

# 2023 SAS Championship



## First-Round Notes

Friday, October 13, 2023

Prestonwood Country Club | Cary, North Carolina

25th of 28 PGA TOUR Champions events in the 2023 Season

### Media Contact:

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

- **Course Setup:** Par 72 / 7,255 yards
- **Round 1 Scoring Average:** 70.769
- **Weather:** Mostly sunny with temps in the high-70s and winds E at 5-10 mph
- **Interviews:** [Transcripts](#) | [Content Hub](#)
- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-Round Tee Times](#)
- [PGATOURMedia.com](#)

	Player	To Par	Scores
1	Rod Pampling	-6	34-32 – 66
T2	10 players tied	-5	

### Things to Know

- **Rod Pampling** birdied five of his last eight holes on his way to 6-under 66 and holds a one-stroke lead over 10 players.

### Rod Pampling, 34-32 – 66 (-6)

- Matched his low 18-hole score of the 2023 season (75th round)
  - Had shot 66 on five previous instances in 2023
- 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 second win on PGA TOUR Champions (85th start)
  - Last win: 2021 Boeing Classic
- Seeks his first win of the 2023 season (24th start)
  - Has three top-10s this season
    - Best finish: T4 (Principal Charity Classic)
- Making his fifth appearance at the SAS Championship, his best finish is T12 (2019)

### Other Notes

- 10 players are T2 after each opening with 5-under 67:
  - **Jesper Parnevik**, who began the week No. 109 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings, and is projected to earn the "[Wildcard](#)" spot into next week's Dominion Energy Charity Classic.
    - If a player finishes inside the top 10 at the SAS Championship and doesn't get inside the top 72 of the [Charles Schwab Cup standings](#) as a result, he gets an automatic spot into the first Playoffs event.
  - 2014 champion **Kirk Triplett**, who seeks his ninth win on PGA TOUR Champions (Last win: 2019 PURE Insurance Championship).
  - World Golf Hall of Fame member **Vijay Singh**, who seeks his second win of the 2023 season (The Ally Challenge).
  - **Thongchai Jaidee**, who seeks his second win of the 2023 season (PURE Insurance Championship).
  - **Rob Labritz**, who seeks his first win on PGA TOUR Champions (49th start).
  - **Brian Gay**, who seeks his first win on PGA TOUR Champions (31st start).
  - 2020 champion and World Golf Hall of Fame member **Ernie Els**, who seeks his second win of the 2023 season (Hoag Classic).

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- 2019 champion **Jerry Kelly**, who seeks his 12th win on PGA TOUR Champions (Last win: 2022 Shaw Charity Classic).
- Reigning Charles Schwab Cup winner **Steven Alker**, who seeks his second win of the 2023 season (Insperity Invitational).
- World Golf Hall of Fame member **Retief Goosen**, who seeks his third win on PGA TOUR Champions (Last win: 2022 Hoag Classic).
- World Golf Hall of Fame member and two-time champion **Bernhard Langer** (2012, 2018) sits T19 after opening with 3-under 69.

**Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs Bubble Watch**

<b>Rank Entering the Week</b>	<b>Current Projection</b>
70. Michael Jonzon	70. Michael Jonzon
71. Jim Furyk	71. Jim Furyk
72. Jason Bohn	72. Jesper Parnevik
73. Gene Sauers	73. Jason Bohn
74. Carlos Franco	74. Carlos Franco