



Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship

Firestone Country Club | Akron, Ohio | August 12-16, 2020

PGA TOUR Media Contacts

- Laura Veccovi – lauravescovi@pgatourhq.com, 904-465-5924
- Jackie Servais – jackieservais@pgatourhq.com, 303-249-6439

Quick Facts

- Golf Course: Firestone Country Club (Par 70 / 7,400 yards)
- Designed by: Bert Way and Robert Trent Jones (1929)
- Purse: \$3,000,000 (Winner: \$450,000)
- Golf Channel (local times): Thurs-Fri, 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.; Sat, 3:00 – 5:00 p.m.; Sun, 2:30 – 5:00 p.m.
- Social Media: @seniorplayers ([Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#))

Field Overview (as of 8/11/20)

The 38th annual Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship comes to Akron, Ohio and will be contested at Firestone Country Club for the second straight year. The event is the fourth-oldest on PGA TOUR Champions and formerly one that rotated venues but will now be contested at Firestone through 2022. **Retief Goosen** will return to defend his title, and will be joined by eight other past champions of the event: **Vijay Singh** (2018), **Scott McCarron** (2017), **Bernhard Langer** (2014, 2015, 2016), **Kenny Perry** (2013), **Fred Couples** (2011), **Mark O'Meara** (2010), **Jay Haas** (2009), and **Loren Roberts** (2007). The field features 14 players making their tournament debuts, including **Ernie Els**, **Mike Weir** and Charles Schwab Cup leader **Brett Quigley**.

Additional field highlights:

- Seven members of the World Golf Hall of Fame
- Three players who have won a professional event at Firestone (Singh, World Golf Championships 2008; Clarke, World Golf Championships 2003; Frost, NEC World Series of Golf 1989)
- Seven Charles Schwab Cup champions in the field spanning 13 years
- 65 PGA TOUR winners with 386 total career victories
- 53 PGA TOUR Champions winners with 268 total career victories
- 24 with a PGA TOUR Champions major title; 19 with a PGA TOUR major title

2019 Recap: Goosen Grabs First Senior Major Title

With birdies on the last two holes, Retief Goosen won by two strokes with a 6-under total and captured his first senior major title at the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship. It marked the 17th time the tournament was won by a member of the World Golf Hall of Fame and the first PGA TOUR-sanctioned win for Goosen since 2009.

Goosen is coming off a T2 finish at The Ally Challenge, where he posted three rounds in the 60s and closed with a final-round 66. It was his second top-10 of the season and he's currently No. 9 in the Charles Schwab Cup.

Retief Goosen press conference: 9:45 a.m. Wednesday (flash area at clubhouse)

Couples Returns to Firestone

Fred Couples, the 2019 Ambassador of Golf recipient, returns to Firestone Country Club this week. In addition to being a two-time winner of THE PLAYERS Championship (1984, 1996) Couples also won the Masters in 1992 when he came from one stroke behind on the final day, ultimately defeating Raymond Floyd by two strokes. His Masters win completed a remarkable stretch where he won three times and finished runner-up twice in six starts. He went on to become No. 1 in the Official World Golf Ranking after his Masters victory and maintained that position for 16 weeks. It marked the first time an American player achieved the No. 1 ranking since the advent of the OWGR.

This week marks Couples' seventh start at the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS. He has three top-five finishes, including a win in 2011 when the event was played at Westchester Country Club in Harrison, New York. He has top-10 finishes in all four of his starts this season, including a T2 finish in his last start at the Hoag Classic.

Fred Couples press conference: 10:30 a.m. Wednesday (scrum, on the range)

Stricker Steps into SENIOR PLAYERS Field

Wisconsin native Steve Stricker will make his second start of the season on PGA TOUR Champions. Stricker finished T5 in his first appearance of the year at the Cologuard Classic and since golf's return has made five starts on the PGA TOUR. His best finish on TOUR this season was a T18 finish at the Memorial Tournament presented by Nationwide. He did not make the cut at last week's PGA Championship.

In 23 career starts on PGA TOUR Champions, Stricker has already collected five wins, including two senior major titles. Both victories came in 2019, when he posted a six-shot victory at the Regions Tradition and a record-setting performance at the U.S. Senior Open, as his 19-under total was six shots clear of Jerry Kelly and David Toms. It was the 21st time a player won multiple majors in a season and it marked the eighth-straight year it happened.

Last year, Stricker finished in sixth place at the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship after opening with a 6-under 64. The 12-time PGA TOUR winner has a history with Firestone Country Club as he played in eight World Golf Championship-Bridgestone Invitationals, highlighted by a T2 finish in 2012, in addition to one start at the NEC World Series of Golf in 1996 where he also finished T2.

Steve Stricker press conference: 10:15 a.m. Wednesday (flash area at clubhouse)

Langer Loves the SENIOR PLAYERS

Bernhard Langer has won the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS three times and is the only player in history to have earned the wins in three consecutive years (2014-16). A 41-time winner on PGA TOUR Champions, Langer holds the record for most Charles Schwab Cup wins (5), senior major victories (11) and tops the all-time money list (\$29,245,262). He owns one victory this season (Cologuard Classic) and is currently No. 2 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings.

Bernhard Langer press conference: 10:00 a.m. Wednesday (interview room)

Charles Schwab Cup Underway

Five of the season's six winners occupy the top five spots in the Charles Schwab Cup standings, led by rookie Brett Quigley. Reigning Charles Schwab Cup champion Scott McCarron is No. 19, while defending Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS winner Retief Goosen is No. 9.

Player	Money	Season Summary
1. Brett Quigley	\$641,687	Won Morocco Champions

2. Bernhard Langer	\$592,137	Won Cologuard Classic
3. Scott Parel	\$469,737	Won Chubb Classic
4. Ernie Els	\$465,916	Won Hoag Classic
5. M.A. Jiménez	\$443,732	Won Mitsubishi Electric Championship

Major Winners in the Field

Of the 81 players in this year's field, 19 have won 28 major titles on the PGA TOUR. As a group they have won 386 PGA TOUR events and 268 more on PGA TOUR Champions. Below is a list of those who claimed major titles on the PGA TOUR.

Masters	U.S. Open	Open Championship	PGA Championship
Angel Cabrera (2009)	Angel Cabrera (2007)	Ernie Els (2002, 2012)	Vijay Singh ('98, '04)
Mike Weir (2003)	Retief Goosen (2001, '04)	Darren Clarke (2011)	Shaun Micheel (2003)
Vijay Singh (2000)	Lee Janzen ('93, '98)	Mark O'Meara (1998)	David Toms (2001)
Mark O'Meara (1998)	Ernie Els ('94, '97)	Tom Lehman (1996)	Mark Brooks (1996)
Bernhard Langer ('85, '93)	Corey Pavin (1995)	John Daly (1995)	John Daly (1991)
Fred Couples (1992)		Mark Calcavecchia (1989)	Jeff Sluman (1988)
Larry Mize (1987)			

First Timers in the Field

Fourteen PGA TOUR Champions players will make their Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship debut at this year's event including: Doug Barron, Angel Cabrera, Darren Clarke, Ernie Els, Dudley Hart, Tim Herron, Robert Karlsson, Stephen Leaney, Frank Lickliter II, David Morland IV, Rod Pampling, Dicky Pride, Brett Quigley and Mike Weir.

- **Àngel Cabrera:** Cabrera won the 2009 Masters and 2007 U.S. Open, two of his three PGA TOUR victories. He made 11 starts at Firestone for the World Golf Championships-FedEx St. Jude Invitational and claimed three finishes in the top five. Cabrera has seven starts on PGA TOUR Champions, five coming this season, and is coming off a T27 finish at The Ally Challenge.
- **Darren Clarke:** In addition to his 2011 Open Championship title, Clarke owns two other PGA TOUR victories. The Irishman competed at Firestone 12 times for the World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational and claimed the title in 2003. Clarke has made 32 starts in three years on PGA TOUR Champions. His best finish came in 2019 when he finished runner-up to Mark O'Meara at the Cologuard Classic.
- **Ernie Els:** Els is a 19-time PGA TOUR winner and four-time PGA TOUR major winner. His most recent major win came at The Open Championship in 2012. The South African made 15 starts at the World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational at Firestone, with his best finish being fifth place in 1999. In just four starts on PGA TOUR Champions, Els already owns a title. He was the last winner on Tour before golf's break at the Hoag Classic where he defeated Fred Couples by two strokes.
- **Brett Quigley:** Brett Quigley turned 50 on August 18, 2019, and in his second career start on Tour, he closed with weekend rounds of 66-66 to win the Morocco Champions. He followed it up with a T9 finish at the Chubb Classic and a T3 at the Cologuard Classic, and he is currently No. 1 in the Charles Schwab Cup.
- **Mike Weir:** Weir is the only Canadian to win a PGA TOUR major and has eight wins total. This season, he has made five starts on the Korn Ferry Tour, with his best finish being T17 at the LECOM Suncoast Classic. Weir made 10 starts at Firestone for the World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational and finished six of those in the top 25.

From Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS to THE PLAYERS

Ever since Bobby Wadkins won in 2006, the winner of the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship has earned an exemption into the subsequent year's PLAYERS Championship. The tradition will continue in 2021, as this week's champion will earn a spot in The PLAYERS Championship next year (March 9-4, 2021). Additionally, Retief Goosen will once again be granted the exemption earned from his 2019 win due to the cancelation of THE PLAYERS in March of 2020. In all, the exemption has been used 11 times, and Mark O'Meara is the only player of this group that has made the cut.

Year	Player	Scores (Finish)
2020	Retief Goosen	(CNL)*
2019	Vijay Singh	73-76 (MC)
2018	Scott McCarron	79-73 (MC)
2017	Bernhard Langer	71-78 (MC)
2016	Bernhard Langer	72-72 (MC)
2015	Bernhard Langer	73-73 (MC)
2014	Kenny Perry	77-70 (MC)
2013	Joe Daley	78-77 (MC)
2012	Fred Couples	DNP
2011	Mark O'Meara	66-74-79-77 (74th)
2010	Jay Haas	71-73 (MC)
2009	D.A. Weibring	WD
2008	Loren Roberts	DNP
2007	Bobby Wadkins	77-75 (MC)

*Due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, the 2020 PLAYERS Championship was canceled.

Four PGA TOUR Champions players in the field this week have won THE PLAYERS Championship:

Year	Player	Score (Finish)	Runner Up
2006	Stephen Ames	274 / -14	Retief Goosen
2005	Fred Funk	279 / -9	Luke Donald Tom Lehman Scott Verplank
1996	Fred Couples	270 / -18	Colin Montgomerie Tommy Tolles
1995	Lee Janzen	283 / -5	Bernhard Langer
1984	Fred Couples	277 / -11	Lee Trevino

Field Includes Seven Former Charles Schwab Cup Winners

Seven Charles Schwab Cup winners have qualified for the 2020 Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship. This list includes **Jay Haas** (2006, '08), **Loren Roberts** (2007, '09), **Bernhard Langer** (2010, '14, '15, '16, '18), **Kenny Perry** (2013), **Tom Lehman** (2011, '12) and **Kevin Sutherland** (2017) and **Scott McCarron** (2019).

Field Has International Flavor

This year's field includes players from 14 countries. In addition to the United States, players hail from England (Paul Broadhurst), Fiji (Vijay Singh), Mexico (Esteban Toledo), Germany (Bernhard Langer), South Africa (Ernie Els, Retief Goosen and David Frost), Scotland (Colin Montgomerie), Spain (Miguel Angel Jiménez), Sweden (Robert Karlsson,

Jesper Parnevik), Paraguay (Carlos Franco), Canada (Stephen Ames, Mike Weir), Argentina (Àngel Cabrera), Australia (Stephen Leaney, David McKenzie and Rod Pampling) and Northern Ireland (Darren Clarke).

PGA TOUR Champions combines 2020-21 seasons

Due to the circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic, 12 PGA TOUR Champions tournaments have been canceled from the original 27-tournament schedule. In an effort to uphold the competitive integrity of the Charles Schwab Cup, PGA TOUR Champions has combined the 2020 and 2021 seasons and formed a singular 2020-21 season.

In addition, other measures were taken to offset some of the impact made by the cancellation of tournaments.

- In 2020, the field size of tournaments will increase from 78 to 81 players.
- In 2020, the three Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs events will be converted into 81-player fields.
- The Charles Schwab Cup Championship will be reduced from 72 to 54 holes.

Players will retain their 2020 eligibility in 2021, except for the five players in the Q-School category, who will play their guaranteed events. Additionally, the 2020 PGA TOUR Champions Qualifying Tournament will not be conducted, and player awards will not be presented at the end of 2020.

PGA TOUR Champions schedule and tournament recaps

1. **Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai:** Miguel Angel Jiménez birdied the second extra hole to win the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai for the second time in his career. Jiménez became the tournament's eighth repeat champion (2015, 2020) and he extended his streak to seven consecutive years with a victory, the Tour's second-longest active streak.
2. **Morocco Champions:** Brett Quigley won the inaugural Morocco Champions in Marrakech in his second PGA TOUR Champions start, saving par on the final two holes on Saturday to hold off Stephen Ames by one stroke. Winless in 408 career starts on the PGA TOUR, Quigley's win was his first in a PGA TOUR-sanctioned event since 2001 on the Korn Ferry Tour.
3. **Chubb Classic:** Scott Parel closed with an 8-under 63 to erase a three-shot deficit and win the Chubb Classic by two with a tournament record-tying 17-under total. It was the third win of his career and he moved to No. 1 in the Charles Schwab Cup for the first time in his career.
4. **Cologuard Classic:** Bernhard Langer came from four strokes back to claim his 41st victory on PGA TOUR Champions, just four wins short of all-time leader Hale Irwin. The victory marked Langer's 14th straight year with at least one win as he became the fifth oldest to claim a title.
5. **Hoag Classic:** Ernie Els birdied two of the last four holes to win the Hoag Classic with a 15-under total. Making his third start on Tour, Els won for the first time since the 2013 BMW International Open on the European Tour and he became the 30th World Golf Hall of Fame member to win on PGA TOUR Champions.
6. **The Ally Challenge:** Jim Furyk won The Ally Challenge presented by McLaren in his PGA TOUR Champions debut, carding a bogey-free 68 Sunday to win by two over Retief Goosen and Brett Quigley. With the victory, Furyk became the 19th player to win his Tour debut and he broke a winless streak of 5 years, 3 months, 14 days.
7. **Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship**
8. **Charles Schwab Series at Bass Pro Shops Big Cedar Lodge**
9. **Charles Schwab Series at Ozarks National**
10. **Sanford International**
11. **PURE Insurance Championship**

12. **Regions Tradition**
13. **SAS Championship**
14. **Dominion Energy Charity Classic**
15. **Boca Raton Championship**
16. **Charles Schwab Cup Championship**