

Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai

Hualalai Golf Course | Ka'upulehu-Kona, Hawaii | January 19-23, 2021

First-Round Notes

Thursday, January 21, 2021

Course Setup: Par 72 / 7,107 yards (R1 average: 70.095)

Weather: Partly cloudy with a high of 81. Wind from the WSW at 8-16 mph.

Media Contact: [Chris Richards](#) (678-644-4258)

| | Player | To Par | Scores |
|-----|---------------|--------|------------|
| 1. | Retief Goosen | -10 | 30-32 – 62 |
| 2. | Darren Clarke | -9 | 32-31 – 63 |
| T3. | Scott Parel | -8 | 32-32 – 64 |
| T3. | Jerry Kelly | -8 | 32-32 – 64 |

Quick Links:

- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-round tee times](#) (Golf Channel coverage: 2-5 p.m. HST / 7-10 p.m. EST)
- [PGATOURmedia.com](#) (transcripts and other resources available for download)

Retief Goosen, 30-32 – 62 (-10)

- Goosen has posted the round's lowest score the last two rounds at Hualalai. He closed with an 8-under 64 en route to a T4 finish last year, and he's the first-round leader after a 10-under 62 on Thursday.
- He is bogey-free over his last 28 holes at this tournament.
- He matched his career-best score on PGA TOUR Champions (R2/2019 Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship), and [matched his best score as a professional](#).
- This is Goosen's second first-round lead/co-lead and first since the 2019 Ally Challenge (finished T6).
- He posted top-10s in three of his last four starts of 2020, and he is currently No. 10 in the Charles Schwab Cup.

Darren Clarke, 32-31 – 63 (-9)

- In his first start since winning the 2020 TimberTech Championship, Clarke carded a [bogey-free 63](#). Two of his last three rounds of have been 63 or better (R2/62, 2020 TimberTech Championship).
- Clarke hit all 18 greens in regulation Thursday, the first time he has done so on PGA TOUR Champions.
- He is one of six players making his tournament debut this week. Since 1997, five players have won the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai in their tournament debut: Jerry Kelly (2018), Duffy Waldorf (2016), Miguel Ángel Jiménez (2015), Loren Roberts (2006) and John Jacobs (1999).

Other Notes

- **Jerry Kelly** saved par from the bunker [on his last three holes](#) to preserve his round of 8-under 64. The 2018 champion is seeking to become the sixth player with multiple wins at Hualalai Golf Course.
- **Scott Parel** is T3 after opening with an 8-under 64. He has carded first-round scores in the 60s in 10 of 16 starts in the 2020-21 season, and he entered the week No. 3 on Tour in first-round scoring average (68.73).
- Making his tournament debut, **K.J. Choi** carded nine birdies in his first-round 66.
- Three Charles Schwab Cup champions are among the top eight: **Kevin Sutherland** (T5/-6), **Scott McCarron** (7th/-5) and **Bernhard Langer** (T8/-4).
- Defending champion **Miguel Ángel Jiménez** is T14 after opening with a 3-under 69.
- Making his 25th consecutive start at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, **Hale Irwin** shot his age and carded a first-round 75.