



CHAMPIONS

## SAS Championship

Prestonwood Country Club | Cary, North Carolina | October 12-14, 2018

### First-Round Notes

Friday, October 12, 2018

**Course Setup:** Par 72 / 7,226 yards (R1 average: 71.526)

**Friday Weather:** Sunny with a high in the low 70s. Wind from the NW at 6-12 mph.

**Weather Note:** On Thursday, total precipitation was 3.47" and the peak wind at the golf course was 51 mph.

**Note:** Lift, clean and place was in effect.

**Media Contact:** [Chris Richards](#) (678-644-4258)

	Player	To Par	Scores
T1.	Bernhard Langer	-10	33-29 – 62
T1.	Tom Lehman	-10	32-30 – 62
T1.	Gene Sauers	-10	31-31 – 62
T4.	Olin Browne	-6	33-33 – 66
T4.	Jerry Kelly	-6	34-32 – 66

#### Quick Links:

- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-round tee times](#) (Golf Channel coverage: 3-5:30 p.m. ET)
- [PGATOURmedia.com](#) (transcripts and other resources available for download)

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#### Bernhard Langer, 33-29 – 62 (-10)

- After starting 1-under through eight holes, Langer closed with birdies on nine of his last 10 (he parred the par-4 14th). It is the fifth time he has shot 62 on PGA TOUR Champions, and the first since the 2016 Chubb Classic.
- This is the fourth time he has opened with a 62. At the 2012 3M Championship, he won after a final-round 62.
- Langer won each of the first four times he has shot 62: 2007 Insuperity Invitational, 2012 3M Championship, 2013 Chubb Classic, 2016 Chubb Classic.
- Langer's back-nine 29 is his first sub-30 nine-hole score since he shot 7-under 28 (front nine) at the 2016 Pacific Links Bear Mountain Championship.
- This is the 33rd time Langer has been a first-round leader/co-leader. He is 15-for-32 in converting those leads into victories, including his win at the Insuperity Invitational in May.
- Langer won in 2012 and is one of eight past champions in this week's field. Should he go on to win, the SAS Championship would be the ninth tournament he has won multiple times.
- Langer, a four-time winner of the Charles Schwab Cup, is currently No. 4 in the standings.

#### Tom Lehman, 32-30 – 62 (-10)

- Lehman's 10-under 62 matches a career low on PGA TOUR Champions. At the 2012 Charles Schwab Cup Championship, he carded a third-round 62 en route to a 22-under 258 total and a victory.
- This is the 10th time Lehman has been a first-round leader/co-leader. Entering this week, he is 2-for-9 in converting those leads into victories.

- Lehman and Langer teamed up at the Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge and finished second, losing to Kirk Triplett and Paul Broadhurst in a playoff.
- In June, he won the Principal Charity Classic, his 11th career win on PGA TOUR Champions.
- A two-time winner of the Charles Schwab Cup (2011, 2012), Lehman has eight top-10s this year and is currently 16th in the Charles Schwab Cup.

### Gene Sauers, 31-31 – 62 (-10)

- Sauers' 10-under 62 is a career-low on PGA TOUR Champions, and it matches his low score on the PGA TOUR.
- This is the sixth time Sauers has been a first-round leader/co-leader. He has yet to convert one of those leads into a victory. Earlier this year, he opened with an 8-under 64 and was an 18-hole co-leader at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic. He closed with rounds of 68-72 and finished T9.
- This is his seventh start at the SAS Championship, and he finished seventh last year (71-68-68).
- Sauers has two runner-up finishes and seven top-10s this season, and he's No. 15 in the Charles Schwab Cup.
- When Sauers was diagnosed with Stevens-Johnson Syndrome, he spent four days at a hospital at nearby Duke University. After the Duke specialist stopped his skin from burning, Sauers spent seven weeks at a hospital in Savannah. He returned to competition in 2011 and joined PGA TOUR Champions in 2012, and in 2016 he won the U.S. Senior Open. In 2017, Sauers was named the recipient of the [PGA TOUR Courage Award](#).

### First-Round Lead Notes

- The first-round 62s are the lowest first-round score in SAS Championship history. The previous record was 64, shot by Russ Cochran (2010) and Jim Thorpe (2002). Cochran went on to win, while Thorpe finished T15.
- The three leaders fell one shot shy of the tournament record. Tom Kite shot 61 in the final round in 2003.
- Six first-round leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win this year on PGA TOUR Champions: Jerry Kelly (Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai), Mark Calcavecchia (Boca Raton Championship), Bernhard Langer (Insperity Invitational), Miguel Angel Jimenez (Regions Tradition), Scott Parel (Boeing Classic) and Steve Stricker (Sanford International).
- First-round leaders/co-leaders have won the SAS Championship seven times in 17 years. Doug Garwood (2016) is the last player to convert a first-round lead into a victory. Colin Montgomerie, last year's champion, opened with a 69 and was T7 after the first round.

### Other Notes

- After birdies on his last two holes, **Jerry Kelly** is T4 after a first-round 66. He is currently No. 3 in the Charles Schwab Cup, though he has not posted a top-10 in his last six starts.
- **Olin Browne** is also T4 after a 6-under 66, his best first-round score of the season. The 66 also matches his best score in 28 rounds at the SAS Championship. He is currently No. 50 in the Charles Schwab Cup.
- In his first round as the Charles Schwab Cup leader, **Scott McCarron** opened with a 1-over 73 and is T47.
- Defending champion **Colin Montgomerie** is T28 after a first-round 71.
- The 78-player field includes 19 players outside the top-72 of the Charles Schwab Cup standings. **Mark Brooks** is in a four-way tie for ninth after a first-round 68, and he is currently projected to improve from No. 82 to 71. After this week, the top-72 players will advance to the third-annual Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs, which begins next week at the Dominion Energy Charity Classic in Richmond, Virginia.
- Another way into the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs is via the Wildcard, which would go to a player who posts a top-10 this week but finishes outside the top-72 on the money list after the SAS Championship. **Dudley Hart** entered the week No. 89 in the standings, and he is a Wildcard possibility after opening with a 3-under 69 (T13).
- Should a player earn the Wildcard, he would bump the 72nd-ranked player out of the Playoffs. Currently, Michael Allen is 72nd (\$131,843) and he is not in this week's field.