

Fact Sheet

Name

PGA TOUR 's Champions Tour (first reference)

Headquarters

112 PGA TOUR Boulevard, Ponte Vedra Beach, FL 32082, Phone: 904-285-3700

Commissioner

Timothy W. Finchem (since June 1, 1994)

President

Mike Stevens (since June 1, 2008)

Web Site

PGATOUR.COM

Facebook

Facebook.com/Champions Tour

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@ChampionsTour

About the Champions Tour

Collectively, the Champions Tour has the most recognizable and accomplished players in the game with many of its 30 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame competing regularly in its events and numerous other major championship winners among its members. The Champions Tour is a membership organization of professional golfers age 50 and older. Conceived in 1980 as the Senior PGA Tour, it started with just four events and purses totaling \$475,000. Points earned in 23 official Charles Schwab Cup events in 2012 will determine the Charles Schwab Cup champion, the season-long competition designed to recognize the Champions Tour's leading player. The Champions Tour's primary purpose 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, protect the integrity of the game and generate significant charitable and economic impact in communities in which it plays. In 2011, tournaments on all three Tours (PGA TOUR, Champions Tour and Nationwide Tour) generated more than \$118 million for local charitable organizations, bringing the TOUR's all-time total of charitable contributions to more than \$1.7 billion. The Commissioner of the PGA TOUR is Tim Finchem. Mike Stevens is President of the Champions Tour. The PGA TOUR's website is www.pgatour.com, the No. 1 site in golf, and the organization is headquartered in Ponte Vedra Beach, FL. Follow the Champions Tour at Facebook.com/Champions Tour and on Twitter @ChampionsTour.

History

1980 – 2011. The Tour enters its 33rd season in 2012.

Charity

The Champions Tour and its tournaments generate significant sums of money for charity. In 2011, tournaments on all three Tours (PGA TOUR, Champions Tour and Nationwide Tour) generated more than \$118 million for local charitable organizations, bringing the TOUR's all-time total of charitable contributions to more than \$1.7 billion. The Champions Tour's charitable mission is an integral component of its value proposition and charitable donations have a significant impact in the communities served by Champions Tour events.

2012 Schedule

Seven new tournament venues and several previously announced date changes for existing tournaments are the most significant developments for the 2012 season.

The official 2012 season begins on the Big Island of Hawaii at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai (Jan. 16-22), with the first full-field event coming three weeks later at the Allianz Championship (Feb. 6-12), in Boca Raton, FL.

The ACE Group Classic (Feb. 13-19) returns to The TwinEagles Club (Talon Course), which hosted the event from 2002-2006.

TPC Tampa Bay plays host to the Tampa Bay Pro-Am (Apr. 9-15) for the 21st consecutive year as the tournament celebrates its 25th anniversary in the Tampa area.

The Regions Tradition, played at Shoal Creek in Birmingham, AL, will move from the early May date it previously occupied to the week of June 4-10. The Insuperity Championship (Apr. 30-May 6), played at The Woodlands in Houston, TX, will depart its traditional October timeslot and take over the spot vacated by Regions Tradition.

La Vallee du Richelieu Golf Club (Vercheres Course) will host The Montreal Championship (June 18-24), after two years at Club de golf Le Fontainebleau.

The Constellation Senior Players Championship (June 25-July 1), played in the fall for the last five years, moves to the last week of June. Fox Chapel Golf Club in Pittsburgh, PA will host the championship, being contested for the 30th time.

The Dick's Sporting Goods Open (Aug. 13-19) moves from June to August to allow the En-Joie Golf Course more time to recover after sustaining major flooding damage when Tropical Storm Lee caused the Susquehanna River to overflow at record levels earlier this year and almost completely cover the course. En-Joie Golf Course, in Endicott, NY, has hosted the event since its inception in 2007 and had previously hosted the PGA TOUR's B.C. Open from 1972 to 2006.

The season will conclude with the Charles Schwab Cup Championship (Oct. 29-Nov. 4,) which moves from TPC Harding Park in San Francisco to the Cochise Course at Desert Mountain Club in Scottsdale, AZ. The Jack Nicklaus-designed course returns to the Champions Tour schedule having previously hosted the Tradition from 1989-2001.

The Champions Tour National Qualifying Tournament-Final (Nov. 12-18) will be conducted at TPC Eagle Trace in Coral Springs, FL.

Major Championships (5)

The Champions Tour's major championships will feature an adjusted lineup this year. The Senior PGA Championship presented by KitchenAid (May 21-27) at The Golf Club at Harbor Shores in Benton Harbor, Michigan will be the first of five majors. Two weeks later, the Regions Tradition (June 4-10) will continue at Shoal Creek in Birmingham, Alabama. After five consecutive years in the fall, the Constellation Senior Players Championship (June 25-July 1) relocates to Fox Chapel Golf Club in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania in the summer. The United States Senior Open (July 9-15) heads to Indianwood Golf & Country Club just outside Detroit, Michigan. The Senior British Open presented by Rolex (July 23-29) is set to return to Turnberry's Ailsa Course in Scotland for the seventh time, and the first since 2006 when Loren Roberts defeated Eduardo Romero to claim the title.

Charles Schwab Cup

The Charles Schwab Cup, now in its 12th season, designed to recognize the Champions Tour's leading player, rewards both top finishes and week-in/week-out consistency in all official events. Players receive points for top-10 finishes and ties based on each week's money distribution, with \$1,000 earned being the equivalent of one Charles Schwab Cup point. Double points will again be awarded at the five major championships. Double points will also be awarded to the entire 30-player field at the season-ending Charles Schwab Cup Championship. The season-long points competition kicks off in Hawaii at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai (Jan. 16-22). The Road to the Charles Schwab Cup culminates at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship (Oct. 29-Nov. 4) in Scottsdale, Arizona at Desert Mountain's Cochise Course, with \$2.1 million in payouts awarded to the season's top five leading performers. The winner receives \$1 million.

Size of Field

In 2012, the field size for Champions Tour events will be 81 players, except at those tournaments that have specific eligibility criteria.

Membership

Champions Tour members hail from around the globe. In 2012, 18 international players will have fully exempt status and on the Champions Tour. Eleven countries besides the United States are represented;

they include Argentina, Australia, Canada, Germany, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Scotland, South Africa, Taiwan, and Zimbabwe.

World Golf Hall of Fame Members

Sandy Lyle will become the latest Champions Tour member to be inducted into the World Golf Hall of Fame in 2012, bringing the total number of Champions Tour members in the Hall to 30, many of whom are regularly active on the Champions Tour: **Isao Aoki, Deane Beman, Billy Casper, Bob Charles, Ben Crenshaw, Roberto De Vincenzo, Nick Faldo, Raymond Floyd, Doug Ford, Hubert Green, Hale Irwin, Tony Jacklin, Tom Kite, Bernhard Langer, Gene Littler, Johnny Miller, Larry Nelson, Jack Nicklaus, Greg Norman, Arnold Palmer, Gary Player, Nick Price, Chi Chi Rodriguez, Charlie Sifford, Curtis Strange, Peter Thomson, Lee Trevino, Lanny Wadkins and Tom Watson.** Other World Golf Hall of Fame members who played on the Champions Tour include **Seve Ballesteros, Tommy Bolt, Julius Boros, Jack Burke, Jr., Paul Runyan and Sam Snead.**

Fan Features

The Champions Tour's Fan Features are designed to give the Tour a distinct identity, complementing the high level of skill displayed by its members. The Champions Tour 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 cable-television partner that reaches some 83 million homes in the United States. Four events will have network coverage on the weekend (NBC: Senior PGA Championship, Senior U.S. Open; CBS: Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf; ESPN: Senior British Open).

International TV

Champions Tour 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 117 countries, reaching more than 133 million households.

Awards

The Champions Tour presents the following awards annually:

- Champions Tour Player of the Year/Jack Nicklaus Trophy
- Charles Schwab Cup
- Champions Tour Rookie of the Year
- Champions Tour Comeback Player of the Year
- Arnold Palmer Award (leading money winner)
- Byron Nelson Award (scoring leader)
- CTTA "Bruno" Award (contributions to the Champions Tour)
- Champions Tour Charity of the Year
- Champions Tour Volunteer of the Year

The Champions Tour also recognizes its Player of the Month (January through October).

"Rookies"

For players to become eligible to compete in Champions Tour events they must attain age 50 on or before the day of their first tournament 'obligation', such as the Wednesday pro-am, the date of pre-qualifying or the date of event qualifying. If a player plays less than six tournaments in his first season of eligibility he is considered a rookie the following season.

Newcomers for 2012 who have multiple PGA TOUR victories include **Kirk Triplett** (March 29 – 3 wins), **Andrew Magee** (May 22 – 4 wins), **Duffy Waldorf** (August 20 – 4 wins), **Gene Sauers** (August 22 – 3 wins), **Rick Fehr** (August 28 – 2 wins) and **Brian Henninger** (October 19 – 2 wins).

Triplett, at age 49, became the Nationwide Tour's oldest winner in August of 2011 with a victory at the News Sentinel Open in Knoxville, TN. It was his first win anywhere since the 2006 Chrysler Classic of Tucson on the PGA TOUR.

Those rookies who successfully progressed through the Champions Tour National Qualifying Tournament to gain membership for 2012 include **Jeff Freeman**, who was medalist. Freeman becomes eligible when he turns 50 on April 15. **Jeff Hart** (4th) and **P.H. Horgan** (5th) were the other rookies to gain fully-exempt status by finishing in the top five. **Jim Carter** won a three-way playoff to finish 6th, which was significant as he will earn a spot as one of the five exempt players until Freeman turns 50 in April. **Sonny Skinner**, who played two events in 2011 and three events in 2010, finished 7th and also gained conditional status for 2012.

Stan Utley (January 16), **Brandel Chamblee** (July 2), **Fred Wadsworth** (July 17), **Neal Lancaster** (September 15) and **Dennis Paulson** (September 27) each have a single PGA TOUR victory and will be eligible for the 2012 rookie class of the Champions Tour but will have limited status.

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

2013 – **Bart Bryant** (November 18, 2012), **John Inman** (November 26, 2012), **Steve Elkington** (December 8, 2012), **Rocco Mediate** (December 17, 2012), **Vijay Singh** (February 22), **Billy Ray Brown** (April 5), **Jose Coceres** (August 14).

2014 – **Billy Andrade** (January 25), **Woody Austin** (January 27), **Jeff Maggert** (February 20), **Joe Durant** (April 7), **Davis Love III** (April 13), **Stephen Ames** (April 28), **Paul Goydos** (June 20), **Kevin Sutherland** (July 4), **Scott Verplank** (July 9), **Lee Janzen** (August 28), **Skip Kendall** (September 9).

2015 – **Jesper Parnevik** (March 7), **Carlos Franco** (May 24), **Scott McCarron** (July 10), **Glen Day** (October 16).

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