

2024 Ally Challenge presented by McLaren

First-Round Notes

Friday, August 23, 2024

Warwick Hills Golf & Country Club | Grand Blanc, Michigan

20th of 28 PGA TOUR Champions events in the 2024 Season



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- **Course Setup:** Par 72 / 7,091 yards
- **Round 1 Scoring Average:** 71.767
- **Weather:** Partly cloudy with temps in the high-70s and winds SSW at 5-10 mph
- **Interviews:** [Transcripts](#) | [Content Hub](#)
- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-Round Tee Times](#)
- [PGATOURMedia.com](#)

	Player	To Par	Scores
1	K.J. Choi	-6	34-32 – 66
T2	Rod Pampling	-5	34-33 – 67
T2	Brett Quigley	-5	36-31 – 67
T2	David Branshaw	-5	33-34 – 67
T2	Stewart Cink	-5	34-33 – 67
T6	Five players tied	-4	

Things to Know

- Seeking his second win in four starts, **K.J. Choi** opened with bogey-free 66 to take the first-round lead over a quartet of players at The Ally Challenge presented by McLaren.

K.J. Choi, 34-32 – 66 (-6)

- Matched his low 18-hole score of the 2024 season (57th round)
 - Carded 66 on four previous occasions this year
- This is his fifth time leading/co-leading after the first round on PGA TOUR Champions
 - Is 0-for-4 converting those into victories
- The 54-year-old seeks his third win on PGA TOUR Champions (83rd start)
 - Previous wins: 2021 PURE Insurance Championship; 2024 Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex
- Seeks his second win of the 2024 season (19th start)
 - Previous win: Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex (July 25-28)
 - Would be his second win in his last four starts
 - Entered the week No. 5 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings
- Looks to become the fifth multi-time winner of the 2024 season on PGA TOUR Champions
 - Would join Ernie Els (3), Stephen Ames (3), Richard Bland (2) and Pádraig Harrington (2)
- Making his fifth appearance at The Ally Challenge, his best finish is T4 (2021)

Stewart Cink, 34-33 – 67 (-5)

- The 51-year-old seeks his first win on PGA TOUR Champions (10th start)
 - Best finish: 3rd (2023 KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship); T3 (2024 Regions Tradition)
- Making his sixth start of the 2024 season, he has four top-10 finishes
 - Best finish of 2024: T3 (Regions Tradition)
 - Entered the week No. 39 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings

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- In five appearances at Warwick Hills Golf & Country Club for the PGA TOUR's Buick Open, his best finish was 5th (2004)
 - Note: This is his first appearance at The Ally Challenge
- With a win on Sunday, he would become the 22nd player to win on PGA TOUR Champions, PGA TOUR and Korn Ferry Tour
 - Wins by Tour: PGA TOUR (8); Korn Ferry Tour (3)
- With a win on Sunday, he would be the third first-time winner this season on PGA TOUR Champions
 - Previous instances: Ricardo Gonzalez (Trophy Hassan II); Richard Bland (KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship)

Brett Quigley, 36-31 – 67 (-5)

- The 55-year-old seeks his third win on PGA TOUR Champions (102nd start)
 - Previous wins: 2020 Morocco Champions; 2023 Constellation FURYK & FRIENDS
- Making his 17th start of the 2024 season, his best finish is T18 (Trophy Hassan II)
- Making his fifth appearance at The Ally Challenge, he has two runner-up finishes
 - T2 (2020); 2nd (2022)

Rod Pampling, 34-33 – 67 (-5)

- The 54-year-old seeks his third win on PGA TOUR Champions (107th start)
 - Previous wins: 2021 Boeing Classic; 2023 SAS Championship
- Making his 19th start of the 2024 season, he has three top-10 finishes
 - Best finish of 2024: T3 (Principal Charity Classic)
- Making his fifth appearance at The Ally Challenge, he has three top-10 finishes
 - Best finish at The Ally Challenge: T4 (2020)

David Branshaw, 33-34 – 67 (-5)

- Was one of three open qualifiers for this event after shooting 67 on Tuesday at Spring Meadows Country Club
- With a win on Sunday, he would become the 15th open qualifier to win on PGA TOUR Champions
 - Previous instance: Dicky Pride (2021 Mitsubishi Electric Classic)
- The 54-year-old seeks his first win on PGA TOUR Champions (48th start)
 - Best finish: T6 (2023 Invited Celebrity Classic; 2023 Principal Charity Classic)
- Making his eighth start of the 2024 season, his best finish is T22 (Mitsubishi Electric Classic)

Other Notes

- 2021 champion **Joe Durant** is one of five players T6 at 4-under, along with **Greg Chalmers, Glen Day, Bob Estes** and **Jason Caron**.
 - Durant looks to become the fifth multi-time winner this season on PGA TOUR Champions after winning the Cologuard Classic (March 8-10). He would also become the first two-time winner in the seven-year history of The Ally Challenge.
 - Caron, a New England club professional, earned his way into this week's field by virtue of his top-10 finish (T3) at last week's Rogers Charity Classic.
 - Chalmers, Day, Estes and Caron each seek their first win on PGA TOUR Champions.
- Charles Schwab Cup leader **Ernie Els** opened with 2-under 70 and sits T16.