

2026 Principal Charity Classic



First-Round Notes

Friday, June 12, 2026

Wakonda Club | Des Moines, Iowa

12th of 28 PGA TOUR Champions events in the 2026 Season

- **Course Setup:** Par 72 / 6,825 yards
- **Round 1 Scoring Average:** 69.986
- **Weather:** Sunny. High of 83. Winds WSW at 10-15 mph.
- **Interviews:** [Transcripts](#) | [Content Hub](#)
- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Second-Round Tee Times](#)
- [PGATOURMedia.com](#)

	Player	To Par	Scores
T1	George McNeill	-7	33-32 – 65
	Scott Hend	-7	33-32 – 65
T3	John Senden	-6	32-34 – 66
	Vaughn Taylor	-6	33-33 – 66
	Tag Ridings	-6	35-31 – 66
	Miguel Angel Jiménez	-6	35-31 – 66

Things to Know

- **George McNeill** and **Scott Hend** each carded 7-under 65 to share the first-round lead at the Principal Charity Classic.

George McNeill, 33-32 – 65 (-7)

- The 50-year-old seeks his first win on PGA TOUR Champions (ninth start).
 - Best finish: 2nd (American Family Insurance Championship – team event with partner Kenny Perry); T2 (James Hardie Pro Football Hall of Fame Invitational)
- The rookie, who turned 50 years old on October 2, 2025, has five top-10s in eight starts this season.
 - Entered the week ranked No. 11 in the 2026 Charles Schwab Cup standings.
- This is his low 18-hole score on PGA TOUR Champions (21st round).
 - Previous low: 68 (three times)
- This is his first time leading/co-leading after the first round on PGA TOUR Champions.
 - Previous best 18-hole position: T3 (2026 James Hardie Pro Football Hall of Fame Invitational) – finished T2
- Owns two wins on the PGA TOUR (324 starts).
 - Last win: 2012 Puerto Rico Open

Scott Hend, 33-32 – 65 (-7)

- The 52-year-old seeks his second win on PGA TOUR Champions (13th start).
 - Last win: 2026 Trophy Hassan II
- In three starts on PGA TOUR Champions in 2026, he has finished (chronologically): T3 (Senior PGA Championship), 2nd (Regions Tradition), Won (Trophy Hassan II).
 - Entered the week ranked No. 5 in the 2026 Charles Schwab Cup standings.
- Matched his second-lowest 18-hole score on PGA TOUR Champions (44th round).
 - Low 18-hole score: 64 (2025 ISPS HANDA Senior Open, 3rd Round)
- This is his second time leading/co-leading after the first round on PGA TOUR Champions (1-for-1).
 - Previous instance: 2026 Trophy Hassan II (Won)
- Looks to become the second multi-time winner of the 2026 season, joining Stewart Cink (4).
- Looks to become the first player to win back-to-back starts on PGA TOUR Champions since Stewart Cink (2026 Hoag Classic, 2026 Senior PGA Championship).

Other Notes

- Four players are T3 at 6-under, including **John Senden**, **Tag Ridings**, rookie **Vaughn Taylor** and defending champion **Miguel Angel Jiménez**.
- Seeking wins in back-to-back weeks, **Darren Clarke** (T7) posted 5-under 67. Clarke won last week's American Family Insurance Championship (team event) with partner **Ben Crane** (T22).
- World Golf Hall of Fame member **José María Olazábal** (T7) was one of five players without a bogey or worse in the first round.
- Making his Principal Charity Classic debut, Iowa native **Zach Johnson** (T22) carded 3-under 69. Johnson, who entered the week ranked No. 2 in the 2026 Charles Schwab Cup standings, opened bogey-double bogey on Nos. 1 and 2 before playing his final 16 holes in 6-under.
- Two-time champion (2021, 2023) **Stephen Ames** withdrew after the first round.