

2025 Ally Challenge presented by McLaren

First-Round Notes

Friday, August 22, 2025

Warwick Hills Golf & Country Club | Grand Blanc, Michigan

20th of 28 PGA TOUR Champions events in the 2025 Season



Media Contacts:

Connor Stange, connorstange@pgatourhq.com, 904-815-7984

- **Course Setup:** Par 72 / 7,110 yards
- **Round 1 Scoring Average:** 70.821
- **Weather:** Partly cloudy. High of 81. Winds S/SW at 5-10 mph.
- **Interviews:** [Transcripts](#) | [Content Hub](#)
- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-Round Tee Times](#)
- [PGATOURMedia.com](#)

	Player	To Par	Scores
1	Stewart Cink	-10	31-31 – 62
2	Steven Alker	-8	31-33 – 64
3	Ernie Els	-7	33-32 – 65
4	Mark Hensby	-6	34-32 – 66

Things to Know

- Defending champion **Stewart Cink** opened with bogey-free 10-under 62 to take the first-round lead at The Ally Challenge presented by McLaren.

Stewart Cink, 31-31 – 62 (-10)

- Despite hitting only 5-of-14 fairways, he hit all 18 greens in regulation and leads the field in driving distance (313.0 yards)
- The 52-year-old seeks his third win on PGA TOUR Champions (29th start)
 - Previous wins (2): 2024 Ally Challenge; 2025 Insperity Invitational
- Seeks his second win of the 2025 season (14th start)
 - Previous win: Insperity Invitational (May 2-4)
 - Entered the week No. 2 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings
 - Entered the week having finished 3rd (Kaulig Companies Championship), 2nd (U.S. Senior Open) and 2nd (Boeing Classic) in his last three starts
- Looks to become the fifth multiple winner of the 2025 season, joining Miguel Angel Jiménez (4), Ángel Cabrera (3), Steve Allan (3) and Padraig Harrington (2)
- Seeks his second win at The Ally Challenge (second start)
 - Cink's position by round at this event (chronologically): T2-1st-Won-1st
 - Would become the first multi-time winner of The Ally Challenge, which is being held for the eighth time
- Looks to achieve the first successful title defense of the 2025 season on PGA TOUR Champions
 - Last successful title defense: Steve Stricker (2024 Sanford International)
 - Best finish by a defending champion in 2025: T5 (Steven Alker at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai)
- This is his third time leading/co-leading after the first round on PGA TOUR Champions (0-for-2)
 - Led at the 2024 Cologuard Classic (finished T7)
 - Led at the 2024 Charles Schwab Cup Championship (finished T6) – 72-hole event
- Matched his low 18-hole score on PGA TOUR Champions (91st round)
 - Previous round of 62: 2024 Cologuard Classic (1st Round)
- Matched the low 18-hole score of the 2025 season by any player

- Previous instances: Jerry Kelly (Mitsubishi Electric Classic/R1), Richard Green (Rogers Charity Classic/R2), Boo Weekley (Rogers Charity Classic/R3)
- This is the low 18-hole score in Ally Challenge history
 - Previous low: 63 (two times; Scott McCarron/2018/R2, Scott Dunlap/2022/R2)
- This is the largest first-round lead in Ally Challenge history (2 strokes)

Other Notes

- Charles Schwab No. 3 **Steven Alker** (2nd) posted bogey-free 8-under 64. In his last four starts of the season, his first-round position has been (chronologically) 1st-T4-T1-2nd. Alker, who has one win this season (Cologuard Classic), has finished in the top 10 in 12 of his 15 starts in 2025.
- World Golf Hall of Fame member **Ernie Els** (3rd) carded 7-under 65. The Charles Schwab No. 6 entered the week off back-to-back top-5 finishes (T5 at the ISPS HANDA Senior Open; T3 at the Boeing Classic).
- **Kirk Triplett** (76th) made a hole-in-one on No. 17 with a 7-iron from 154 yards.
- Making his PGA TOUR Champions debut, Lt. Col. **Dan Rooney** (77th) birdied his final hole (No. 9) to open with 78.