

# 2024 Principal Charity Classic



## First-Round Notes

Friday, May 31, 2024

Wakonda Club | Des Moines, Iowa

12th of 28 PGA TOUR Champions events in the 2024 Season

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- **Course Setup:** Par 72 / 6,792 yards
- **Round 1 Scoring Average:** 69.372
- **Weather:** Mostly sunny with temps in the high-70s and winds S/SE at 8-14 mph
- **Interviews:** [Transcripts](#) | [Content Hub](#)
- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-Round Tee Times](#)
- [PGATOURMedia.com](http://PGATOURMedia.com)

	Player	To Par	Scores
1	Ernie Els	-10	30-32 – 62
T2	Stephen Ames	-8	32-32 – 64
T2	Ricardo Gonzalez	-8	33-31 – 64
T2	Vijay Singh	-8	31-33 – 64
T5	Four players tied	-7	

### Things to Know

- World Golf Hall of Fame member **Ernie Els** carded his lowest round on PGA TOUR Champions and matched the low 18-hole score in Principal Charity Classic history.
- Defending champion **Stephen Ames**, World Golf Hall of Fame member **Vijay Singh** and 2024 Trophy Hassan II winner **Ricardo Gonzalez** are T2 at 8-under.
- Birthday boys **Rob Labritz** (53rd birthday) and **Chad Campbell** (50th birthday) sit T5 and T9, respectively.
- Today's 69.37 field scoring average was the lowest first-round scoring average of the 2024 season on PGA TOUR Champions. Thirteen players had bogey-free rounds.

### Ernie Els, 30-32 – 62 (-10)

- This is his low 18-hole score on PGA TOUR Champions (280th round)
  - Previous low: 63 (two times)
- Matched the low 18-hole score in the 23-year history of the Principal Charity Classic
  - This is the third time a player has shot 62 at this event
  - Previous instances: Kirk Triplett, 2012 Final Round; Kevin Sutherland, 2019 Final Round
- This is his sixth time leading/co-leading after the first round on PGA TOUR Champions
  - Is 0-for-5 converting those into victories
- Has led or co-led after four of his last nine rounds on PGA TOUR Champions
- The 54-year-old seeks his fourth win on PGA TOUR Champions (90th start)
  - Last win: 2023 Hoag Classic
- Making his ninth start of the 2024 season, he has three top-10 finishes
  - Best finish: T3 (twice)
- Making his fourth appearance at the Principal Charity Classic, his best finish is T9 (2023)

### Other Notes

- Two-time champion (2021, 2023) **Stephen Ames** opened with bogey-free 64 and sits T2. The Charles Schwab No. 2 seeks his third win of the 2024 season (11th start).
  - Previous wins in 2024: Chubb Classic (Feb. 16-18), Mitsubishi Electric Classic (April 26-28)

- Charles Schwab No. 8 **Ricardo Gonzalez** sits T2 after shooting 8-under 64. The reigning Trophy Hassan II champion seeks his second victory of the 2024 season (10th start).
- World Golf Hall of Fame member **Vijay Singh** sits T2 after carding 64. The 61-year-old seeks his sixth win on PGA TOUR Champions (144th start).
  - Last win: 2023 Ally Challenge
- On his 53rd birthday, **Rob Labritz** posted 7-under 65 and sits T5 along with **Rod Pampling**, **Billy Mayfair** and **Heath Slocum**.
- On his 50th birthday, **Chad Campbell** shot 6-under 66 in his debut on PGA TOUR Champions and sits T9. The other players T9 are **Ken Tanigawa**, 2019 champion **Kevin Sutherland** and reigning Q-School medalist **Cameron Percy**. Percy is making his second start on PGA TOUR Champions after turning 50 on May 5.
- Charles Schwab Cup leader **Steven Alker** birdied four of his first five holes en route to 67 and sits T13.