



# Mitsubishi Electric Classic

TPC Sugarloaf | Duluth, Georgia | April 13-15, 2018

# Final-Round Notes Saturday, April 14, 2018

Course Setup: Par 72 / 7,179 yards (R3 scoring average: 73.026, Cumulative: 72.934) **Weather:** Partly cloudy with a high near 80. Wind from the Southeast at 10-20 mph.

Note: Due to inclement weather expected Sunday, Saturday included both the second round and final round for a total of 36 holes.

Summary: 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. The win is Flesch's first since the 2007 Turning Stone Resort Invitational, a span of 169 professional starts, and he moves to No. 8 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings.

	Player	To Par	Scores	Money	Schwab Cup
1	Steve Flesch	-11	66-71-68—205	\$330,975	8 <sup>th</sup>
T2	Scott Parel	-11	68-73-64—205	\$284,110	11 <sup>th</sup>
T2	Bernhard Langer	-11	67-69-69—205	\$371,471	7 <sup>th</sup>
4	Jay Haas	-9	65-71-71—207	\$124,001	36 <sup>th</sup>
5	Wes Short Jr.	-8	69-69-70—208	\$163,209	26th

#### **Quick Links:**

- PGATOURmedia.com (transcripts and other resources available for download)

#### Steve Flesch, 66-71-68—205 (-11)

- Steve Flesch claimed his first professional win since the 2007 Turning Stone Resort Championship, a span of 169 starts (148 PGA TOUR, 21 PGA TOUR Champions). With this victory, he becomes the 14th player to own a title on the Web.com Tour, PGA TOUR, and PGA TOUR Champions.
- This victory marked Flesch's first top-10 since finishing T7 at the 2017 Pacific Links Bear Mountain Championship, a span of nine starts.
- Flesch has four top-10s in 10 starts at the PGA TOUR event at TPC Sugarloaf, with his best finish being a tie for third in 1998.
- With Flesch just shy of a full year on PGA TOUR Champions, he adds to the 51-year-olds owning four of the six tournaments played this year (Jerry Kelly, Steve Stricker twice).
- Flesch becomes the first left-handed player to win since Russ Cochran won the 2013 Principal Charity Classic.
- With his first victory, Flesch moves up 44 places to No. 8 on the Charles Schwab Cup Money List at \$330,975.
- Up next, Flesch will travel to Branson, Missouri to compete in Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge with partner David Toms.

### Scott Parel, 68-73-64—205 (-11)

- The Augusta, Georgia birdied the 18th hole to card an 8-under-par 64, tying the tournament record alongside Kenny Perry (2017), Olin Browne (2015) and Bernhard Langer (2015). This sent Parel into a three-way playoff with Flesch and Langer.
- His runner-up finish this week ties for his best alongside his second place standing at the 2017 Regions Tradition.
- After finishing T33 at the Toshiba Classic, Parel fell to No. 52 in the Charles Schwab Cup. In his last two tournaments, he finished T3 at the Rapiscan Systems Classic and runner-up this week, and he has improved to No. 11 in the standings.
- Parel moves to No. 11 on the Charles Schwab Cup Money List at \$284,110.

## Bernhard Langer, 67-69-69—205 (-11)

- With Scott Parel in the clubhouse at 11-under, Langer needed a birdie on the par-5 18th to win by one in regulation. After hitting his second shot in the greenside bunker, he was unable to get up-and-down for birdie, and the tournament went to a three-man playoff after Steve Flesch two-putted for birdie and joined the group at 11-under. On the first playoff hole, Langer layed up and was eliminated when he did not get up-and-down for birdie.
- Langer carded two rounds of 69 on Saturday, giving him 14 rounds in the 60s in 17 tries at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic.
- The runner-up finish was the second of the season and 29th of his career. His record at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic includes one win (2013) and four second-place finishes (2014, 2015, 2017, 2018).
- He now has 152 career top-10s, which is seventh-most all-time. Lee Trevino ranks sixth with 153, while Hale Irwin leads with 210.
- Langer had won his last two playoffs on PGA TOUR Champions (2016 Boeing Classic, 2017 PowerShares QQQ Championship). The last time he lost a playoff was when Billy Andrade defeated him at the 2015 Charles Schwab Cup Championship.

#### **Other Notes**

- This was the first three-man playoff on PGA TOUR Champions since the 2016 Boeing Classic, when Bernhard Langer defeated Woody Austin and Kevin Sutherland.
- This was the second playoff in tournament history. In 2016, Woody Austin and Wes Short Jr. were tied at 11-under, with Austin claiming the title on the second playoff hole.
- **Jay Haas'** was in a five-way tie for first with seven holes left to play. From there, Haas' carded bogeys on Nos. 15 and 16 to separate from the pack, falling back into a fourth-place finish. This marks the highest finish for Haas since he finished T4 at the 2016 Charles Schwab Cup Championship.
- With an eagle on No. 4, **Wes Short Jr**. took a one-shot lead at 9-under. He was the first player to reach 10-under when he birdied No. 6, but he played his last 12 holes in 2-over-par and finished fifth. It was his best finish since he was runner-up at the 2016 DICK'S Sporting Goods Open.
- **Jerry Kelly** worked his way into contention after carding the best score of the second round, a 7-under 65. This moved him up 19 places on the leaderboard and into a tie for the lead. A 3-over in the final round landed him in T8 for his second highest finish of the year (T2 at Cologuard Classic) and third top-10 over six tournaments.
- Monday qualifier **Clark Dennis** finished in 7th place after carding rounds of 70-68 to exit the tournament 4-under. This is the highest finish of any Monday Qualifier this year with only five Monday Qualifiers finishing in the top 10 in 2017. This was Dennis' first start of the season on PGA TOUR Champions and his highest finish of his career.
- PGA TOUR Champions playoff records:
  - o Bernhard Langer: 6-5
  - o Steve Flesch: 1-0
  - o Scott Parel: 0-1
- The field included all five past champions of the Mitsubishi Electric Classic:
  - o Bernhard Langer: T1, 67-69-69—205
  - o Stephen Ames: T26, 71-72-72—215
  - o Olin Browne: T26, 72-72-71—215

- Woody Austin:T34, 75-71-71—217
   Miguel Angel Jimenez: T34, 72-73-72—217