



Morocco Champions

Samanah Golf Club | Marrakech, Morocco | January 27 – February 1, 2020

Media Contacts

Jackie Servais, Jackieservais@pgatourhq.com, 303-249-6439

Quick Facts

- **Golf Course:** Samanah Golf Club
- **Par:** 72; **Yardage:** 7,369
- **Course Designer:** Jack Nicklaus (2008)
- **Purse:** \$2,000,000 (Winner: \$320,000)
- **Golf Channel Coverage (all times ET):** Thursday/Friday: 9:30 a.m. – 12 p.m.; Saturday: 9 a.m. – 12 p.m.
- **Quick Links:** [Tournament Field](#) | [Tee Times](#)
- **Social Media:** Twitter ([@MoroccoChamp](#)), Instagram ([@morocco.champions](#)), [Facebook](#)

Field Overview (as of 1/28/20)

Miguel Angel Jiménez won the season-opening Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai and headlines a 66-player field at the inaugural Morocco Champions, the first PGA TOUR-sanctioned stroke-play event to be contested on the continent of Africa. In all, the field features six members of the World Golf Hall of Fame (**Bernhard Langer**, **Retief Goosen**, **Mark O'Meara**, **Colin Montgomerie**, **José María Olazábal**, **Sandy Lyle**) and 2019 Charles Schwab Cup champion **Scott McCarron**.

Additional field highlights:

- 45 PGA TOUR winners with 196 total career victories
- 41 PGA TOUR Champions winners with 213 total career victories
- 17 with a PGA TOUR Champions major title; 13 with a PGA TOUR major title

Week One Recap: 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, Fred Couples and Ernie Els were tied at 14-under at the end of regulation, and Couples was eliminated after missing a four-foot par putt on the first extra hole. After narrowly missing two tournament-winning birdie putts on No. 18, Jiménez made the most of his third opportunity, as he rolled in a 12-footer on the second playoff hole to secure the victory over Els. With the win, 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 (13, Bernhard Langer).

PGA TOUR Champions Take Africa

Morocco Champions will mark the first PGA TOUR-sanctioned stroke-play event to be contested on the continent of Africa. The 2003 Presidents Cup was famously held on the Links Course at Fancourt Hotel and Country Club in George, South Africa, with the Cup ending in a tie after three playoff holes between South African Ernie Els and Tiger Woods.

Trophee Hassan History

The Hassan II Golf Trophy has been played in Morocco since 1971 and it has been an official European Tour event since 2010. Past winners include current PGA TOUR Champions players Vijay Singh (1991), **Colin Montgomerie** (1997), David Toms (1999), **Roger Chapman** (2000) and Ernie Els (2008). There are 19 players in the field this week who have competed in the event, most recently **Esteban Toledo** who participated in 2019 when the tournament was played at Royal Golf Dar Es Salam in Rabat, Morocco.

Players	Trophee Hassan appearances
Bernhard Langer	1991
Colin Montgomerie	Winner in 1997
Darren Clarke	2007 (2 nd), 2010, 2011
David Frost*	--
Esteban Toledo	2019
J.F Remesy*	--
Jeff Sluman	1985
Jesper Parnevik	1996
John Daly	2012
José Maria Olazabal	2012
Larry Mize	1983
Mark O'Meara	2007, 2008
Paul Broadhurst	1991
Phillip Price	2012
Roger Chapman	Winner in 2000
Sandy Lyle	1980
Stephen Ames	1993, 1994, 1995, 1996
Tom Lehman	1997
Tom Pernice Jr	1998 - 2nd after losing in a playoff to Santiago Luna

*Year unknown due to incomplete records

Jiménez's Strong Start

In the last four tournaments, **Miguel Angel Jiménez** is a Tour-best 59-under par. In this span, he has two wins (Dominion Energy Charity Classic, Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai) and is the only player with top-five finishes in each of the four events.

After winning the season opener, Jiménez is the first Charles Schwab Cup leader of the season. In his career, he has spent eight weeks atop the standings, and he's No. 1 for the first time since September 2018. Should Jiménez hoist the Charles Schwab Cup in November, he'd join Bernhard Langer (2014) as the only players to start and end the season No. 1 in the standings.

Player	Money
1. Miguel Angel Jiménez	\$310,000
T2. Fred Couples	\$170,000
T2. Ernie Els	\$170,000
T4. Wes Short, Jr.	\$101,000
T4. Retief Goosen	\$101,000

Notable Players in the Field

Scott McCarron: McCarron is one of the five past champions of the Charles Schwab Cup in this week's field (others include: Haas, Langer, Lehman, Sutherland). In 2019, McCarron led the standings for 21 consecutive weeks, before finally securing the title. His path to the prize consisted of three victories, three runner-up finishes and 14 top-10s. McCarron was named the recipient of the 2019 Jack Nicklaus Award as the PGA TOUR Champions Player of the Year,

winning the player vote over six other Player of the Year candidates. At the season-opening Mitsubishi Electric Classic at Hualalai, McCarron finished T9.

- 2019 scoring average: 69.53 (6th)
- 2019 winnings: \$2,534,090
- Career victories: 11

Bernhard Langer: The 62-year-old made 22 starts in 2019, which included two victories, 12 top-10s and two runner-up finishes. At the season-opening Mitsubishi Electric Classic at Hualalai, Langer finished T6, just barely missing a playoff opportunity as he double-bogeyed No. 17 and bogeyed No. 18 in the final round. A victory at this week's Morocco Champions would make his 41st victory on PGA TOUR Champions, moving him to closer to breaking the all-time wins record, held by Hale Irwin with 45.

Retief Goosen: Goosen, who turned 50 in February 2019, was the recipient of the 2019 Rookie of the Year award. The South African also received 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. The World Golf Hall of Fame member finished the 2019 season ranked No. 3 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings and began his 2020 campaign with a T4 finish at the season-opening Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai.

Samanah Golf Club

The Samanah Golf Course is an 18-hole, par 72, 7,369-yard Jack Nicklaus design championship course. This season, only two other tournaments are held at Nicklaus-designed courses:

- Harbor Shores (KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship)
- The Club at Snoqualmie Ridge (Boeing Classic)

PGA TOUR Champions – 2020 Season Overview

Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs

The 2020 Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs will begin with 72 players at the Dominion Energy Charity Classic (Oct. 16-18). The top-54 will advance to the Boca Raton Championship (Oct. 30 - Nov. 1), and the season will conclude with the top-36 players at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship (Nov. 5-8), where they will compete for the Charles Schwab Cup.

At the start of the playoffs, each player's regular-season money total will become the equivalent number of points (e.g. \$330,000 equals 330,000 points). During the three Playoffs events, each dollar earned is worth two points, and those points will be added to a player's regular-season point total. After the Dominion Energy Charity Classic, the top 54 players will advance, and after the Boca Raton Championship, the top 36 players will qualify for the season-ending Charles Schwab Cup Championship. The player with the most points at the conclusion of the Charles Schwab Cup Championship will win the Charles Schwab Cup.

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)

Upcoming rookie classes include:

- **2021** – John Senden (April 20, 1971), Stuart Appleby (May 1, 1971), Robert Allenby (July 12, 1971), Padraig Harrington (August 31, 1971)
- **2022** – David Duval (November 9, 1971), Brian Gay (December 14, 1971), Y.E. Yang (January 15, 1972), Justin Leonard (June 15, 1972), Notah Begay II (September 14, 1972)

2020 Schedule

The 2020 schedule features 27 official tournaments in Morocco, Canada, Japan, England and 18 states, with prize money totaling nearly \$59 million. After the 24-event Regular Season, the fifth-annual Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs will determine the winner of the season-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup.

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 (13, Bernhard Langer).
2. Morocco Champions
3. Chubb Classic
4. Colouard 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. The 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