



The Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex

Old Course at St. Andrews | St. Andrews, Scotland | July 26-29, 2018

Third-Round Notes

Saturday, July 28, 2018

Course Setup: Par 72 / 7,216 yards (R3 average: 73.891; Cumulative: 73.246)

Weather: Mostly cloudy skies with scattered showers in the morning. Mostly sunny in the afternoon with a high in the low 70s. Wind from the ESE at 15-25 mph.

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	Player	To Par	Scores
1.	Miguel Angel Jimenez	-9	68-67-72 – 207
T2.	Tom Pernice Jr.	-7	70-68-71 – 209
T2.	Kirk Triplett	-7	65-71-73 – 209
T2.	Bernhard Langer	-7	67-69-73 – 209
T2.	Stephen Ames	-7	66-69-74 – 209

Quick Links:

- [Leaderboard](#) | [Tee Times](#)
- [PGATOURmedia.com](#) (transcripts and other resources available for download)

Miguel Angel Jimenez, 68-67-72 – 207 (-9)

- Jimenez carded four birdies, including this [long putt on No. 12](#), en route to a third-round 72. Among the leading five players, Jimenez was the only player that was not over par on the inward nine Saturday.
- Jimenez birdied both par 5s on Saturday, making him 6-under on the six par 5s this week (4 birdies, 1 eagle).
- On the week, Jimenez is 8-under on the back nine. The field's cumulative scoring average on the back nine this week is 37.876, or 5.628-over par (cumulative).
- Entering this week, Jimenez has won three out of nine times when starting the final round with the lead/co-lead. In senior majors, he is 1-for-3 in converting 54-hole leads/co-leads into victories. Most recently, he won the 2018 Regions Tradition as the 54-hole leader.
- This marks the fourth time Jimenez will play in Sunday's final group this season. He is 1-for-3 in converting those opportunities into wins.
- Jimenez and Jerry Kelly are the only two players with top-10s in each of the first four majors this year, and entering the week Jimenez led the Tour in scoring average at majors (68.25).
- He played in four Open Championships at St. Andrews, and his best finish was T26 in 2000.
- Jimenez has three top-10s in four starts at The Senior Open Championship, with his best being a T3 in 2016.
- In all, Jimenez has eight top-10s this season and is No. 3 in the Charles Schwab Cup.

Third-Round Lead Notes

- Since 2003, the third-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win this tournament eight of 15 times: Bernhard Langer (2017, 2014, 2010), Marco Dawson (2015), Russ Cochran (2011), Loren Roberts (2006), Tom Watson (2005) and Pete Oakley (2004).
- In this year's four majors, one player has turned a 54-hole lead/co-lead into a victory. At the Regions Tradition, Miguel Angel Jimenez started the final round with a three-shot lead and he went on to win by three.

Tom Pernice Jr., 70-68-71 – 209 (-7)

- Pernice carded four birdies and holed out for eagle on No. 9 en route to a 1-under 71. He is tied for second, which matches his best position through 54 holes at a major (2012 U.S. Senior Open).
- Pernice will play in Sunday's final group for the third time this season. The previous two instances:
 - Toshiba Classic – Led by 1; carded a final-round 69 (-2) and finished T2.
 - In斯perity Invitational – T2 and trailed by 1; carded a final-round 71 (-1) and finished T5.
- He needed just 27 putts on Saturday, and he leads the field with just 86 putts through 54 holes.
- In 34 career starts in senior majors, he has five top-10s, including two at The Senior Open (T8/2013, T3/2014).

Bernhard Langer, 67-69-73 – 209 (-7)

- After missing just three greens in the first two rounds, Langer hit 14 of 18 greens Saturday and needed 33 putts in his 1-over 73.
- Langer was the 54-hole leader/co-leader in eight of his 10 major victories. His final-round, come-from-behind wins were:
 - 2017 Regions Tradition – T3/trailed by two; shot final-round 64 and won by five
 - 2017 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship – 2nd/trailed by one; shot final-round 68 and won by one
- If Langer goes on to win, he would become the second player in Tour history to win a major four times. Four of Hale Irwin's seven major titles came at the KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship (1996, 1997, 1998, 2004).

Kirk Triplett, 65-71-73 – 209 (-7)

- Triplett birdied three of his first six holes and was 11-under, but he's two shots off the pace after finishing the day with a 1-over 73.
- This is the second time this season that Triplett is among the top five after 54 holes in a major. He was T3 entering Sunday at the U.S. Senior Open, and he went on to finish T8.
- He has 13 top-10s in 28 starts in senior majors, and his only top-10 at The Senior Open was a T8 in 2014.

Stephen Ames, 66-69-74 – 209 (-7)

- Ames was part of the 7 a.m. restart, as he needed to play No. 18 to complete his second round. He started the day tied for the lead, and he finished in a four-way tie for second after carding a third-round 74.
- Prior to this week, Ames' best position through 54 holes at a major was T8 at the 2017 U.S. Senior Open.
- He has two top-10s in 15 starts in senior majors, and his best finish at The Senior Open was T18 in 2016.

Tom Watson, 69-68-73 – 210 (-6)

- Watson [holed an eagle putt](#) from off the green on No. 5 to move to 9-under and earn a share of the lead for the first time. He birdied No. 13 and led by two at 10-under, but he fell off the pace after a double bogey on No. 14 and bogeys on Nos. 16 and 17.
- Watson's last win came at the 2011 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship at the age of 61 years, 8 months, 25 days. In all, he has six senior major titles and 14 wins on PGA TOUR Champions.
- A win Sunday would be his first in 7 years, 2 months, the second-longest gap between victories in PGA TOUR Champions history.
- On Sunday, Watson will be 68 years, 10 months, 25 days old.
 - **Oldest player to win on PGA TOUR Champions:** Mike Fetchick (63 years to the day), 1985 Hilton Head Seniors Invitational
 - **Oldest player to win a senior major:** Jock Hutchison (62 years, 7 months, 5 days), 1947 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship
 - **Oldest player to win The Senior Open:** Gary Player (61 years, 8 months, 26 days), 1997
 - **Oldest player to finish top five in a senior major:** Hale Irwin (66 years, 11 months, 24 days) finished third at the 2012 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship
- Like Langer, Watson is a three-time Senior Open champion and with a win, he would become just the second player to win the same senior major four times.

Other Notes

- First-round co-leader **Thaworn Wiratchant** is T6 at 6-under after shooting 69, one of the three best rounds Saturday (Billy Andrade, T11/-5; Duffy Waldorf, T24/-2). His countryman **Prayad Marksaeng** is also T6 after shooting 70 for the third day in a row.
- **Scott McCarron** birdied four of his first five holes, and he's T6 at 6-under after shooting a third-round 70. He has three top-five finishes in senior majors this year, the most recent being a T4 at the Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship.
- **Tom Lehman** is the fifth player tied for sixth at 6-under. Winner of the 1996 Open Championship, Lehman's best finish in The Senior Open is a T10 in 2012.
- Thursday's first round (11:30 a.m. – 2:08 p.m. ET) delivered 204,000 average viewers, becoming the most-watched first round at The Senior Open Championship in nine years, and most watched first round of any PGA TOUR Champions major in the past eight years (2010 U.S. Senior Open).