



CHAMPIONS

## The Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex

Royal Lytham & St. Annes | Lytham, United Kingdom | July 25-28, 2019

### FINAL First-Round Notes

Friday, July 26, 2019

**Course Setup:** Par 70 / 6,948 yards (R1 average: 73.618)

**Weather:** Partly cloudy with morning temperatures around 70. Winds from the SSE at 5-10 mph.

**Note:** The first round resumed at 7:10 a.m. Friday with 24 players needing to complete their rounds. Second-round tee times began at 6:40 a.m., as scheduled.

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

	Player	To Par	Scores
T1.	Paul Broadhurst	-3	34-33 – 67
T1.	Wes Short Jr.	-3	35-32 – 67
T1.	Scott Dunlap	-3	33-34 – 67
T1.	Scott Parel	-3	33-34 – 67
T5.	Colin Montgomerie	-2	34-34 – 68
T5.	Darren Clarke	-2	35-33 – 68
T5.	Four others	-2	-

#### Quick Links:

- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-round tee times](#) (TV coverage: 7-9:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. – 2 p.m. on Golf Channel)
- [PGATOURmedia.com](#) (transcripts and other resources available for download)

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#### Scott Parel, 33-34 – 67 (-3)

- Parel completed his first-round 67 with a par on the 18th hole Friday morning. It was his best score in nine rounds at The Senior Open.
- The 3-under 67 marked his ninth consecutive under-par first round, including all five majors this season. Among players that played all four majors, he entered the week with the fourth-best major scoring average (70.06).
- This is the sixth time he's been a first-round leader/co-leader on PGA TOUR Champions, and the fourth time this season. He entered the week with a first-round scoring average of 68.60, the third lowest on Tour.
- He has seven top-10s this season, including five in his last six starts, and is coming off a T4 finish at the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship. He is currently No. 4 in the Charles Schwab Cup.
- Parel went to PGA TOUR Champions Q-School in 2014 and 2015 but failed to earn status. In 2016, he Monday qualified eight times, advanced to the second event of the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs and earned his card by winning Q-School that December. He has two wins and earned over \$4 million in his four years on Tour.
- Parel attended the University of Georgia, but did not play college golf, electing instead to focus on his studies in computer science. He worked as a computer programmer and database administrator for 10 years following college and did not turn pro until 1996 (age 31).

### **Paul Broadhurst, 34-33 – 67 (-3)**

- Broadhurst eagled the par-4 13th to go along with four birdies and three bogeys en route to a 3-under 67, his best first-round score of the season.
- Entering this week, Broadhurst had been a first-round leader/co-leader just twice on PGA TOUR Champions, and never at a major.
- When The Open was played at Lytham in 1996, Broadhurst opened with a 65 and led by two. He closed with rounds of 72-74-71 and finished T26.
- Winner of the 2016 Senior Open, Broadhurst is aiming to become the tournament's eighth multiple winner.
- This season, two of his four top-10s came in majors (T6/Regions Tradition, 3rd/KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship) and entering this week, he had the fifth-best major scoring average among players that played all four majors (70.13). He is currently No. 15 in the Charles Schwab Cup.

### **Wes Short Jr., 35-32 – 67 (-3)**

- Short was 4-under on the inward nine, with birdies on Nos. 10 and 16 and an eagle on No. 11, and posted a 67, which matched his lowest first-round score of the season (4-under 67 at the Chubb Classic).
- Entering this week, Short has been a first-round leader/co-leader four times on PGA TOUR Champions, including once in a major (2018 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship).
- After finishing T7 in 2016, Short has missed the cut the last two years at The Senior Open.
- His lone victory on PGA TOUR Champions came in his rookie season (2014 Quebec Championship). He has advanced to the Charles Schwab Cup Championship each of his five seasons on Tour, and he finished a career-best 18th in last year's final standings.
- Short's only top-10 of the season was a T5 at the Rapiscan Systems Classic and his best result in the season's first four majors was T24 at both the U.S. Senior Open and Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship. He started the week No. 44 in the Charles Schwab Cup.

### **Scott Dunlap, 33-34 – 67 (-3)**

- Dunlap turned in a 3-under 67, one of just two bogey-free rounds Thursday and his best score of the season.
- After having surgery on his left wrist in the off-season, Dunlap has suffered the effects of Parsonage-Turner Syndrome, a peripheral nerve disorder that causes pain in the forearm. He did not play golf from December 2018 through mid-April 2019, and this week is just his fourth start of the season.
- He made the cut in each of the last three majors and his best finish was T39 at the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship.
- His professional career includes wins on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica, Canadian Tour, Sunshine Tour and Korn Ferry Tour (formerly Web.com Tour). He won the Boeing Classic in 2014 and later that year he was named PGA TOUR Champions Rookie of the Year.
- He has top-20 finishes in four of his five starts at The Senior Open (best: T6/2014).

### **First-Round Lead Notes**

- This season, a first-round leader/co-leader has won six out of 16 tournaments. At the four majors, Steve Stricker is the only player to convert a first-round lead/co-lead into a victory (U.S. Senior Open).
- Since 2003, the first-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win The Senior Open Championship seven of 16 times. Most recently, Bernhard Langer went on to win in 2017 after opening with a 2-under 69 (led by one).
- This is the second time this season the first-round lead was shared by four players (Insperty Invitational).

### **Darren Clarke, 35-33 – 68 (-2)**

- After a 1-over 35 on the outward nine, Clarke was 3-under coming in and is T5 at 2-under 68.
- When The Open was played at Royal Lytham & St. Annes in 2001, Clarke was T21 after a first-round 70. He closed with rounds of 69-69-70 and finished T3, four shots behind David Duval.
- Winner of The Open Championship in 2011, Clarke is looking to join Tom Watson, Gary Player and Bob Charles as the only players to win both The Open and The Senior Open.

- The last two senior majors have been won by players making his tournament debut (Steve Stricker/U.S. Senior Open, Retief Goosen/Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship). Clarke would be The Senior Open's eighth champion to win in his debut.
- This season, Clarke has three top-10s and is currently 29th in the Charles Schwab Cup.

#### **Colin Montgomerie, 34-34 – 68 (-2)**

- Montgomerie tallied one of two bogey-free rounds Thursday, as birdies on Nos. 11 and 15 produced a 2-under 68.
- When The Open was played at Royal Lytham & St. Annes in 2001, Montgomerie led by three after a first-round 65. He stayed one stroke ahead after a second-round 70, but shot 73-72 on the weekend and finished T13.
- He has two top-three finishes (3rd/2015, 2nd/2014) in six starts at The Senior Open. He has 13 top-10s in 32 starts in senior majors, including three victories.
- Montgomerie has six wins on PGA TOUR Champions, but none since the 2017 SAS Championship. A win this week would break a winless drought of 43 starts on PGA TOUR Champions. This season, he has five top-10s and is currently No. 19 in the Charles Schwab Cup.

#### **Other Notes**

- **Ken Duke** was 3-under through 16 holes when play was suspended Thursday evening. He bogeyed No. 17 Friday morning and posted a first-round 68. Duke has one top-10 in his rookie season on Tour and entered the week 47th in the Charles Schwab Cup.
- **Woody Austin** was 4-under through 13 holes but was 2-over on his last five holes and finished at 2-under 68. He has top-20 finishes in all four majors this season (best: T7/Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship) and is currently 12th in the Charles Schwab Cup.
- **Magnus P. Atlevi** tallied four back-nine birdies and posted a 2-under 68. The Swede tied for ninth at last week's WINSTONgolf Senior Open on the Staysure Tour in Germany and he has two top-10s (T6/2017, T3/2016) in three Senior Opens.
- **Tom Gillis** was the sixth player to record a 2-under 68 on Thursday. He has one top-10 this season and is 62nd in the Charles Schwab Cup.
- In his tournament debut, 1999 Open Champion **Paul Lawrie** bogeyed 17 and 18 to finish at even-par 70.
- **Tom Lehman**, winner of The Open at Royal Lytham & St. Annes in 1996, carded a first-round 70.
- Defending champion **Miguel Angel Jimenez** opened with a 1-over 71.
- Three-time Senior Open Championship winner **Bernhard Langer** opened with a 71.
- Making his 56th combined start in The Open or The Senior Open, **Tom Watson** carded a 4-over 74.