



CHAMPIONSHIP  
*at Hualalai*

## Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai

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

### Final-Round Notes

Saturday, January 18, 2020

**Course Setup:** Par 72 / 7,107 yards (R3 scoring average: 69.342)

**Weather:** Sunny with a high of 84 and winds from the N/NW 8-16 mph.

**Purse:** \$1,800,000 (Winner: \$310,000)

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Rank	Player	To Par	Scores
1.	Miguel Ángel Jiménez*	-14	64-71-67 – 202
T2.	Ernie Els	-14	72-65-65 – 202
T2.	Fred Couples	-14	67-68-67 – 202
T4.	Retief Goosen	-12	67-73-64 – 204
T4.	Wes Short Jr.	-12	70-67-67 – 204

*\*Won with a birdie on the second hole of a sudden-death playoff*

#### Quick Links

- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Final-round starting times](#)
- [Charles Schwab Cup Standings](#)

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#### Miguel Ángel Jiménez, 64-71-67—202 (-14)

- Miguel Ángel Jiménez birdied the second playoff hole to defeat World Golf Hall of Fame members Ernie Els and Fred Couples en route to earning his second career victory at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. The Spaniard previously won the event in 2015, and becomes the eighth player all time to win it more than once:
  - Bernhard Langer: 2009, 2014, 2017
  - Miguel Ángel Jiménez: 2015, 2020
  - John Cook: 2011, 2013
  - Hale Irwin: 1997, 2007
  - Dana Quigley: 2003, 2005
  - George Archer: 1990, 2000
  - Al Geiberger: 1992, 1993
  - Miller Barber: 1986, 1989

- With the playoff victory, Jiménez' all-time record in PGA TOUR Champions playoffs moves to 3-2.
  - 2016 3M Championship (lost to Joe Durant on first extra hole)
  - 2017 Rapisan Systems Classic (defeated Gene Sauers on first extra hole)
  - 2017 Invesco QQQ Championship (lost to Bernhard Langer on second extra hole)
  - 2019 Chubb Classic (defeated Olin Browne and Bernhard Langer with par on first extra hole)
  - 2020 Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai (defeated Ernie Els and Fred Couples with birdie on second extra hole)
- The win marked the ninth of Jiménez' Champions Tour career and gives him at least one victory in each of his seven years on PGA TOUR Champions. The only other player on Tour with at least one win each year from 2014 through 2019 is Bernhard Langer.
- With the victory, Jimenez takes the early lead in the 2020 Charles Schwab Cup standings with \$310,000. The native of Málaga, Spain, turned 56 on January 5 of this year.

#### **Ernie Els, 72-65-65—202 (-14)**

- Els posted rounds of 72-65-65—202 (-14) in his PGA TOUR Champions debut to finish T2 on the week after recording pars on each of his two playoff holes. The South African's 14-under total over the last two rounds marked the low closing 36-hole effort in the entire field.
- Els was looking to become the 19<sup>th</sup> player to win in his Champions Tour debut. Players to do so before him:
  - Don January, 1980 Atlantic City International
  - Roberto De Vincenzo, 1980 U.S. Senior Open
  - Arnold Palmer, 1980 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship
  - Rod Funseth, 1983 Hall of Fame Tournament
  - Gary Player, 1985 Quadel Seniors Classic
  - George Archer, 1989 Gatlin Brothers Southwest Senior Classic
  - Jack Nicklaus, 1990 The Tradition
  - Bruce Fleisher, 1999 Royal Caribbean Classic
  - Lanny Wadkins, 2000 Chubb Classic
  - Bobby Wadkins, 2001 Lightpath Long Island Classic
  - Mark McNulty, 2004 Outback Steakhouse Pro-Am
  - Mark Wiebe, 2007 SAS Championship
  - Tom Lehman, 2009 Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf (with Bernhard Langer)
  - Michael Allen, 2009 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship
  - Tom Pernice, Jr., 2009 SAS Championship
  - Rocco Mediate, 2013 Boca Raton Championship
  - Jeff Maggert, 2014 Rapisan Systems Classic
  - Miguel Angel Jimenez, 2014 Mitsubishi Electric Classic
- The finish marked the first top-five for Els in a PGA TOUR-sanctioned event since a solo-fifth-place effort at the 2016 Quicken Loans National – a span of 3 years, 6 months and 23 days.

#### **Fred Couples, 67-68-67—202 (-14)**

- Couples was eliminated from the playoff after missing a 4-foot par putt on the first extra hole. The runner-up effort marked his fourth all-time at Hualalai dating back to his PGA TOUR Champions debut in 2010, when he fell one shot shy of winner Tom Watson. He is the highest-ranked player on the tournament's all-time money list without a victory, sitting in fourth with \$1,237,500 in winnings.
- Couples' last win on the Champions Tour came at the 2017 American Family Insurance Championship. His second-place finish at Hualalai marked his second runner-up (2019 DICK's Sporting Goods Open) since that victory.
- Couples owned a 5-4 playoff record during his PGA TOUR career and is now 2-2 in playoffs during his tenure on PGA TOUR Champions. Prior to today, he lost in overtime at the 2010 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship (Tom Lehman), but proved victorious at the 2011 Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship and 2014 Shaw Charity Classic.
- In 32 career rounds at this tournament, Couples has yet to post a round over par. His final-round scoring average of 66.60 includes rounds of 67 or better in each of the last seven years the final round was contested (tournament was shortened to 36 holes in 2017).

**Retief Goosen, 67-73-64—204 (-12)**

- Retief Goosen, who was named 2019 PGA TOUR Champions Rookie of the Year on Wednesday, posted Saturday's low final round with an 8-under 64, matching the low round of the week. He finished T4, two shots outside of the playoff.
- Goosen was making his debut at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai this week. In 23 starts during his 2019 season, the World Golf Hall of Fame member notched 12 top-10 finishes, including a win at the Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship. His T4 finish gives him five straight top-10 efforts dating back to the close of the 2019 season – a stretch which includes a playoff loss at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship.

**Bernhard Langer, 64-70-71—205 (-11)**

- Bernhard Langer, who was one of four players tied for the lead standing on the 17<sup>th</sup> tee on Saturday, double-bogeyed the penultimate hole and bogeyed the par-4 18th to finish three shots outside of the playoff in a tie for sixth.
- The World Golf Hall of Fame member, who's a three-time champion of this event, now owns 10 top-10 finishes in 13 career starts. In 38 career rounds at Hualalai, he has yet to post a single round over par. His final-round 71 tied the third-worst round of his career at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship.
- Langer is a three-time winner of the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai (2009, 2014, 2017) and is the tournament's all-time money leader with \$1,643,700 in earnings.

**Tournament Notes:**

- The playoff between Jiménez, Els and Couples marked the fifth in tournament history, and the first time a playoff involved three players.
- The winning score of 14-under 202 marked the highest in tournament history at Hualalai Golf Course. The previous high was set by Dan Forsman in 2012 (-15) and later matched by Bernhard Langer in 2017, albeit because the final round was cancelled due to excessive winds.
- Today's playoff marks the sixth straight year of this event being decided by one shot or less. The tournament was decided by exactly one stroke each year from 2015 through 2019.
- The toughest hole of the final round was the par-3 17<sup>th</sup>, where just two birdies were recorded (Scott McCarron, Kevin Sutherland) in the 38-man field for an average of 3.289. Conversely, the easiest hole was the par-5 14<sup>th</sup> with a scoring average of 4.289 and 28 birdies made throughout the round.
- After entering Saturday's final round with a one-shot lead at 11-under par, **Woody Austin** closed in 1-over 73 to finish T9.
- Defending champion **Tom Lehman** posted all three rounds in the 70s and finished the tournament T34 (71-71-73—215).
- Jiménez becomes just the second player over the last 15 years to win at Hualalai after not playing in the final grouping during the final round (John Cook, 2011).