



# **Regions Tradition**

Greystone Golf & Country Club (Founders Course) | Birmingham, AL | May 3-9, 2021

# **Third-Round Notes**

Saturday, May 8, 2021

**Course Setup:** Par 72 / 7,148 yards (R3: 72.125; Cumulative: 72.946)

Weather: Mostly cloudy skies with highs in the upper 70s. Winds from the SW at 5-10 mph.

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	Player	To Par	Scores
1	Steve Stricker	-14	68-69-65- 202 (-14)
2	Alex Cejka	-13	68-69-66- 203 (-13)
T3	Robert Karlsson	-11	71-70-64- 205 (-11)
T3	Dicky Pride	-11	69-69-67- 205 (-11)

#### **Quick Links:**

- Leaderboard
- Final-Round Tee Times (Golf Channel coverage: 2:00 p.m 4:30 p.m. CT)
- <u>PGATOURmedia.com</u> (transcripts and other resources available for download)

# Steve Stricker, 68-69-65-202 (-14)

- With a 25-foot eagle putt on No. 18, Stricker finished with a 7-under par 65 to edge Cejka by one heading into the Sunday's final round
- Tomorrow marks the third consecutive year that defending champion Stricker will play in the final group at the Regions Tradition (runner-up to Miguael Angel Jimenez in 2018)
- He has successfully converted both prior 54-hole leads on PGA TOUR Champions into a win (2019 Regions Tradition, 2019 U.S. Senior Open Championship)
- Seeking his seventh victory on PGA TOUR Champions after winning in his last start at the Chubb Classic
- Has finished in the top 10 in six of his seven starts on PGA TOUR Champions during the 2020-21 season
- The 54-year-old has 24 top-10s and is currently No. 16 in Charles Schwab Cup standings
- The 12-time PGA TOUR winner has made four of six cuts on TOUR since January, including a T4 finish at the Waste Management Phoenix Open in February

#### Alex Cejka, 68-69-66-203 (-13)

Currently playing out of the all-time money category (#82) with limited status, Cejka gained entry into the event
as an alternate when Jay Haas withdrew on Monday

- Successfully Monday qualified for his first two PGA TOUR Champions starts. Earned a berth into next week's Mitsubishi Electric Classic at TPC Sugarloaf in Duluth, Georgia with his T2 finish at the Chubb Classic
- Fled Communist Czechoslovakia (now Czech Republic) at age 9 as a refugee, traveling by foot and train, by swimming and biking with his father to Yugoslavia, Italy and Switzerland before settling in Frankfurt, Germany
- When most of the sports world was on hold due to COVID-19, Cejka played on the Arizona-based Outlaw Tour, one of the few professional golf tours in operation during the pandemic, where he won two events
- Four-time winner on the European Tour who earned a PGA TOUR title at the 2015 Puerto Rico Open
- Represented Germany at the 2016 Olympics with Martin Kaymer
- With a win tomorrow, Cejka would be fully exempt for the rest of the 2020-21 season and all of 2022. He'd gain a five-year exemption into both this event and the season-opening Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai.

## Robert Karlsson, 71-70-64-205 (-11)

- Karlsson's bogey free 8-under 64 matches his best on PGA TOUR Champions (Rd. 3, Dominion Energy Charity Classic) and ties the third-round tournament scoring record (five times, most recently Joe Ozaki in 2008)
- Has eight top-10 finishes in 16 starts including a pair of T2 finishes, most recently at the Chubb Classic
- Currently No. 10 in Charles Schwab Cup standings
- Worked with coach Mark Blackburn, currently Director of Instruction at Greystone Golf and Country Club's Legacy course
- 11-time winner on the European Tour who is seeking his first win since the 2010 Dubai World Championship
- Led the European Tour's Order of Merit in 2008 and was a two-time member of the European Ryder Cup team
- Native of Sweden, Karlsson currently resides in Charlotte, North Carolina
- 2021 European Ryder Cup captain Padraig Harrington, who becomes Champions Tour eligible on August 31, has selected Karlsson as his first vice-captain

# Dicky Pride, 69-69-67-205 (-11)

- Playing on a sponsor exemption, Pride is making his 10<sup>th</sup> start on PGA TOUR Champions (best finish: T12 2020 Sanford International)
- Played golf at the University of Alabama. His father, Dick Pride Jr., served as the Crimson Tide men's golf coach from 1961-64
- Pride does not currently have any status on PGA TOUR Champions and must Monday qualify or receive a sponsor exemption to gain entry into events
- With a win tomorrow, he would be fully exempt for the rest of the 2020-21 season and all of 2022. He'd gain a five-year exemption into both this event and the season-opening Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai.

# **Other Notes**

- Two-time Regions Tradition champion and current Charles Schwab Cup leader **Bernhard Langer** posted a 3-under 69 on Saturday and is currently T6 (-8)
- Largest come from behind to win at this event: 5 (1991, Jack Nicklaus; 2006 Eduardo Romero)
- Number of playoffs at this event: 9 (most recent: 2015, Jeff Maggert & Kevin Sutherland)
- For the 14<sup>th</sup> consecutive year, the tournament has a solo leader after 54 holes