



## Cologuard Classic

Omni Tucson National | Tucson, Arizona | February 22-28, 2021

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### Quick Facts

- **Golf Course:** Omni Tucson National Catalina Course
- **Par:** 73; **Yardage:** 7,218
- **Course Designer:** Robert Bruce Harris/Bruce Devlin (1963)
- **Purse:** \$1,700,000 (Winner: \$255,000)
- **Golf Channel Coverage (all times ET):** Friday: 8:30-10:30 p.m.; Saturday 5-7 p.m.; Sunday 4:30-7 p.m.
- **Quick Links:** [Tournament Field](#) | [Tee Times](#)
- **Social Media:** Twitter ([@CologuardGolf](#)), Instagram ([@cologuard\\_classic](#)), [Facebook](#)

### Field Overview (as of 2/24/21)

The seventh-annual Cologuard Classic returns to Tucson, Arizona, this week with a field of 81 that features defending champion **Bernhard Langer** and Cologuard ambassador **Jerry Kelly**. Arizona State alum **Phil Mickelson** will look to become the first player in PGA TOUR history to win his first three starts, and he'll return to Tucson 30 years after he won his first PGA TOUR event as an amateur. In addition to Mickelson, major champions **Jim Furyk**, **Mike Weir** and **Davis Love III** will also make their tournament debuts.

- 10 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame
  - Fred Couples, Ernie Els, Retief Goosen, Bernhard Langer, Davis Love III, Sandy Lyle, Phil Mickelson, Colin Montgomerie, Mark O'Meara, Vijay Singh
- 60 PGA TOUR winners with 421 total career victories
- 52 PGA TOUR Champions winners with 239 total career victories
- 23 with a PGA TOUR Champions major title; 20 with a PGA TOUR major title

### 2020 Recap: Langer Erases Four-Shot Deficit to Win

At the 2020 Cologuard Classic, **Bernhard Langer** came from four strokes back to claim his 41<sup>st</sup> victory on PGA TOUR Champions, moving just four wins short of all-time leader Hale Irwin. The victory marked Langer's 14<sup>th</sup> straight year with at least one win as he became the fifth-oldest to claim a title (62 years, 6 months, 3 days).

The victory was Langer's Tour-record eighth at age 60 or older and it was the 33<sup>rd</sup> tournament won by a player age 60 or older. Since he made his debut in 2007, Langer's winning percentage is nearly identical at age 50-55 and age 56+.

- Age 56+: 23 wins in 152 starts (15.132%)
- Age 50-55: 18 wins in 119 starts (15.126%)

**Mickelson Goes for Unprecedented Third Consecutive Win**

With a win this week, **Phil Mickelson** would become the first player on a PGA TOUR-sanctioned tour to win his first three starts. In his first two tournaments on PGA TOUR Champions, Mickelson won the 2020 Charles Schwab Series at Ozarks National and the 2020 Dominion Energy Charity Classic. He has shot 68 or better in all six rounds on PGA TOUR Champions for a scoring average of 65.00 during that span.

A World Golf Hall of Fame member, Mickelson returns to the golf course where he played the second round of his historic win as a 20-year-old amateur at the 1991 Northern Telecom Open. No amateur has won on the PGA TOUR since Mickelson's win in Tucson 30 years ago.

Mickelson's connections to the Grand Canyon State go beyond his performance in that event. The 44-time PGA TOUR winner and five-time major champion played collegiately at Arizona State University in Tempe. During his career with the Sun Devils, Mickelson won three NCAA individual championships (1989, 1990, 1992) and received the Haskins Award three times (1990-92), given annually to the most outstanding collegiate golfer.

**Related:** [Loy first started recruiting Mickelson in the late 80s](#) (PGATOUR.com)

**Furyk Returns to Tucson in Good Form**

**Jim Furyk** makes his tournament debut at the Cologuard Classic after finishing in the top 15 in each of his first seven starts on the Champions Tour. Furyk won his first two tournaments (2020 The Ally Challenge, 2020 PURE Insurance Championship) and has shot under par in 20 of his 21 rounds since joining the Champions Tour in August.

Furyk has also enjoyed success on the PGA TOUR during the 2020-21 season, making the cut in all four of his appearances and has shot under par in 14 of his 16 rounds. During last week's The Genesis Invitational, he finished T26 after finishing T21 at the previous week's AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am.

Furyk, who played collegiately at the University of Arizona in Tucson, returns to Omni Tucson National Resort for the first time since he finished T9 at the 1998 Chrysler Classic of Tucson. In eight appearances in the event (which was a PGA TOUR event from 1945 to 2006), Furyk recorded three top-10 finishes. After playing as an amateur in 1988 and 1990, he played each year from 1993 to 1998, finishing a personal-best fifth in the 1995 Chrysler Classic of Tucson.

Furyk returned to nearby Marana, Arizona, for each WGC-Dell Technologies Match Play from 2007 to 2014, held at Ritz-Carlton Golf Club, Dove Mountain. He advanced to the quarterfinals in 2014 as his best showing while the tournament was staged in Marana.

While attending the University of Arizona, Furyk was a two-time All-American and helped the Wildcats capture the 1992 NCAA team championship.

**Kelly Competes as Cologuard Classic Host**

**Jerry Kelly** will make his fifth start at the Cologuard Classic, and third as the official brand ambassador for Cologuard. Kelly's best finish at the event came in 2018 when he finished runner-up to Steve Stricker by two strokes. Last year he finished T54 after rounds of 74-73-70.

Kelly competed at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai in January and was the 36-hole co-leader before going on to finish third. He has five top-10s in the 2020-21 season and is currently No. 6 in the Charles Schwab Cup.

**Stricker Returns to PGA TOUR Champions**

This week, **Steve Stricker** will make his first start on PGA TOUR Champions since the Sanford International in September. Stricker won the Cologuard Classic in 2018 and has finished in the top five in each of his four starts at the event. In 12 rounds at the Omni Tucson National, Stricker holds a 68.25 scoring average and every round has been under par.

Stricker has competed in five events on the PGA TOUR in the 2020-21 season, including a T4 finish at the Waste Management Phoenix Open. Stricker opened with rounds of 65-66 to enter the weekend T2, just one stroke off leader Xander Schauffele. He ultimately finished T4, recording as his best finish on TOUR since the 2016 FedEx St. Jude Classic.

**Related:** [Steve Stricker juggling a lot in 2021, including trying to win](#) (PGATOUR.com)

**Smoltz Back in the Game**

Major League Baseball Hall of Fame pitcher **John Smoltz** will play the Cologuard Classic as a sponsor exemption in his season debut. Smoltz is making his sixth start on PGA TOUR Champions and third at the Cologuard Classic. In his tournament debut in 2019 he finished T53, and last year he finished 71<sup>st</sup>.

**Related:** [Five things with John Smoltz: Talks playing with Tiger, Annika](#) (PGATOUR.com)

**Fresh Faces at the Cologuard Classic**

Eight players will make their Cologuard Classic debut this year: **Shane Bertsch, K.J. Choi, Jim Furyk, Davis Love III, Phil Mickelson** and **Mike Weir**; as well as Monday Qualifiers **Alex Cejka** and **Todd Fischer**.

Before arriving to Arizona, Cejka finished his final round of the Korn Ferry Tour's LECOM Suncoast Classic on Sunday in Lakewood Ranch, Florida around 3 p.m. After his round, he drove to the airport and flew to Arizona – more than 2,000 miles from Lakewood Ranch. In Monday's qualifier at Oro Valley Country Club, Cejka shot 67 to finish in a three-way tie for first and qualified for his start on PGA TOUR Champions. ([Full story](#))

In the tournament's six-year history, two players have won the event in their tournament debut: **Marco Dawson** (2015) and **Woody Austin** (2016).

**Past Champions in the Field**

The 81-player field includes all six of the tournament's past champions: **Bernhard Langer** (2020), **Mark O'Meara** (2019), **Steve Stricker** (2018), **Tom Lehman** (2017), **Woody Austin** (2016) and **Marco Dawson** (2015). They are joined by five winners of the former PGA TOUR event, the Tucson Open, including **Kirk Triplett** (2006), **Jeff Sluman** (1997), **Phil Mickelson** (1996, 1995, 1991) **Larry Mize** (1993), **Lee Janzen** (1992) and **David Frost** (1988).