



# CHAMPIONS

**Name**

PGA TOUR Champions

**Headquarters**

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**Commissioner**

Jay Monahan (since January 1, 2017)

**President**

Greg McLaughlin (since 2015)

**Web**

[PGATOUR.COM/Champions](http://PGATOUR.COM/Champions)

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**About PGA TOUR Champions**

PGA TOUR Champions is a membership organization of professional golfers age 50 and older, including 35 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame. The Tour's mission is to provide financial opportunities for its players, entertain and inspire its fans, deliver substantial value to its partners, create outlets for volunteers to give back and generate significant charitable and economic impact in tournament communities. In 2018, the PGA TOUR Champions schedule includes 27 tournaments across the United States, Scotland and Canada, with purses totaling more than \$56 million. The Charles Schwab Cup, which includes the Regular Season and the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs, is used to determine the season-long champion. All events are televised in the United States, with most receiving complete coverage on Golf Channel, the exclusive cable-television partner of PGA TOUR Champions. Internationally, telecasts air in excess of 190 countries and territories, reaching more than 330 million potential households. Follow PGA TOUR Champions online at [PGATOUR.com](http://PGATOUR.com), at [facebook.com/PGATOURChampions](https://facebook.com/PGATOURChampions), on [Twitter @ChampionsTour](https://twitter.com/ChampionsTour) and on [Instagram @pgatourchampions](https://www.instagram.com/pgatourchampions).

**History**

PGA TOUR Champions was founded in 1980, and the Tour enters its 39th season in 2018.

**Charity**

The PGA TOUR and its tournaments generated more than \$180 million for charitable causes in 2017, surpassing last year's record amount by approximately \$14 million. This total includes donations made by tournaments on the PGA TOUR, PGA TOUR Champions, Web.com Tour, Mackenzie Tour-PGA TOUR Canada, PGA TOUR Latinoamérica and PGA TOUR-China. The announcement brings the all-time total generated for charity by the PGA TOUR to \$2.65 billion. The TOUR surpassed \$1 billion in 2005 and \$2 billion at the beginning of 2014.

Six PGA TOUR Champions events generated more than \$1 million to charity in 2017, with the Shaw Charity Classic leading the way at more than \$6 million.

## **2018 Schedule**

The 2018 schedule features 27 official tournaments in three countries and 20 states, with prize money totaling \$56.6 million. After the 24-event Regular Season, the third-annual Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs will determine the winner of the season-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup.

The schedule includes two new tournaments – The Ally Challenge and the Sanford International – as well as two new sponsors. Exact Sciences has assumed title sponsorship of the Cologuard Classic in Tucson, Arizona, while Rapiscan Systems is the title sponsor of the Rapiscan Systems Classic in Biloxi, Mississippi.

## **Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs**

The third edition of the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs will begin with 72 players at the Dominion Energy Charity Classic (Oct. 15-21). The top 54 will advance to the following week's PowerShares QQQ Championship, and the season will conclude with the top 36 players at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship (Nov. 5-11).

The first two Playoffs events will feature \$2 million purses and double points. The Charles Schwab Cup Championship, which previously featured a points reset as the season's last event, will now feature double points awarded to the 36-player and a \$2.5 million purse.

## **Major Championships**

The five major championships on PGA TOUR Champions will kick off with the Regions Tradition, which returns to Greystone Golf & Country Club in Birmingham, Alabama, the week of May 14-20. The KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship will be contested the following week at Harbor Shores Golf Club in Benton Harbor, Michigan, for the fourth time in the last seven years.

The final three major championships of 2018 will again be held during a five-week stretch in the summer, beginning with the U.S. Senior Open at The Broadmoor Resort in Colorado Springs, Colorado, the week of June 25-July 1. The Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship will move to Illinois for the first time the week of July 9-15, with Exmoor Country Club outside of Chicago set to host the year's fourth major. The Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex will be held on the Old Course at St. Andrews for the first time the week of July 23-29. The Old Course has hosted The Open Championship 29 times, including in 2015 when Zach Johnson earned his second major championship title.

## **Size of Field**

In 2018, the field size for PGA TOUR Champions events will be 78 players, except at those tournaments that have specific eligibility criteria.

## **Membership**

PGA TOUR Champions members hail from around the globe. In 2018, 21 international players will have exempt status. Fourteen countries outside of the United States are represented; they include Australia, Canada, England, Fiji, Germany, Japan, Mexico, Northern Ireland, Paraguay, Scotland, South Africa, Spain, Sweden and Zimbabwe.

## **World Golf Hall of Fame Members**

PGA TOUR Champions features 35 current members of the World Golf Hall of Fame, some of whom continue to actively compete: Isao Aoki, Deane Beman, Jack Burke, Jr., Bob Charles, Fred Couples, Ben Crenshaw, Roberto De Vincenzo, Nick Faldo, Raymond Floyd, Doug Ford, David Graham, Hubert Green, Hale Irwin, Tony Jacklin, Tom Kite, Bernhard Langer, Gene Littler, Davis Love III, Sandy Lyle, Johnny Miller, Colin Montgomerie, Larry Nelson, Jose Maria Olazabal, Mark O'Meara, Jack Nicklaus, Greg Norman, Gary Player, Nick Price, Chi Chi Rodriguez, Curtis Strange, Peter Thomson, Lee Trevino, Lanny Wadkins, Tom Watson and Ian Woosnam.

## **Fan Features**

PGA TOUR Champions Fan Features are designed to give the Tour a distinct identity, complementing the high level of skill displayed by its members. PGA TOUR Champions strives to be the most approachable, accessible and fan-friendly arena in all of sports. The program has had significant impact as evidenced by the positive feedback received weekly from tournament organizers, sponsors and fans, with players going out of their way to support the initiatives. Fan Features include live television interviews during play, gallery in the fairway, honorary observers walking inside the ropes, caddie for a day, behind-the-scenes tours, junior clinics, a game-improvement platform, and more.

## **TV**

Each event will be televised nationally in the United States, with most receiving complete coverage on Golf Channel, the Tour's exclusive television partner that reaches some 78 million homes in the United States. Three events will have network coverage on the weekend (NBC: KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship, The Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex; FOX: U.S. Senior Open).

### **International TV**

PGA TOUR Champions telecasts are distributed internationally in Canada, Europe, Africa, the Middle East, Asia, Australasia and Latin America through various distribution partners. The events air live, tape-delayed or in a highlights-package format in excess of 190 countries and territories, reaching more than 330 million potential households.

### **Rookies**

For players to become eligible to compete for PGA TOUR Champions events they must turn 50 years of age by the first competition round. If a player plays less than six tournaments in his first season of eligibility, he is considered a rookie the following season.

Newcomers for 2018 with at least one PGA TOUR win include:

Brent Geiberger (May 22)

Robert Gamez (July 21)

Dudley Hart (August 4)

Darren Clarke (August 14)

Chris DiMarco (August 23)

Additional "rookie" prospects becoming eligible in the future include:

2019: Retief Goosen (February 3), Angel Cabrera (September 12), Ernie Els (October 17).

2020: Jim Furyk (May 12), Mike Weir (May 12), K.J. Choi (May 19), Phil Mickelson (June 16).

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