1990), Dave Hill (1988), Peter Thomson (1985) and Orville Moody (1984).
- Hale Irwin's 2007 win at Hualalai came at 61 years, 7 months, 18 days, making him the oldest winner in event history. Tom Watson's victory in 2010 at 60 years, 4 months, 20 days made him the second-oldest winner. Only one other player over 60 has claimed this title and that was George Archer in 2000 when he won for the second time (60 years, 3 months, 6 days). Archer was also the youngest winner in event history (50 years, 3 months, 6 days) when we won at La Costa in 1990.

Field Has International Flavor

This year's field includes players from 12 countries. In addition to the United States, players hail from England (Broadhurst), Japan (Idoki), Fiji (Singh), South Africa (Frost), Germany (Langer), Scotland (Montgomerie & Lyle), Sweden (Parnevik), Spain (Jiménez), Mexico (Toledo), Paraguay (Franco) and Canada (Ames).

Hualalai is Among the Easiest on Tour

In the last 10 years, the par-72 Hualalai Golf Course has been the one of the easiest layouts on the PGA TOUR Champions. Here are the yearly stroke averages by the field since 2008 and where it ranked for course difficulty on Tour:

Year	Scoring Average/Rank	O/U Par	Eagles	Birdies	Rounds in the 60s
2017	69.096/26 th of 26	-2.906	15	436	63
2016	69.915/26 th of 26	-2.085	16	560	63
2015	70.283/23 rd of 24	-1.717	17	520	57
2014	69.098/26 th of 26	-2.902	27	560	67
2013	70.417/25 th of 26	-1.583	11	469	46
2012	70.374/24 th of 24	-1.626	24	487	50
2011	68.746/24 th of 24 th	-3.254	28	602	78
2010	69.130/26 th of 26	-2.870	18	510	66
2009	69.561/24 th of 25	-2.439	11	505	50
2008	69.081/29 th of 29	-2.919	24	586	75

Two Holes Rank Among Easiest on Tour

In 2017, the par-5 seventh was the easiest hole of the season. It yielded eight eagles and 53 birdies and played to an average of 4.287. The par-5 4th and 14th holes were tied as the seventh easiest on Tour (4.436).

About the Title Sponsor

Mitsubishi Electric U.S. Holdings, Inc. principal businesses include factory automation equipment, semiconductor devices, automotive electrical components, elevators and escalators, heating and cooling products, electric utility products, water treatment systems, rail transportation equipment, data walls, printers and large-scale video displays for stadiums and arenas. Mitsubishi Electric group companies have roughly 31 locations throughout North America with approximately 4,000 employees.

2018 PGA TOUR Champions – Season Overview

PGA TOUR Champions is a membership organization of golf's most recognizable and accomplished players, 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 2017, the PGA TOUR Champions schedule includes 26 tournaments in 18 states, Japan, Wales and Canada, with purses totaling more than \$55 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 live, tape-delayed or in a highlights-package format in excess of 190 countries and territories, reaching more than 350 million potential 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. Follow PGA TOUR Champions 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 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)

2018 PGA TOUR Champions Schedule

1. Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai
2. Boca Raton Championship
3. Chubb Classic
4. Cologuard Classic
5. Toshiba Classic
6. Rapiscan Systems Classic
7. Mitsubishi Electric Classic
8. Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge
9. Insuperity 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 Presented by Cambria
23. PURE Insurance Championship
24. SAS Championship
25. Dominion Energy Charity Classic
26. PowerShares QQQ Championship
27. Charles Schwab Cup Championship