

2026 Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai

First-Round Notes

Thursday, January 22, 2026

Hualalai Golf Course | Ka'upulehu-Kona, Hawaii

1st of 28 PGA TOUR Champions events in the 2026 Season



- **Course Setup:** Par 72 / 6,982 yards
- **Round 1 Scoring Average:** 68.905
- **Weather:** Mostly cloudy. High of 82. Winds WNW at 5-10 mph.
- **Interviews:** [Transcripts](#) | [Content Hub](#)
- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-Round Tee Times](#)
- [PGATOURMedia.com](#)

	Player	To Par	Scores
1	Stephen Ames	-8	31-33 – 64
T2	Freddie Jacobson	-7	33-32 – 65
	Fred Couples	-7	32-33 – 65
T4	Seven players tied	-6	

Things to Know

- **Stephen Ames** opened with bogey-free 64 to take a one-stroke lead over World Golf Hall of Fame member **Fred Couples** and Hualalai first timer **Freddie Jacobson** after the opening round of the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai.

Stephen Ames, 31-33 – 64 (-8)

- The 61-year-old seeks his 10th win on PGA TOUR Champions (245th start).
 - Last win: 2024 Boeing Classic
- Won four times in 2023 and three times in 2024 before going winless in 2025 in 23 starts.
- Today's 64 is his low 18-hole score at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai (22nd round).
 - Previous low: 65 (two times; 2019/R2, 2023/R3)
- This is his 11th time leading/co-leading after the first round on PGA TOUR Champions (2-for-10)
 - Wins: 2023 Trophy Hassan II, 2023 Mitsubishi Electric Classic
- A win by Ames would be the 51st victory by a player in his 60s on PGA TOUR Champions.
 - Would be the 31st-oldest winner in Champions Tour history (61 years, 8 months, 27 days).
- Making his eighth appearance at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, he has three top-10 finishes.
 - Best finish: T3 (2022)

Other Notes

- World Golf Hall of Fame member and 66-year-old **Fred Couples** (T2) shot his age or better for the fourth time on PGA TOUR Champions with 7-under 65. Couples, a four-time runner-up at Hualalai (2010, 2014, 2017, 2020), seeks his 15th win on PGA TOUR Champions (163rd start).
 - Last win: 2022 SAS Championship
- **Freddie Jacobson** (T2), one of seven first timers in the field at Hualalai this week, opened with 7-under 65. The 51-year-old seeks his first win on PGA TOUR Champions (25th start).
 - Best finish: T2 (2025 Hoag Classic)
- Seven players are T4 at 6-under, including 2025 Charles Schwab Cup winner and Player of the Year **Stewart Cink**, defending champion and World Golf Hall of Fame member **Ernie Els**, three-time Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai winner (2015, 2020, 2022) **Miguel Angel Jiménez**, 18-time PGA TOUR Champions winner **Jay Haas**, first timer at Hualalai **Richard Green** and major champions **Mike Weir** and **David Duval**.
 - Making his 21st appearance at Hualalai, Haas, who turned 72 on December 3, shot his age or better for the 39th time on PGA TOUR Champions with his first-round 66.