



Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship

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

First Round Notes

Thursday, August 13, 2020

Course Setup: Par 70 / 7,400 yards (R1: 73.929)

Weather: Mostly sunny with a high of 90. Winds out of the NE 6-12 mph.

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	Player	To Par	Scores
T1.	Miguel Angel Jiménez	-2	35-33—68
T1.	Wes Short Jr	-2	35-33—68
T1.	Steve Stricker	-2	33-35—68
T1.	Jerry Kelly	-2	34-34—68
T1.	Rod Pampling	-2	36-32—68

Quick Links:

- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-Round Tee Times](#) (Golf Channel coverage: 11 a.m. – 2 p.m. ET)
- [PGATOURmedia.com](#) (transcripts and other resources available for download)

Miguel Angel Jiménez, 35-33—68 (-2)

- This is the 11th time Jimenez is the leader/co-leader after 18 holes on PGA TOUR Champions and the second time this season (Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai). In a 72-hole event on PGA TOUR Champions, he has converted that lead into a victory once (2018 Regions Tradition).
- In four starts at the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS championship, Jiménez' best finish was T2 at his first appearance in 2016.
- Jiménez won the season-opening Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai in a playoff over Ernie Els and Fred Couples and went on to post three finishes in the top 25 in his next four starts.
- Two weeks ago, he was T2 after a first-round 64 at the Hero Open, which marked his record-breaking 707th career start on the European Tour.

- Jiménez has claimed at least one victory in each of his seven seasons on PGA TOUR Champions. He owns nine titles, including two major titles (2018 Regions Tradition, 2018 Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex).

Steve Stricker, 33-35—68 (-2)

- Making just his second start on PGA TOUR Champions this season, Stricker co-leads after 18 holes with a 2-under 68.
- It is the fifth time Stricker is the leader/co-leader after 18 holes on PGA TOUR Champions. He has led/co-led after eight of the 16 rounds in the four majors in which he competed last season.
- Stricker has made 10 starts this year on the PGA TOUR and five since golf's return in June. His best finish came with round of 73-67-77-73 at The Memorial Tournament Presented by Nationwide for a T18 finish.
- Stricker held the 18-hole lead at the 2019 Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship, but ultimately finished in sixth place.
- Stricker had four top-10s in nine starts at Firestone Country Club on the PGA TOUR. He had a 69.69 scoring average and 19 of his 36 rounds were in the 60s (best: 64, R4/2012 World Golf Championships-Bridgestone Invitational).
- Stricker is seeking his third major championship title. He has recorded four top-10 finishes in six major starts, including wins at the 2019 Regions Tradition and 2019 U.S. Senior Open Championship.
 - T13, 2017 Regions Tradition
 - T2, 2018 Regions Tradition
 - 1st, 2019 Regions Tradition
 - T41, 2019 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship
 - 1st, 2019 U.S. Senior Open Championship
 - 6th, 2019 Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship

Jerry Kelly, 34-34—68 (-2)

- 2020 marks Kelly's fourth start at the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship. His best finish was T4 in 2018 when the major championship was played at Exmoor Country Club in Highland Park, IL.
- His opening round 68 ties his best first-round score of the season. The first 68 was recorded at the Chubb Classic where he went on to finish T28.
- Kelly is seeking his first major championship victory. This is the second time he has led after the first round in a major championship. The first was the 2018 U.S. Senior Open Championship when he finished T2.
- He competed in last week's Ally Challenge where the PGA TOUR Champions season resumed at Warwick Hills and finished T7.
- Before competing at The Ally Challenge, he played the PGA TOUR's Workday Charity Open at Muirfield Village (T22). It was his second start on the PGA TOUR this season, first playing at the Sony Open in Hawaii.
- This week marks Kelly's 15th major championship since joining the Tour in 2017. In his first 14 starts he has placed in the top-5 five times, highlighted by second place finishes in back-to-back years at the U.S. Senior Open Championship.

First-Round Lead Notes

- This year's opening round scoring average of 73.929 (+3.929) records as the highest in tournament history since the 2016 opening round at Philadelphia Cricket Club (+3.963).
- A 2-under 68 marks the highest opening round score by a leader since Scott McCarron shot a 4-under 68 in the opening round of the 2019 Mitsubishi Electric Classic.
- Marks the most players tied for the opening round lead since six players shared the lead at the 2018 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship.
- Since 1990, the first-round leader/co-leader has gone on to win this tournament six times. Most recently, Bernhard Langer led wire-to-wire and won in 2015.

Other Notes

- **Wes Short Jr** recorded an opening round 2-under 68 to share a five-way lead in the opening round. The start is Short's seventh at the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship and his best finish at the event came in 2016 in fifth place. Short has made six starts this season on PGA TOUR Champions and owns two top-five finishes.
- **Rod Pamplig** co-leads in his first start at the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship with an opening round 2-under 68. It is just the second time on PGA TOUR Champions he has shared the lead following 18 holes of play (2019 PURE Insurance Championship). He has competed in seven events on Tour and is seeking his first victory.
- Defending Champion, **Retief Goosen** recorded a 5-over 70 to sit T45. Goosen also shot a 5-over 75 in the third round of the 2019 event, but ultimately went on to win.
- In his first start at the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship, Charles Schwab Cup leader **Brett Quigley** recorded a 3-over 73 to sit T30. Quigley won the inaugural Morocco Champions and finished runner-up in his last start at The Ally Challenge.
- Reigning Charles Schwab Cup Champion and winner of the 2017 Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship, **Scott McCarron** opened with a 1-over 71 to sit T12.
- **Fred Funk** withdrew following 10 holes of play due to injury.