



*Classic*



CHAMPIONS

## Mitsubishi Electric Classic

TPC Sugarloaf | Duluth, Georgia | May 14-16, 2021

### First-Round Notes

Friday, May 14, 2021

**Course Setup:** Par 72 / 7,121 yards (R1: 73.802)

**Weather:** Partly cloudy with highs in the low-70s and winds SSE at 2-6 mph.

**Media Contact:**

Connor Stange, [connorstange@pgatourhq.com](mailto:connorstange@pgatourhq.com), 402-560-3758

	Player	To Par	Scores
1.	Stephen Ames	-6	34-32 – 66 (-6)
2.	Paul Goydos	-5	36-31 – 67 (-5)
3.	Gene Sauers	-4	34-34 – 68 (-4)
T4.	John Huston	-3	37-32 – 69 (-3)
T4.	Billy Andrade	-3	33-36 – 69 (-3)

#### Quick Links:

- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-Round Tee Times](#) (Golf Channel coverage: 3:00 p.m.– 6:00 p.m. ET)
- [PGATOURmedia.com](#) (transcripts and other resources available for download)

#### Stephen Ames, 34-32 – 66 (-6)

- After bogeying Hole No. 1, Ames made seven birdies and no bogeys the rest of the way en route to 6-under 66, matching his lowest round at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic (2017 Rd 3). It marks his ninth consecutive round of par or better this season.
- Despite hitting 11 greens in regulation (T48 in the field), Ames led the field with 23 putts and went 6-for-7 scrambling.
- This is Ames' third time leading or co-leading after the first round on PGA TOUR Champions (2019 Chubb Classic, 2020 Morocco Champions).
- Making his 17th start this season, Ames has three top-10s, including last week's Regions Tradition (T10). His best finish during the 2020-21 season is 2nd at the 2020 Morocco Champions.
- The 2017 Mitsubishi Electric Classic is Ames' lone victory on PGA TOUR Champions in 132 starts. He has three top-10s in five appearances at this event (T4, 2015; Win, 2017; T6, 2019).
  - Ames also played at TPC Sugarloaf for the 1998 BellSouth Classic, finishing T19.

### **Paul Goydos, 36-31 – 67 (-5)**

- After playing the front nine in even-par 36, Goydos made five birdies on the back nine en route to 31. He hit all 14 fairways during his round.
- Goydos' first-round 67 matches his lowest round at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic (2016 Rd 3) and marks his lowest round of the 2021 calendar year (13 rounds).
- Goydos' best finish in five appearances at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic is 3rd in 2016.
- Making his 16th start of the season, Goydos' best finish is 3rd at the 2020 Dominion Energy Charity Classic.
- Goydos owns five victories on PGA TOUR Champions, but is seeking his first win since the 2017 3M Championship (70 starts).

### **Gene Sauers, 34-34 – 68 (-4)**

- Made six birdies and two bogeys en route to 4-under 68.
- Making his eighth start at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic, Sauers is seeking his first top 10 at the event.
- After no top-10s in his first nine events of the 2020-21 season, Sauers has five top-10s in his last 10 starts, including a season-best T4 at the 2020 SAS Championship.
- Sauers' lone victory on PGA TOUR Champions was the 2016 U.S. Senior Open Championship. This is his 102nd start since that win.

### **Other Notes**

- **John Huston** and **Billy Andrade** are T4 after each shooting 3-under 69 in the first round. It marked Huston's best round at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic (10 rounds), as he seeks his first top-10 on PGA TOUR Champions since the 2016 Allianz Championship.
- Nine players are T6 after posting 2-under 70 in the first round, including defending champion (2019) **Scott McCarron**, 2014 champion **Miguel Angel Jimenez** and **Jim Furyk**.
- Charles Schwab Cup leader and 2013 Mitsubishi Electric Classic champion **Bernard Langer** sits T29 after carding 1-over 73, snapping his streak of 24 rounds of par or better. **Ernie Els**, currently No. 2 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings, is also T29 after Friday's opening round.
- Baseball Hall of Fame member **John Smoltz**, making his second appearance at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic, shot 12-over 84 and sits 79th.
- **Tommy Armour III** withdrew after the first round.