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Principal Charity Classic

Wakonda Club | Des Moines, Iowa | June 8-10, 2018

Media Contacts

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Quick Facts

- **Golf Course:** Wakonda Club (Par 72, 6,831 yards)
- **Designed by:** Williams B. Langford (1922)
- **Purse:** \$1,750,000 (Winner: \$262,500)
- **Golf Channel Coverage (all times ET):** Friday through Sunday – 7-9 p.m. (tape delay)
- **Quick Links:** [Tournament Field](#) | [Tee Times](#) | [Tournament History](#)
- **Social Media:** Twitter ([@PCCTourney](#)), Instagram ([@principalcharityclassic](#)), [Facebook](#)

Tournament Overview

The 18th-annual Principal Charity Classic will be played at Wakonda Club for the sixth year. **Brandt Jobe** will return to Des Moines to defend his title, and he will be joined by six other past champions, including three-time winner **Jay Haas**. The 78-player field also includes **Bernhard Langer**, who has just two top-10s in five previous starts at the Principal Charity Classic, and **Scott McCarron**, whose record includes a win in 2016 and a runner-up finish in 2017. Off the course, the tournament raised more than \$3.5 million for Iowa charities in 2017, and since 2007 more than \$13.5 million has been raised. The Principal Charity Classic has been recognized with a number of PGA TOUR Champions Tournament Awards, including the President's Award in 2016 and the Players Award in 2010.

- 7 former champions of the Principal Charity Classic
- 57 PGA TOUR winners with 268 total career victories
- 49 PGA TOUR Champions winners with 206 total career victories
- 14 players with a PGA TOUR Champions major victory; 10 with a PGA TOUR major

2017 Recap: Jobe's Victory at Principal Charity Classic Ends Long Wait

Brandt Jobe finished at 14-under and won the Principal Charity Classic by one over **Kevin Sutherland** and **Scott McCarron**, the defending champion and Jobe's roommate at UCLA. It was Jobe's first victory in his 32nd start on PGA TOUR Champions, and first professional victory since he won the 1998 Mizuno Open on the Japan Golf Tour (a span of 18 years, 11 months, 14 days). He was winless in 34 starts on the Web.com Tour and 337 starts on the PGA TOUR.

Jobe led throughout the final round, though he began the day tied with **Glen Day** and was tied with McCarron on two occasions on the back nine. He birdied all four par 5s both Saturday and Sunday, and his final-round birdie on the par-5 15th gave him a one-shot lead and it proved to be the difference. Jobe played the final 27 holes in 9-under, as he closed with a back-nine 30 Saturday and shot 69 Sunday.

Langer Looking for First Win in Des Moines

Bernhard Langer will make his first start since he finished 11th at the Regions Tradition, as he attended his son's high school graduation in lieu of defending his title at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship. Langer's up-and-down season includes the two worst finishes of his career in March (T54 and 58th), as well as three runner-up finishes and a win at the Insuperity Invitational. Currently No. 2 in the Charles Schwab Cup, Langer has a chance to regain the lead this week as top-ranked Paul Broadhurst is not in the field.

The Principal Charity Classic is one of just eight tournaments on this year's 27-event schedule that Langer has not won. Of those eight tournaments, he has not played in two of them, as the Ally Challenge and The Sanford International are new events. Langer's fourth-place finish last year was his best finish in five starts in Des Moines, and in three starts at Wakonda Club his scoring average is 70.44.

Pre-Tournament Press Conference: 12 p.m. Wednesday (media center)

Charles Schwab Cup: Season Overview

After he won the Insuperity Invitational, **Bernhard Langer** moved to No. 1 in the Charles Schwab Cup for the first time this season. Langer has led the standings at least once in 10 of the last 11 seasons, with the only exception being 2011 when he missed multiple months due to a thumb injury. Since 2008, Langer's first full season on PGA TOUR Champions, Langer has topped the standings 123 of 267 weeks (46.07%), and the next-closest player is **Tom Lehman**, who has spent 32 weeks at No. 1.

With his win at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, Paul Broadhurst became the season's fifth leader of the Charles Schwab Cup, marking 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). In addition to Langer (2 weeks) and Broadhurst (1), the other three players that have led this season are **Jerry Kelly** (4), Steve Stricker (3) and **David Toms** (1).

McCarron's Strong Track Record

It's tough to beat **Scott McCarron's** two-year record at the Principal Charity Classic, as he won in his tournament debut in 2016 and finished T2 in his encore last year. This week, he will return to Des Moines having posted top-10s in the season's first two majors. After finishing T5 at the Regions Tradition, McCarron was a co-leader after the first, second and third rounds before finishing T3 at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship. In all, he has eight top-10s in 13 major starts, including a win at the 2017 Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship. This season, he has seven top-10s and is currently No. 8 in the Charles Schwab Cup.

Pre-Tournament Press Conference: 11 a.m. Thursday (media center)

Getting the Jobe Done

Since his win at last year's Principal Charity Classic, **Brandt Jobe** has six top-10s, including two at majors and a T7 at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship. In nine starts this season, he has a pair of top-10s, with his best being a T5 at the Insuperity Invitational, and he's currently No. 32 in the Charles Schwab Cup. He leads the Tour in driving average (296.7 yards) and is second in birdie average (4.24 per round), and his scoring average of 70.20 ranks 17th. Should Jobe win again this week, he would join Jay Haas as the only players to successfully defend his title at the Principal Charity Classic.

Pre-Tournament Press Conference: 12:30 p.m. Wednesday (media center)

No Sophomore Slumps

The celebrated rookie class of 2017 included **Steve Flesch**, **Jerry Kelly** and **David Toms**, and each player has gotten off to solid starts in 2018.

- Kelly, the reigning Rookie of the Year, opened the season with a win at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship and has led the Charles Schwab Cup four weeks. Currently No. 3 in the standings, he finished T10 at the 2017 Principal Charity Classic.

- Flesch also has a win under his belt, as he prevailed in a three-man playoff to capture his first title at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic. Currently No. 17 in the Charles Schwab Cup, Flesch finished T5 at this tournament last year.
- Toms has five top-five finishes and seven top-10s, and he led the Charles Schwab Cup for one week in February. Currently No. 9 in the standings, he finished T21 in his tournament debut here last year.

Iowa Connections

- **Jerry Smith** grew up in Oskalossa, Iowa, and was a 2017 Iowa Golf Hall of Fame inductee.
- **Jay Haas** was the medalist at the 1971 Western Junior, played at Finkbine Golf Course in Iowa City.
- **Tom Lehman** won the Waterloo (Iowa) Open in 1986.
- **Todd Hamilton** was a three-time winner (1985, 1986, 1987) of the Riverboat Days Amateur in Clinton, Iowa.
- **Olin Browne** won the Web.com Tour's Hawkeye Open at Finkbine Golf Course in Iowa City in 1991, which helped him earn his PGA TOUR card for the following season.

Seven Past Champions in the Field

Seven past champions will compete at Wakonda Club, including each of the last six winners. Three-time champion **Jay Haas** will make his 12th start at the Principal Charity Classic, while **Jim Thrope**, the tournament's inaugural winner in 2001, will play for the 13th time and first since 2013.

2017	Brandt Jobe
2016	Scott McCarron
2015	Mark Calcavecchia
2014	Tom Pernice Jr.
2013	Russ Cochran
2012	Jay Haas
2011	Bob Gilder
2010	Nick Price
2009	Mark McNulty
2008	Jay Haas
2007	Jay Haas
2006	Gil Morgan
2005	Tom Jenkins
2004	D.A. Weibring
2003	Don Pooley
2002	Bob Gilder
2001	Jim Thorpe

Sixth Year at Wakonda Club

The tournament was played at Glen Oak Country Club from 2001-2004 and 2006-2012, with one year at the Tournament Club of Iowa in 2005. Since 2013, the Principal Charity Classic has been played at Wakonda Club. In 2017, the par-72 layout played to a 71.416 average, which made Wakonda Club the 10th-hardest course on Tour.

Hardest hole: No. 6 (par 4, 418 yards) – 20 birdies, 4.240 average, 26th-hardest hole on Tour in 2017.

Easiest hole: No. 13 (par 5, 529 yards) – 12 eagles, 113 birdies, 4.459 average, ninth-easiest hole on Tour in 2017.

Noteworthy holes:

- No. 1 (par 4, 431 yards) – It was the third-hardest opening hole on Tour in 2017 (4.167 average).
- No. 18 (par 4, 311 yards) – It was the shortest finishing hole on Tour in 2017. It was the sixth-easiest hole at Wakonda Club last year (3.876 average).

Year	R1	R2	R3	Overall Average (Rank)
2017	70.705	71.833	71.714	71.415 (10th / 26)
2016	71.086	71.198	71.765	71.350 (18th / 26)
2015	71.198	71.852	70.778	71.276 (17th / 24)
2014	71.457	70.568	72.325	71.446 (14th / 26)
2013	73.469	71.575	72.675	72.577 (8th / 26)

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. **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
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