



Chubb Classic presented by SERVPRO

Tiburón Golf Club (Black Course) | Naples, FL | April 16-18, 2021

First-Round Notes

Friday, April 16, 2021

Course Setup: Par 72 / 6,843 yards (R1: 71.988)

Weather: Mostly sunny skies with highs in the mid-80s. Winds out of the W/SW 6-12 mph with gusts up to 15 mph.

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	Player	To Par	Scores
1.	Fred Couples	-9	30-33 – 63 (-9)
2.	Bernhard Langer	-7	32-33 – 65 (-7)
T3.	Gene Sauers	-6	33-33 – 66 (-6)
T3.	Steve Stricker	-6	33-33 – 66 (-6)
T3.	Robert Karlsson	-6	32-34 – 66 (-6)

Quick Links:

- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-Round Tee Times](#) (Golf Channel coverage: 3:00 p.m.– 5:30 p.m. ET)
- [PGATOURmedia.com](#) (transcripts and other resources available for download)

Fred Couples, 30-33 – 63 (-9)

- Posted a bogey-free 9-under 63 marking his lowest round at the Chubb Classic (previous: Rd. 3, 64 in 2010)
- Matched his lowest round of the 2020-21 season (2021 Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, Rd 2).
- Hit all 14 fairways and made nine birdies, including five consecutive birdies on Nos. 5-9.
- A two-time winner of the Chubb Classic (2010, 2017), Couples has finished inside the top eight in all four appearances at the event and finished subpar in all 13 rounds.
- A 13-time winner on PGA TOUR Champions, Couples is seeking his first win in 35 starts, dating back to his victory at the 2017 American Family Insurance Championship.
- Making his 12th start of the 2020-21 season, the 61-year-old has seven top-10s, including a runner-up finish at the 2020 Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai.

Bernhard Langer, 32-33 – 65 (-7)

- Hit all 14 fairways en route to 7-under 65.
- Has carded 15 rounds of par or better, dating back to the first round of the 2020 Dominion Energy Charity Classic in October. During that span, he has 10 rounds in the 60s.

- A three-time winner of the Chubb Classic (2011, 2013, 2016), Langer has 10 top-10s in 13 appearances at the event. In his last two showings in Naples, he has finished T3 (2020) and T2 (2019).
- Has carded eight consecutive rounds in the 60s at the Chubb Classic, dating back to the first round in 2018.
- Has finished in the top 15 in nine consecutive PGA TOUR Champions events, dating back to a T3 at the Sanford International in September 2020. During the 2020-21 season, Langer has one win (2020 Cologuard Classic) and 12 top-10s in 17 tournaments.
- The 41-time winner on PGA TOUR Champions in four wins shy of tying Hale Irwin for the most in TOUR history. Langer has at least one win in each of his 14 seasons on PGA TOUR Champions.

Gene Sauers, 33-33 – 66 (-6)

- Shot 6-under 66 to match his best round at the Chubb Classic (2020 Rd 3). He was the only player in the field to eagle the par-5 sixth hole in the opening round.
- Making his ninth appearance at the Chubb Classic, playing each time since 2013, Sauers is seeking his first top-10 at the event. His best finish is T14 during his first appearance in 2013.
- Has one win on PGA TOUR Champions, the 2016 U.S. Senior Open
- During the 2020-21 season, Sauers has four top-10s in 16 starts, including a T4 at the 2020 SAS Championship. He has finished in the top 15 in three of his last four starts.

Steve Stricker, 33-33 – 66 (-6)

- Carded a bogey-free 6-under 66 and extended his streak of consecutive subpar rounds on PGA TOUR Champions to 13, including nine rounds of 67 or better.
- Stricker's T3 finish at the last PGA TOUR Champions event, the Cologuard Classic, marked his fourth consecutive top-10 finish on PGA TOUR Champions.
- Since the beginning of the 2021 calendar year, Steve Stricker has made four of six cuts on the PGA TOUR, including a T4 finish at the Waste Management Phoenix Open in February.
- Making his third start at the Chubb Classic after finishing T11 in 2019 and T2 in 2018.
- The 54-year-old owns five PGA TOUR Champions victories, four runner-up finishes and 23 finishes inside the top 10.

Robert Karlsson, 32-34 – 66 (-6)

- Making his second Chubb Classic start, Karlsson carded seven birdies to finish with a 6-under 66 on Friday.
- Has finished inside the top 10 in seven of his 14 starts in his rookie season on PGA TOUR Champions including a runner-up finish to Ernie Els at the 2020 Hoag Classic.
- A native of Sweden, Karlsson won 11 times on the European TOUR and competed on two European Ryder Cup teams (2006, 2008).
- In 132 starts on the PGA TOUR from 1995-2016, Karlsson notched two runner-up finishes, 12 finishes in the top 10 and 30 finishes in the top 25.

Other Notes

- 2014 Chubb Classic winner **Kirk Triplett** eagled the par-5 ninth and three birdies en route to a bogey-free 5-under 67 (T6).
- Defending champion **Scott Parel** (T22) birdied three of his last four holes on Friday and finished with a 2-under 70.
- **Darren Clarke** (T36), who entered the week with wins in each of his last two starts (2020 TimberTech Championship, 2021 Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai), posted a 1-under 71 on Friday.

- Charles Schwab Cup leader **Kevin Sutherland** made the lone eagle of the day at the par-5 15th and posted a 2-under 70. The Sacramento native won two of his last three starts (2020 Charles Schwab Cup Championship, 2021 Cologuard Classic).
- Germany's **Alex Cejka**, who turned 50 in December and successfully Monday qualified for his second consecutive event, is T8 at 5-under after carding a first-round 68.
- **Steve Jones** withdrew prior to the start of the first round with a rib injury. **Steve Pate** took his place in the field.