

2023 Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai



First-Round Notes

Thursday, January 19, 2023

Hualalai Golf Course | Ka'upulehu-Kona, Hawaii

1st of 28 PGA TOUR Champions events in the 2023 Season

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- **Course Setup:** Par 72 / 7,094 yards
- **Round 1 Scoring Average:** 69.476
- **Weather:** Mostly sunny with a high of 81 and winds WNW at 7-14 mph
- **Interviews:** [Transcripts](#) | [Videos](#)
- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-Round Tee Times](#)
- PGATOURMedia.com

	Player	To Par	Scores
T1	Kevin Sutherland	-7	32-33 – 65
T1	Darren Clarke	-7	33-32 – 65
T3	Corey Pavin	-6	34-32 – 66
T3	Mike Weir	-6	33-33 – 66
T3	Justin Leonard	-6	33-33 – 66
T3	Alex Cejka	-6	34-32 – 66
T3	Ernie Els	-6	34-32 – 66

Things to Know

- **Kevin Sutherland** and 2021 champion **Darren Clarke** share the first-round lead, as five players sit one stroke back.
- Sutherland and Clarke were two of five players to go bogey-free on Thursday, along with **Justin Leonard** (T3) **Corey Pavin** (T3) and **Bernhard Langer** (T8).

Kevin Sutherland, 32-33 – 65 (-7)

- This is his sixth time leading/co-leading after the first round on PGA TOUR Champions
 - Is 1-for-5 converting those into victories (2019 Rapiscan Systems Classic)
- 58-year-old seeks his sixth win on PGA TOUR Champions (173rd start)
 - Last win: 2021 Cologuard Classic
- Making his fifth start at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, his best finish is T4 (2021)

Darren Clarke, 33-32 – 65 (-7)

- This is his fifth time leading/co-leading after the first round on PGA TOUR Champions
 - Is 1-for-4 converting those into victories (2021 Sanford International)
- 54-year-old seeks his fifth win on PGA TOUR Championship (83rd start)
 - Last win: 2022 Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex
- Making his third start at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, he won in 2021
 - His first-round scoring average at Hualalai is 64.66

Other Notes

- World Golf Hall of Fame member **Ernie Els** is one of five players T3 after opening with 6-under 66, along with **Corey Pavin**, **Mike Weir**, **Alex Cejka** and **Justin Leonard**, who is making his fifth start on PGA TOUR Champions.

- Defending champion **Miguel Angel Jimenez**, a three-time winner at this event (2015, 2020, 2022), shot 5-under 67 and sits T8.
- Three-time Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai winner **Bernhard Langer** (2009, 2014, 2017) carded a bogey-free 5-under 67 and sits T8.
- Making his 300th start on PGA TOUR Champions, **David Frost** is T11 after carding 4-under 68.
- Reigning PGA TOUR Champions Player of the Year **Steven Alker** opened with 3-under 69 and sits T17, along with 2018 champion **Jerry Kelly** and 2019 champion **Tom Lehman**.