

## 2023 Ally Challenge presented by McLaren

### First-Round Notes

**Saturday, August 26, 2023**

Warwick Hills Golf & Country Club | Grand Blanc, Michigan

20th of 28 PGA TOUR Champions events in the 2023 Season



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- **Course Setup:** Par 72 / 7,064 yards
- **Round 1 Scoring Average:** 71.321
- **Weather:** Mostly cloudy. High of 72. Wind N 10-15, gusting to 20 mph.
- **Interviews:** [Transcripts](#) | [Content Hub](#)
- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-Round Tee Times](#)
- [PGATOURMedia.com](http://PGATOURMedia.com)

	Player	To Par	Scores
T1	Paul Stankowski	-6	31-35—66
T1	Vijay Singh	-6	34-32—66
T1	Jeff Maggert	-6	30-36—66
T4	Four players	-5	67

#### Things to Know

- Due to heavy rains Thursday night and into Friday morning (3.12"), the first round of The Ally Challenge was postponed until Saturday; preferred lies are in effect for rounds one and two Saturday.
- Seeking his fifth career win on PGA TOUR Champions, and first in five years, 3-time Buick Open winner at Warwick Hills on the PGA TOUR **Vijay Singh** opens with a 6-under 66.
- Tying his low score of the season on PGA TOUR Champions (53 rounds), **Paul Stankowski** opens his second Ally Challenge in 6-under 66.
- Two days older than Singh, **Jeff Maggert** signs for a 6-under 66 a year after closing the event with a 7-under 65 to finish third.
- In his bid to become the fifth player to successfully defend a PGA TOUR Champions title this season, and first since Pdraig Harrington at the DICK'S Sporting Goods Open, **Steve Stricker** opens his second Ally Challenge with a 2-under 70 (T23)

#### Paul Stankowski (31-35—66/-6)

- Making his second start in The Ally Challenge (T23/2022), birdied five of his first eight holes, and seven total, en route to a 6-under 66.
- His 66 marks just his third sub-70 opening-round score on PGA TOUR Champions this season (American Family Insurance Championship/66/finished T17, Shaw Charity Classic presented by Rogers/68/finished T47).
- Best position after 18 holes in 46 previous PGA TOUR Champions starts was T4 (2022 Chubb Classic/T12).
- Making his 17<sup>th</sup> start of the season, highlighted by a pair of T3 finishes (Trophy Hassan II, The Galleri Classic).
- Career-best finish in 46 PGA TOUR Champions before this week: T2/2022 PURE Insurance Championship.
- Best finish in seven Buick Open starts on the PGA TOUR at Warwick Hills was T39/1998.
- Two PGA TOUR wins in 404 starts: 1996 BellSouth Classic, 1997 Sony Open in Hawaii.

#### Vijay Singh (34-32—66/-6)

- Highlighted by five birdies and an eagle-2 at No. 6, 60-year-old opened his fifth Ally Challenge with a 6-under 66.
- Lone top-20 finish in four previous starts in the event was a T7 in his most recent start of 2021.
- Is 0-for-3 when holding an 18-hole lead/co-lead on PGA TOUR Champions.

- No stranger to success at Warwick Hills G&CC, won the Buick Open on the PGA TOUR here in 1997, 2004 and 2005.
- Seeks a fifth career PGA TOUR Champions title in his 129<sup>th</sup> start this week, and first since the 2018 Charles Schwab Cup Championship.
- Best of four top-10 finishes on PGA TOUR Champions this season was solo-third at The Senior Open Championship.

#### **Jeff Maggert (30-36—66/-6)**

- After closing last year's event with a 7-under 65 to finish third, used five birdies and an eagle-2 at No. 9 to open his fifth Ally Challenge with a 6-under 66.
- Is 1-for-3 when attempting to convert an 18-hole lead/co-lead on PGA TOUR Champions into victory (2019 Charles Schwab Cup Championship).
- Seeks a seventh career win on PGA TOUR Champions in his 204<sup>th</sup> start and first since that 2019 win at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship
- Best finish in 17 starts this season before this week was T13 at the Kaulig Companies Championship

#### **Other Notes**

- Defending champion and Charles Schwab Cup leader **Steve Stricker** opened his second Ally Challenge with a 2-under 70 (T23) for the second consecutive year in his bid for a sixth title this season; with a win, would become the fifth player to successfully defend a PGA TOUR Champions title this season and first since Pádraig Harrington (DICK'S Sporting Goods Open); the 70 marks his 42<sup>nd</sup> score of par-or-better in a total of 44 rounds this season.
- In his bid to join Steve Stricker (Regions Tradition, KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship) as players to win in back-to-back starts this season, **Ken Duke** opened with a 1-under 71 (T35) after claiming his first PGA TOUR Champions title at last week's Shaw Charity Classic.
- After leading last week's Shaw Charity Classic by two strokes after each of the first two rounds before settling for his 11<sup>th</sup> PGA TOUR Champions runner-up finish, **Tim Petrovic** opened his sixth Ally Challenge with a 3-under 69 (T11); best of the previous five was T3/2019; remains in search of his first PGA TOUR Champions title.
- Past Ally Challenge winners in the field: **Joe Durant/2021** (67/T4), **Steve Stricker/2022** (70/T23), **Paul Broadhurst/2018** (70/T23), **Jim Furyk/2020** (71/T35), **Jerry Kelly/2019** (72/T50).