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CHAMPIONSHIP  
*at Hualalai*

## Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai

Hualalai Golf Course | Ka'upulehu-Kona, Hawaii | January 13-18, 2020

### PGA TOUR Media Contact

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### Quick Facts

- Golf Course: Hualalai Golf Course (Par 72 / 7,107 yards)
- Designed by: Jack Nicklaus (1993)
- Purse: \$1,800,000 (Winner: \$310,000)
- Golf Channel Coverage: Thursday, Friday and Saturday live from 7-10 p.m. ET
- Social Media: @mec\_golf ([Instagram](#), [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#))

### Field Overview

The Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai includes tournament champions from the 2018 and 2019 seasons, winners of PGA TOUR Champions majors since 2015, eight additional invitees based on career PGA TOUR wins and major championship titles, and World Golf Hall of Fame members who played a minimum of eight PGA TOUR Champions events in 2019. The 11 World Golf Hall of Fame members committed to compete include Fred Couples, Ernie Els, Retief Goosen, Hale Irwin, Bernhard Langer, Davis Love III, Sandy Lyle, Colin Montgomerie, Mark O'Meara, Vijay Singh and Tom Watson. The field also includes seven players who have won the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai since the event moved to Hualalai Golf Course in 1997: **Hale Irwin** (2007, 1997), **Fred Funk** (2008), **Tom Watson** (2010), **Bernhard Langer** (2017, 2014, 2009), **Miguel Ángel Jiménez** (2015), **Jerry Kelly** (2018) and **Tom Lehman** (2019).

- 11 World Golf Hall of Fame members in the field
- 7 players who have won the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai
- 14 players who have a combined total of 33 major titles on the PGA TOUR
- Of the 38 players in the field, 30 have won a combined 280 PGA TOUR events
- Of the 38 players in the field, 35 have won a combined 266 PGA TOUR Champions events
- 8 Charles Schwab Cup champions with 16 combined titles
- Six players in the field have won a collective 17 Player of the Year awards

### 2019 Recap: Tom Lehman captures first victory of the season

Throughout the first two rounds of competition at the 2019 Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, the front-runner poised to take home the win was Louisiana-native David Toms. Toms entered the final round with a four-stroke lead ahead of Tom Lehman, but slowly lost the advantage as Lehman rallied from behind to win the season-opening event on Saturday. The then 59-year-old Lehman closed with his second straight 7-under 65 for a one-stroke victory.

Lehman returns this week to the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai to defend his title. Should he successfully defend, he would be just the second player in tournament history to win back-to-back events. The first to

do so was Al Geiberger ('92, '93). Lehman has a strong history at Hualalai, with two runner-up finishes in addition to his 2019 win.

### **THE PLAYERS Champions in the Field**

The field at Hualalai includes four players who have won THE PLAYERS Championship a combined six times: Fred Couples (1984, 1996), Sandy Lyle (1987), Davis Love III (1992, 2003) and Fred Funk (2005).

### **Major Winners in the Field**

Of the 38 players in this year's field, 14 have won 33 major titles on the PGA TOUR. As a group they have won 280 PGA TOUR events and 266 on PGA TOUR Champions. Below is a list of those who claimed major titles on the PGA TOUR.

<b>Masters</b>	<b>PGA Championship</b>	<b>U.S. Open</b>	<b>Open Championship</b>
Vijay Singh (2000)	Vijay Singh ('98, '04)	Hale Irwin ('74, '79, '90)	Tom Watson ('75, '77, '80, '82, '83)
Mark O'Meara (1998)	Jeff Sluman (1988)	Tom Watson (1982)	Mark O'Meara (1998)
Bernhard Langer ('85, '93)	John Daly (1991)	Ernie Els (1994, 1997)	Tom Lehman (1996)
Fred Couples (1992)	Davis Love III (1997)	Retief Goosen (2001, '04)	Mark Calcavecchia (1989)
Tom Watson ('77, '81)			Sandy Lyle (1985)
Sandy Lyle (1988)			John Daly (1995)
			Ernie Els (2002, 2012)

### **McCarron Made his Mark**

In each of his first three seasons on PGA TOUR Champions, Scott McCarron finished within the top five positions of the Charles Schwab Cup standings (2016 – 4th, 2017 – 3rd, 2018 – 2nd). In 2019, after leading the standings for 21 consecutive weeks, McCarron finally secured the title. His journey to the ultimate prize consisted of three victories, three runner-up finishes and 14 top-10s. Due to his season-long performance, McCarron was named the recipient of the 2019 Jack Nicklaus Award as the PGA TOUR Champions Player of the Year.

McCarron won the player vote over six other Player of the Year candidates: Jerry Kelly, who won three times and finished second in the Charles Schwab Cup standings; Steve Stricker, who won two major championships; and Bernhard Langer, Kevin Sutherland, Kirk Triplett and Miguel Ángel Jiménez, who each won twice. Coupled with the Jack Nicklaus Award, the 54-year-old also won the Arnold Palmer Award (leading money winner) for the first time in his career after earning over \$2.5 million last season.

- 2019 season summary: 3 wins, 3 runner-ups, 14 top-10s
- Wins: Mitsubishi Electric Classic, In斯perity Invitational, Mastercard Japan Championship
- 2019 scoring average: 69.53 (6th)
- 2019 winnings: \$2,534,090
- Career winnings: \$9,111,334 in 110 starts
- Career victories: 11

### **First Timers at Hualalai**

This year's field includes three players making their debuts at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. New faces include Doug Barron, Ernie Els and Retief Goosen.

- **Doug Barron:** Barron entered his rookie season on PGA TOUR Champions in 2019, making his first start in July at The Senior Open Championship where he finished tied for fifth. The Tennessee resident went on to win his first title at the DICK'S Sporting Goods Open where he shot a bogey-free 6-under 66 in the final round in just his second start on Tour. With the victory, he became the first player in Champions Tour history to win after going through pre-qualifying and open qualifying for the event. Barron qualified for the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs, competed in all three events and ultimately finished the season ranked No. 34.

- **Ernie Els:** A 19-time PGA TOUR winner, Ernie Els turned 50 on October 17, 2019, and will make his PGA TOUR Champions debut this week at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. During his time on the PGA TOUR, he captured three wins in Hawaii, first at the Sentry Tournament of Champions in 2003, followed by back-to-back wins at the Sony Open ('03, '04), and recorded a total of 11 top-10s between both events.
- **Retief Goosen:** Goosen, who turned 50 in February of 2019, was the recipient of the 2019 Rookie of the Year award. The South African was also presented with the Byron Nelson Award for finishing with the lowest scoring average (69.14) of the season, making him the first rookie to win the award since 2010. Goosen's rookie campaign included 12 top-10s and was highlighted by a win at the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship, where he birdied the final two holes to win his first PGA TOUR Champions title. The World Golf Hall of Fame member finished the season ranked No. 3 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings after nearly winning the season-ending Charles Schwab Cup Championship, only to lose on the third playoff hole against Jeff Maggert.

### **Other Players to Watch**

- **Fred Couples:** Couples will make his 11th consecutive start at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship. Although historically a high performer in Hualalai, Couples has yet to capture a win. In 10 starts, the Newport Beach, California, resident has posted three second-place finishes (2010, '14, '17) and finished outside the top 10 only twice. After his T5 finish at the 2019 MEC at Hualalai, Couples went on to make 11 more starts with near wins at the DICK'S Sporting Goods Open (second) and his hometown event, the Boeing Classic (T3).
- **Bernhard Langer:** The 62-year-old made 22 starts in 2019, which included two victories (Oasis Championship, The Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex), 12 top-10s and two runner-up finishes. A victory at Hualalai in 2020 would be the 41<sup>st</sup> of his PGA TOUR Champions career, moving the Boca Raton, Florida, resident closer to breaking the all-time victories mark on Tour, held by Hale Irwin with 45. Langer has won at least twice every season since 2012. In his 12 starts at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship, He has captured three wins and finished outside the top-10 just three times. He returns to Hualalai this week after finishing T3 in 2019.
- **Jerry Kelly:** Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai 2018 champion Jerry Kelly has continued to be a force on PGA TOUR Champions, finishing the 2019 season ranked No. 2 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings. The Wisconsin native posted three victories last season (American Family Insurance Championship, The Ally Challenge, SAS Championship) in addition to two second-place finishes, three third-place finishes and 14 total top-10s. He will make his third start at Hualalai this week after a first-place finish in 2018 and a T3 in 2019.
- **Colin Montgomerie:** This week, World Golf Hall of Fame member Colin Montgomerie enters his eighth season on PGA TOUR Champions and his sixth start at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. His best finish was in 2018 where he held a two-shot lead through 36 holes but bogeyed the final hole of regulation to fall one shot shy of the title. In 2019 he finished the limited-field event with a solo seventh-place finish and went on to end the season strong with T4 or better performances in each Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs event, including a win at the Invesco QQQ Championship. He finished the season ranked No. 5, his fourth top-five finish in the standings.

### **Field Includes Eight Former Charles Schwab Cup Winners**

The eight Charles Schwab Cup winners who have qualified for the 2020 event have won 16 of the 19 Schwab Cups. This list includes: Hale Irwin (2002, '04), Tom Watson (2003, '05), Jay Haas (2006, '08), Langer (2010, '14, '15, '16, '18), Kenny Perry (2013), Tom Lehman (2011, '12), Kevin Sutherland (2017) and defending champion Scott McCarron (2019). The two Charles Schwab Cup champions missing from the field are Allen Doyle and Loren Roberts, who no longer compete regularly on Tour.

### **Player of the Year Recipients in the Field**

Seven players in the field hold 18 Jack Nicklaus Player of the Year awards: Hale Irwin (1997, '98, '02); Tom Watson (2003); Jay Haas (2006, '07); Bernhard Langer (2008, '09, '10, '14, '15, '16, '17, '18); Tom Lehman (2011, '12), Kenny Perry (2013) and Scott McCarron (2019).

### **High Performers from Start to Finish**

Over the years, there have been three players who began their season with a victory at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai and ended it as recipient of the Player of the Year Award. Those players are Hale Irwin (1997), Dana Quigley (2005) and Bernhard Langer (2009, '14, '17).

### **Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai – Past Champions, Scores and Runners Up**

Champions since the event moved to Hualalai Golf Course in 1997.

<b>Year</b>	<b>Champion</b>	<b>Score</b>	<b>Runner Up</b>
2019	Tom Lehman	199 / -17	David Toms
2018	Jerry Kelly	198 / -18	Colin Montgomerie
2017^	Bernhard Langer	129 / -15	Fred Couples
2016	Duffy Waldorf	198 / -18	Tom Lehman
2015	Miguel Angel Jiménez	199 / -17	Mark O'Meara
2014	Bernhard Langer	194 / -22	Fred Couples, Jeff Sluman
2013	John Cook*	199 / -17	David Frost
2012	Dan Forsman	201 / -15	Jay Don Blake
2011	John Cook	194 / -22	Tom Lehman
2010	Tom Watson	194 / -22	Fred Couples
2009	Bernhard Langer	198 / -18	Andy Bean
2008	Fred Funk	195 / -21	Allen Doyle
2007	Hale Irwin	193 / -23	Tom Kite, Jim Thorpe
2006	Loren Roberts	191 / -25	Don Pooley
2005	Dana Quigley*	198 / -18	Tom Watson
2004	Fuzzy Zoeller	196 / -20	Dana Quigley
2003	Dana Quigley	198 / -18	Larry Nelson
2002	Tom Kite	199 / -17	John Jacobs
2001	Larry Nelson	197 / -19	Jim Thorpe
2000	George Archer	207 / -9	Hale Irwin, Graham Marsh, Dana Quigley, Lee Trevino
1999	John Jacobs	203 / -13	Jim Colbert, Raymond Floyd
1998	Gil Morgan	195 / -21	Gibby Gilbert, Hale Irwin
1997	Hale Irwin	209 / -7	Gil Morgan

\* Won by playoff | ^ 36-hole tournament

### **Tournament History**

- The Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai was first played as the Senior Tournament of Champions in 1984 and the venue was La Costa Country Club in Carlsbad, Calif., from 1984-94. The limited-field tournament then moved to the Hyatt Dorado Beach in Puerto Rico from 1995-96 before relocating again to Hualalai on the Big Island in 1997. Miller Barber (1986, '89), Al Geiberger (1992, '93), George Archer (1990 and 2000), Dana Quigley (2003, '05), John Cook (2011, '13), Hale Irwin (1997 and 2007) and Bernhard Langer (2010, '14, '17) have all won this event multiple times with Archer being the only player to claim titles at two different venues (1990 at La Costa and 2000 at Hualalai). This will be the 12th year for Mitsubishi Electric as title sponsor of the event.

- As it begins its 24<sup>th</sup> year at the Hualalai Golf Course, the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai holds the distinction of being the longest-running event on PGA TOUR Champions held at the same venue. The Hoag Classic held that distinction previously at 21 years through 2016 but was not on the 2017 schedule due to a move from the fall to the spring, although it did return to the schedule in 2018.
- Ten players have claimed this championship in their first appearances, including recent champions Jerry Kelly (2018), Miguel Angel Jiménez (2015) and Duffy Waldorf (2016). Prior to Jiménez, the last to do so was Loren Roberts (2006). Others to accomplish the feat are John Jacobs (1999), John Bland (1996), George Archer (1990), Dave Hill (1988), Peter Thomson (1985) and Orville Moody (1984).
- Hale Irwin's 2007 win at Hualalai came at 61 years, 7 months, 18 days, making him the oldest winner in event history. Tom Watson's victory in 2010 at 60 years, 4 months, 20 days made him the second-oldest winner. Only one other player over 60 has claimed this title and that was George Archer in 2000 when he won for the second time (60 years, 3 months, 23 days). Archer was also the youngest winner in event history (50 years, 3 months, 6 days) when he won at La Costa in 1990.

### **Field Has International Flavor**

This year's field includes players from six countries outside the United States: England (Paul Broadhurst), Fiji (Vijay Singh), Germany (Bernhard Langer), Scotland (Colin Montgomerie and Sandy Lyle), Spain (Miguel Angel Jiménez) and South Africa (Ernie Els and Retief Goosen).

### **The 2020 Rookie Class**

For players to become eligible to compete for PGA TOUR Champions events they must turn 50 years of age by the first competition round. If a player plays less than six tournaments in his first season of eligibility, he is considered a rookie the following season. Newcomers for 2020 with at least one PGA TOUR win include:

- Ernie Els (October 17, 2019)
- Tim Herron (February 6, 2020)
- Jim Furyk (May 12, 2020)
- Mike Weir (May 12, 2020)
- K.J. Choi (May 19, 2020)
- Phil Mickelson (June 16, 2020)

## ***2020 PGA TOUR Champions Schedule***

1. Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai
2. Morocco Champions
3. Chubb Classic
4. Cologuard Classic
5. Hoag Classic
6. Rapiscan Systems Classic
7. Mitsubishi Electric Classic
8. Insperity Invitational
9. Regions Tradition
10. KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship
11. Principal Charity Classic
12. American Family Insurance Championship
13. Mastercard Japan Championship
14. U.S. Senior Open Championship
15. Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship
16. Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex
17. The Ally Challenge
18. DICK'S Sporting Goods Open
19. Boeing Classic
20. Shaw Charity Classic

21. Sanford International
22. PURE Insurance Championship
23. Ascension Charity Classic
24. SAS Championship
25. Dominion Energy Charity Classic
26. Boca Raton Championship
27. Charles Schwab Cup Championship