

# 2025 Kaulig Companies Championship



## First-Round Notes

Thursday, June 19, 2025

Firestone Country Club (South Course) | Akron, Ohio

14th of 28 PGA TOUR Champions events in the 2025 Season

### Media Contacts:

Connor Stange, [connorstange@pgatourhq.com](mailto:connorstange@pgatourhq.com), 904-815-7984

Julie Nelson, [julienelson@pgatourhq.com](mailto:julienelson@pgatourhq.com), 904-815-9029

- **Course Setup:** Par 70 / 7,045 yards
- **Round 1 Scoring Average:** 72.988
- **Weather:** Cloudy and rainy. High of 72. Winds W at 14-18 mph. Gusts to 30 mph.
- **Interviews:** [Transcripts](#) | [Content Hub](#)
- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-Round Tee Times](#)
- [PGATOURMedia.com](https://www.pgatourmedia.com)

	Player	To Par	Scores
T1	Søren Kjeldsen	-3	35-32 – 67
T1	Ricardo Gonzalez	-3	31-36 – 67
T3	Steven Alker	-2	31-37 – 68
T3	Retief Goosen	-2	33-35 – 68
T3	Stewart Cink	-2	34-34 – 68

### Things to Know

- **Ricardo Gonzalez** and rookie **Søren Kjeldsen** share the first-round lead after each opening with 3-under 67 at the Kaulig Companies Championship.
- **Weather Delay:** Play was suspended for 59 minutes due to lightning from 1:50 p.m. to 2:49 p.m. ET.

### Søren Kjeldsen, 35-32 – 67 (-3)

- The 50-year-old seeks his first win on PGA TOUR Champions (fourth start)
  - T8 (Senior PGA Championship)
  - P2 (Principal Charity Classic)
  - T2 (American Family Insurance Championship – team event with Alex Cejka)
- Turned 50 on May 17 after earning medalist honors at Q-School (Final Stage) in December 2024
- Looks to become the fifth first-time winner of the 2025 season on PGA TOUR Champions
  - Previous instances: Justin Leonard (Chubb Classic); Steve Allan, (The Galleri Classic); Ángel Cabrera (James Hardie Pro Football Hall of Fame Invitational); Thomas Bjørn (American Family Insurance Championship – team event with Darren Clarke)
- This is his first time leading/co-leading after the first round on PGA TOUR Champions
  - Previous best 18-hole position: T7 (Senior PGA Championship) – finished T8
- In three appearances at Firestone Country Club for the WGC-Bridgestone Invitational, he finished T68 (2009), T12 (2015) and T42 (2016)
- This is his second appearance in a senior major (T8/Senior PGA Championship) and debut at the Kaulig Companies Championship

### Ricardo Gonzalez, 31-36 – 67 (-3)

- The 55-year-old seeks his second win on PGA TOUR Champions (49th start)
  - Previous win: 2024 Trophy Hassan II
- Seeks his first major title on PGA TOUR Champions
  - Best finish in a senior major: T15 (2024 ISPS HANDA Senior Open)
- This is his second time leading/co-leading after the first round on PGA TOUR Champions (0-for-1)

- T1 at the 2025 Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai (finished T19)
- Making his 13th start of the 2025 season, he has one top-10 finish
  - Best finish: T8 (Principal Charity Classic)
- Making his second appearance at the Kaulig Companies Championship, he finished T40 in 2024

#### Other Notes

- Charles Schwab No. 3 **Steven Alker** (T3) bogeyed two of his final four holes (Nos. 15, 17) to card 2-under 68. The 53-year-old seeks his 10th win on PGA TOUR Champions (86th start), second win of the 2025 season (11th start) and second senior major title.
  - Previous senior major win: 2022 Senior PGA Championship
  - Previous win of 2025 season: Cologuard Classic (March 7-9)
- Charles Schwab No. 5 **Stewart Cink** (T3) opened with 68. The 52-year-old seeks his third win on PGA TOUR Champions (26th start) and second win of the 2025 season (11th start).
  - Previous win: 2025 Insperity Invitational (May 2-4)
  - Best senior major finish: 3rd (2023 Senior PGA Championship); T3 (2024 Regions Tradition)
  - Note: won the 2004 WGC-NEC Invitational held at Firestone Country Club and finished runner-up at that event in 2006
- 2019 champion **Retief Goosen** (T3) posted 2-under 68. The World Golf Hall of Fame member seeks his fourth win on PGA TOUR Champions (133rd start) and first win of the 2025 season (13th start).
  - Previous win: 2024 Galleri Classic
  - Best finish of 2025 season: P2 (Insperity Invitational)
- Charles Schwab Cup leader **Miguel Angel Jiménez** sits T10 after opening with even-par 70.
- Looking to win three consecutive senior majors, **Ángel Cabrera** shot 1-over 71 and sits T17. Cabrera won the first two majors of the 2025 season (Regions Tradition, Senior PGA Championship).
- No players carded a bogey-free round, and no eagles were recorded on Thursday.