



SAS Championship

Prestonwood Country Club | Cary, North Carolina | October 15-17, 2021

Media Contact

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Quick Facts

- **Total Purse:** \$2,100,000 | **Winner's Share:** \$315,000
- **Course:** Prestonwood Country Club | **Par:** 72 | **Yardage:** 7,137 | **Designer:** Tom Jackson (1988)
- **TV Coverage (Golf Channel):**
- **Friday:** 2:00 – 5:00 p.m. ET (LIVE)
- **Saturday:** 2:30 – 5:00 p.m. ET (LIVE)
- **Sunday:** 2:30 – 5:00 p.m. ET (LIVE)
- **Quick Links:** [Field](#) | [Tee Times](#) | [Course Information](#)
- **Social Media:** Twitter ([@SASChampionship](#)) | Instagram ([@SASChampionship](#)) | Facebook.com/SASChampionship

Field Overview (as of 10/13/21)

The race to the finish of the 2020-21 Super Season takes a stop in Cary, North Carolina for Wildcard Weekend at Prestonwood Country Club for the 21st-annual SAS Championship. This week's 83-man field includes 2020 SAS Champion and World Golf Hall of Fame member **Ernie Els** as well as six additional Hall of Famers. They will be joined by rookies **Padraig Harrington** and **Stuart Appleby**, as well as seven additional past tournament champions: **Jerry Kelly** (2019), **Bernhard Langer** (2018, 2012), **Colin Montgomerie** (2017), **Tom Lehman** (2015), **Kirk Triplett** (2014), **Kenny Perry** (2011) and **Tom Pernice Jr.** (2009).

- 7 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame: **Ernie Els**, **Retief Goosen**, **Bernhard Langer**, **Davis Love III**, **Colin Montgomerie**, **Jose Maria Olazabal**, **Vijay Singh**
- 61 PGA TOUR winners with 343 total career victories
- 53 PGA TOUR Champions winners with 238 total career victories
- 17 with a PGA TOUR major title
- 23 with a PGA TOUR Champions major title

Wildcard Weekend leads to Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs

Wildcard Weekend offers another opportunity for players to earn one of the 72 postseason berths into the fifth-annual Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs. The leading 72 players on the money list will advance to the playoffs. Should a player post a top-10 finish this week but finish the regular season outside the top-72 on the Charles Schwab Cup money list, he will earn the Wildcard and qualify for the playoffs.

This week's 83-player field includes 20 players that are currently outside the top 72 including **Corey Pavin** (74th), **Davis Love III** (75th), **Michael Allen** (77th), **Fred Funk** (78th), **Steve Pate** (80th) and **David Frost** (81st).

Defending Champion Returns

At last year's SAS Championship, **Ernie Els**'s final-round 66 earned him his second PGA TOUR Champions win with a one-shot victory over Colin Montgomerie after making a 40-foot birdie putt on the final hole. Els most recently finished T4 at Constellation FURYK & FRIENDS after carding rounds of 69-67-71. Entering this week, Els currently sits No. 4 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings after carding two wins (2020 Hoag Classic, 2020 SAS Championship) and 16 top-10s in 32 starts this season.

Staying Strong at No. 1

Two-time SAS Championship winner **Bernhard Langer** (2012, 2018) has led the Charles Schwab Cup standings for 18 weeks this season and most recently finished T7 last week at Constellation FURYK & FRIENDS. Langer has one win (2020 Cologuard Classic) and 22 top-10 finishes in 35 starts during the 2020-21 wraparound season. Since joining the PGA TOUR Champions full time in 2008, the five-time Charles Schwab Cup champion has led the standings 151 weeks and has surpassed \$1 million in winnings for the 10th consecutive year.

Playoffs! Did somebody say playoffs?

After the SAS Championship, the top-72 players will qualify for the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs. This week's field includes 20 players who need to play their way into the Playoffs, which begins Oct. 18-20 at the Dominion Energy Charity Classic in Richmond, Virginia. For the 20 players outside the top-72, there are two ways to qualify for the Playoffs. First, they can earn enough money to finish the regular season in the top-72 on the money list. This scenario is most possible for **Corey Pavin**, **Davis Love III**, **Michael Allen** and **Fred Funk**.

The second way into the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs is via the Wildcard, which would go to a player who posts a top-10 this week but finishes outside the top-72 on the money list after the SAS Championship. The field includes 15 players that trail the 72nd-ranked player by more than \$54,600 (money for a solo 10th-place finish).

Peaking for the Playoffs

- **Jim Furyk** – Serving as tournament host, Furyk finished last week's Constellation FURYK & FRIENDS T4 after carding three consecutive 69s. He remains No. 2 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings after earning three wins (2020 The Ally Challenge, 2020 PURE Insurance Championship, 2021 U.S. Senior Open) and 14th top-10 in 22 starts this season.
- **Padraig Harrington** – Harrington made his debut last week at the Constellation FURYK & FRIENDS after turning 50 on August 31. While on the PGA TOUR, he won five times, was named Player of the Year in 2008 and was the European Ryder Cup Team Captain last month at Whistling Straits.
- **Miguel Angel Jimenez** – Jimenez finished 2nd last week at Constellation FURYK & FRIENDS and held onto his No. 5 spot on the Charles Schwab Cup standings. This season, Jimenez has earned two wins (2020 Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, 2020 Sanford International) and 14 top-10 finishes in 28 starts.

21 Years

The SAS Championship at Prestonwood Country Club celebrates its 21st anniversary this week. Prior to the SAS Championship's first year in 2001, Prestonwood Country Club hosted a Korn Ferry Tour event from 1994-1997. Notable finishers from those Korn Ferry Tour events include **David Toms** (T3/1995), **Tom Byrum** (T19/1995), Joe Durant (T23/1996), **Steve Flesch** (T2/1997) and **Chris DiMarco** (T12/1997). Eight past champions will compete in this week's tournament including **Ernie Els** (2020), **Jerry Kelly** (2019), **Bernhard Langer** (2018, 2012), **Colin Montgomerie** (2017), **Tom Lehman** (2015), **Kirk Triplett** (2014), **Kenny Perry** (2011) and **Tom Pernice Jr.** (2009).

Year	Champion	Scores	To Par	Margin
2020	Ernie Els	70-68-66 – 204	-12	1
2019	Jerry Kelly	68-67-65 – 200	-16	1
2018	Bernhard Langer	62-67-65 – 194	-22	6
2017	Colin Montgomerie	69-67-64 – 200	-16	3
2016	Doug Garwood	65-71-64 – 200	-16	4
2015	Tom Lehman	68-71-65 – 204	-12	1
2014	Kirk Triplett	70-63-69 – 202	-14	3
2013	Russ Cochran	66-66-67 – 199	-17	1
2012	Bernhard Langer	68-72-63 – 203	-13	2
2011	Kenny Perry	66-69-70 – 205	-11	1
2010	Russ Cochran	64-67-71 – 202	-14	2
2009	Tom Pernice, Jr.	67-67-69 – 203	-13	1
2008	Eduardo Romero	68-67-66 – 201	-15	3
2007	Mark Wiebe	65-66-67 – 198	-18	3
2006	Tom Jenkins	68-66 – 134	-10	1
2005	Hale Irwin	69-68-66 – 203	-13	2
2004	Craig Stadler	65-68-66 – 199	-17	6
2003	D.A. Weibring	65-72-66 – 203	-13	1
2002	Bruce Lietzke	72-63-67 – 202	-14	4
2001	Bruce Lietzke	69-68-66 – 201	-15	3

International Flavor

The SAS Championship field features players from 16 countries. In addition to the United States, players hail from Australia (**Robert Allenby, Stuart Appleby, Stephen Leaney, David McKenzie, Rod Pampling, John Senden**), Canada (**Stephen Ames**), England (**Paul Broadhurst, Steven Dodd**), Fiji (**Vijay Singh**), Germany (**Alex Cejka, Bernhard Langer**), Ireland (**Padraig Harrington**), Mexico (**Esteban Toledo**), New Zealand (**Steven Alker, Michael Campbell**), Northern Ireland (**Darren Clarke**), Paraguay (**Carlos Franco**), Scotland (**Colin Montgomerie**), South Africa (**Ernie Els, Retief Goosen, David Frost**), South Korea (**K.J. Choi**), Spain (**Miguel Angel Jimenez, Jose Maria Olazabal**), Sweden (**Robert Karlsson**) and Thailand (**Thongchai Jaidee**).

Rookie Winners

The 2020-21 season has produced 11 rookie winners who have combined to win 17 tournaments. **Phil Mickelson** became the most recent to accomplish this feat last week with his victory at the inaugural Constellation FURYK & FRIENDS.

<u>Player</u>	<u>Wins</u>
Brett Quigley	2020 Morocco Champions
Ernie Els	2020 Hoag Classic 2020 SAS Championship
Jim Furyk	2020 The Ally Challenge PURE Insurance Championship U.S. Senior Open
Shane Bertsch	2020 Charles Schwab Series at Bass Pro Shops Big Cedar Lodge

Phil Mickelson	2020 Charles Schwab Series at Ozarks National 2020 Dominion Energy Charity Classic 2021 Constellation FURYK & FRIENDS
Mike Weir	2021 Insperity Invitational
Alex Cejka	2021 Regions Tradition 2021 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship
Dicky Pride	2021 Mitsubishi Electric Classic
Cameron Beckman	2021 DICK'S Sporting Goods Open
Rod Pampling	2021 Boeing Classic
K.J. Choi	2021 PURE Insurance Championship

Trend of First-Time Winners Continues

The 2020-21 season has produced 13 first-time winners, the most in a single season in PGA TOUR Champions history. The previous record of 11 was set in 1999.

<u>Player</u>	<u>Tournament</u>
Cameron Beckman	2021 DICK'S Sporting Goods Open
Shane Bertsch	2020 Charles Schwab Series at Bass Pro Shops Big Cedar Lodge
Alex Cejka	2021 Regions Tradition
K.J. Choi	2021 PURE Insurance Championship
Darren Clarke	2020 TimberTech Championship
Stephen Dodd	2021 The Senior Open Presented by Rolex
Ernie Els	2020 Hoag Classic
Jim Furyk	2020 The Ally Challenge
Phil Mickelson	2020 Charles Schwab Series at Ozarks National
Brett Quigley	2020 Morocco Champions
Rod Pampling	2021 Boeing Classic
Dicky Pride	2021 Mitsubishi Electric Classic
Mike Weir	2021 Insperity Invitational

Race to the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs

Entering the final tournament of the regular season, **Bernhard Langer** remains in the top slot of the Charles Schwab Cup standings for his second consecutive week and 18th overall week at No. 1 this season. No. 2 **Jim Furyk** is \$127,632 behind Langer and No. 3 **Jerry Kelly** sits \$95,659 behind Furyk. **Ernie Els** and **Miguel Angel Jimenez** round out the top five. This week's field includes eight of the top-10 players in the Charles Schwab Cup standings.

The Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs begin with the Dominion Energy Charity Classic (October 22-24) before the TimberTech Championship (November 5-7) and conclude with the Charles Schwab Cup Championship (November 11-14).

Player	Money	Season Summary	Weeks at #1	Last Week
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1. Bernhard Langer	\$2,773,362	1 win, 22 top-10 finishes in 35 starts	18	1st
2. Jim Furyk	\$2,645,730	3 wins, 14 top-10s in 22 starts	1	2nd
3. Jerry Kelly	\$2,550,071	2 wins, 15 top-10s in 33 starts	7	3rd
4. Ernie Els	\$2,466,043	2 wins, 16 top-10s in 32 starts	2	4th
5. Miguel Angel Jimenez	\$2,364,098	2 wins, 14 top-10s in 28 starts	2	5th