

2023 Charles Schwab Cup Championship

First-Round Notes

Thursday, November 9, 2023

Phoenix Country Club | Phoenix, Arizona

28th of 28 PGA TOUR Champions events in the 2023 Season

3rd of 3 events in the 2023 Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs



Media Contacts:

Julie Nelson, julienelson@pgatourhq.com, 281-961-3569

Doug Milne, dougmilne@pgatourhq.com, 904-614-0657

Connor Stange, connorstange@pgatourhq.com, 402-560-3758

Chris King, chrisking@pgatourhq.com, 720-470-2852

- **Course Setup:** Par 71 / 6,755 yards
- **Round 1 Scoring Average:** 68.829
- **Weather:** Sunny with temps in the high-70s and winds NE at 4-7 mph
- **Interviews:** [Transcripts](#) | [Content Hub](#)
- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-Round Tee Times](#)
- [PGATOURMedia.com](#)
- [Charles Schwab Cup Standings](#)

	Player	To Par	Scores	Schwab Cup Standings	
				Start	Projected
1	Ernie Els	-8	32-31 – 63	5th	2nd
T2	Thongchai Jaidee	-6	31-34 – 65	19th	13th
T2	Harrison Frazar	-6	34-31 – 65	12th	9th
T2	Stephen Ames	-6	32-33 – 65	7th	4th
T5	Retief Goosen	-5	32-34 – 66	31st	18th
T5	Miguel Angel Jimenez	-5	31-35 – 66	11th	8th

Things to Know

- World Golf Hall of Fame member **Ernie Els** opened with bogey-free 63 to take a two-stroke lead over 2023 winners **Thongchai Jaidee**, **Harrison Frazar** and **Stephen Ames**.

Ernie Els, 32-31 – 63 (-8)

Charles Schwab Cup standings – Start: 5th / Projected: 2nd

- Matched his low 18-hole score on PGA TOUR Champions (252nd round)
 - Previous instance: 2021 Dominion Energy Charity Classic (Final Round)
- This is his fourth time leading/co-leading after the first round on PGA TOUR Champions
 - Is 0-for-3 converting those into victories
- The 54-year-old seeks his fourth win on PGA TOUR Champions (81st start)
- Seeks his second win of the 2023 season (23rd start)
 - Previous win: Hoag Classic (March 17-19)
 - Enters the week with four consecutive top-10 finishes (T4-T3-T7-T4)
- Looks to become the sixth multi-time winner this season on PGA TOUR Champions, joining Steve Stricker (6), Stephen Ames (4), David Toms (2), Bernhard Langer (2) and Pdraig Harrington (2)
- Making his third appearance at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship, his best finish is T5 (2020)

Thongchai Jaidee – 31-34 – 65 (-6)

Charles Schwab Cup standings – Start: 19th / Projected: 13th

- Matched his second-lowest 18-hole score on PGA TOUR Champions (176th round)

- Turned 54 years old on Wednesday and seeks his third win on PGA TOUR Champions (58th start)
- Seeks his second win of the 2023 season (25th start)
 - Previous win: PURE Insurance Championship (Sept. 22-24)
- Looks to become the sixth multi-time winner this season on PGA TOUR Champions, joining Steve Stricker (6), Stephen Ames (4), David Toms (2), Bernhard Langer (2) and Padraig Harrington (2)
- Making his second appearance at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship, he finished T12 in 2022

Harrison Frazar, 34-31 – 65 (-6)

Charles Schwab Cup standings – Start: 12th / Projected: 9th

- The 52-year-old seeks his second win on PGA TOUR Champions (43rd start)
- Seeks his second win of the 2023 season (24th start)
 - Previous win: Dominion Energy Charity Classic (Oct. 20-22)
- Looks to become the sixth multi-time winner this season on PGA TOUR Champions, joining Steve Stricker (6), Stephen Ames (4), David Toms (2), Bernhard Langer (2) and Padraig Harrington (2)
- Is making his debut at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship
 - Previous finishes in the Charles Schwab Cup standings: 52nd (2022), 97th (2020-21)

Stephen Ames, 32-33 – 65 (-6)

Charles Schwab Cup standings – Start: 7th / Projected: 4th

- The 59-year-old seeks his seventh win on PGA TOUR Champions (197th start)
- Seeks his fifth win of the 2023 season (23rd start)
 - Previous wins: Trophy Hassan II (Feb. 9-11), Mitsubishi Electric Classic (May 5-7), Principal Charity Classic (June 2-4), Boeing Classic (Aug. 11-13)
- Looks to become the second five-time winner this season on PGA TOUR Champions, joining Steve Stricker (6)
- Making his seventh appearance at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship, he has four top-10 finishes
 - Best finish: T4 (2022)

Other Notes

- **Miguel Angel Jimenez** and World Golf Hall of Fame member **Retief Goosen** sit T5 after each opening with 5-under 66.
- Reigning Charles Schwab Cup winner **Steven Alker** (T7) birdied five of his first six holes but played his final 12 holes in 1-over en route to 4-under 67.
- Charles Schwab No. 2 **Bernhard Langer**, a six-time winner of the Charles Schwab Cup, sits T11 after shooting 3-under 69.
- Defending champion **Padraig Harrington** and 2015 champion **Billy Andrade** are among the players T16 after each opening with 2-under 69.
- Playing as a single in the first tee time of the day, No. 36 **Rob Labritz** (T16) played in 2 hours and 47 minutes.