



Rapiscan Systems Classic

Fallen Oak | Biloxi, Mississippi | March 29-31, 2019

PGA TOUR Champions Media Contact

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Quick Facts

- **Golf Course:** Fallen Oak Golf Course (7,151 yards / Par 72)
- **Designed by:** Tom Fazio (2006)
- **Purse:** \$1,600,000 (Winner: \$240,000)
- **Golf Channel Coverage (all times ET):** Friday – 9:30-11:30 p.m. (tape delay); Saturday – 4-6 p.m.; Sunday – 4-6 p.m.
- **Social Media:** Twitter ([@RapiscanClassic](https://twitter.com/RapiscanClassic)), Instagram ([@rapiscanclassic](https://www.instagram.com/rapiscanclassic)), [Facebook](#)

Field Overview (as of 3/26/19)

The 10th annual Rapiscan Systems Classic returns to Biloxi, Mississippi this week with a field of 78 including defending champion **Steve Stricker**, six World Golf Hall of Fame members and two-time major champion, **John Daly**. Fallen Oak Golf Course will welcome three newcomers including 2011 Open Champion **Darren Clarke**, three-time PGA TOUR winner **Chris DiMarco** and **Gary Nicklaus**, son of Jack Nicklaus. The field includes 32 of the top 36 players from last year's Charles Schwab Cup.

- 6 members of the World Golf Hall of Fame
- 57 PGA TOUR winners with 329 total career victories
- 49 PGA TOUR Champions winners with 225 total career victories
- 18 players with a PGA TOUR Champions major victory; 18 with a PGA TOUR major

2018 Recap: Stricker Shines in Second Start at Fallen Oak

Steve Stricker claimed consecutive titles on PGA TOUR Champions with his 11-under victory at the Rapiscan Systems Classic. It was the first time he won in consecutive starts on both the PGA TOUR and PGA TOUR Champions. Stricker held a one-stroke lead through the front nine before making four back-nine birdies to secure the title. With the win he moved to No. 1 on the Charles Schwab Cup.

Stricker Set to Defend

Defending champion **Steve Stricker** will make his fourth start of the season this week at the Rapiscan Systems Classic. He tied for 29th at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, his worst finish in 14 starts on PGA TOUR Champions. Stricker finished T6 in his last start on PGA TOUR Champions at the Cologuard Classic. In 2018, he won three times and posted top-five finishes in all seven starts, including a victory at the Rapiscan Systems Classic. Since joining the Tour in 2017 42 of his 44 rounds have been under par.

Stricker is looking to become the second champion to defend his title at Rapiscan Systems Classic. Miguel Angel Jimenez won back-to-back in 2016 and 2017, but the next highest finish the reigning champion is T12 by **Fred Couples** in 2013.

Langer Looking for Rapiscan Systems Classic Title

Langer returns to the field this week after withdrawing from the Cologuard Classic and Hoag Classic due to injury. Langer won the second event of the 2019 season, the Oasis Championship, which broke or extended multiple PGA TOUR Champions records:

- Moved to **No. 1 on the Tour's all-time money list** (\$27,324,504 following Chubb Classic). He surpassed Hale Irwin, who has won \$27,123,354.
- **13 straight seasons with a victory** (extended his record).
- **Sixth win at age 60 or older** (extended his record). At the age of 61 years, 5 months, 14 days, Langer became the Tour's eighth-oldest winner.
- **39th win of his career** (second-most in Tour history). He has won 16.5 percent of his starts (39 wins in 236 starts), or one win every 6.05 starts.
- A five-time Charles Schwab Cup champion, Langer is No. 1 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings. Since 2008 (his first full season on Tour), he has led the standings 132 of 288 weeks (45.83%).

While Langer owns 39 victories on PGA TOUR Champions and has won 10 tournaments multiple times, the Rapiscan Systems Classic is one of nine tournaments on Tour he has yet to claim. The others are the Cologuard Classic, Principal Charity Classic, Mastercard Japan Championship, American Family Insurance Championship, Shaw Charity Classic, The Ally Challenge, The Sanford International and the Charles Schwab Cup Championship.

Langer will make his eighth start in Biloxi and his tournament record includes a runner-up finish in 2013, two T3 finishes (2014, 2017) and a T9 finish in 2018. In eight starts, he has only finished outside the top 10 twice (T17, 2012; T39, 2010).

Langer began the 2019 season a T3 finish at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai and then captured his 39th win on Tour with a victory at Oasis Championship. At the Chubb Classic, he was part of a three-man playoff, but his playoff record fell to 6-7 when he lost to Miguel Angel Jimenez on the first extra hole. His 13 playoff appearances are most all-time on PGA TOUR Champions.

Couples Can Compete

World Golf Hall of Fame member **Fred Couples** will make his fifth start at the Rapiscan Systems Classic, returning to Biloxi for the first time since 2015. Couples won the event in 2012 when he posted a tournament record and Fallen Oak Golf Course record with an opening round 9-under 63 en route to a 14-under 202 final score to defeat Michael Allen by one stroke. (The tournament and course record was later tied by **Gene Sauers** in the second round of 2017).

Couples has made four starts this year on PGA TOUR Champions, finishing each inside the top 20. His best came at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai where he carded back-to-back rounds of 6-under 66 over the weekend to finish T5.

Triplett Take Two

Kirk Triplett defeated **Woody Austin** when he eagled the second extra hole at the Hoag Classic, his last start on PGA TOUR Champions. Triplett has posted top-20 finishes in four of his five starts this year. He finished T13 at the season-opening Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, T19 at the Chubb Classic and runner-up at the Cologuard Classic. He is No. 2 in the Charles Schwab Cup standings behind four-week leader, **Bernhard Langer**.

Triplett will make his seventh start at the Rapiscan Systems Classic. His best finish came in 2017 when he finished T6. All other finishes have come outside the top 25.

Past Champions in the Field

Six of the tournament's eight past champions are in this week's field, including each winner since 2011. **Tom Lehman's** four-shot victory in 2011 is the only margin greater than two, and four of the nine events have been decided by one stroke or by playoff.

Year	Champion	Total	To Par
2018	Steve Stricker	205	-11
2017	Miguel Angel Jimenez*	203	-13
2016	Miguel Angel Jimenez	202	-14
2015	David Frost	206	-10
2014	Jeff Maggert	205	-11
2013	Michael Allen	205	-11
2012	Fred Couples	202	-14
2011	Tom Lehman	200	-16
2010	David Eger	205	-11

*After making double bogey on the final hole of regulation, Miguel Angel Jimenez rebounded with a birdie on the first extra hole to defeat Gene Sauers.

Fresh Faces at Fallen Oak

Darren Clarke, **Chris DiMarco** and **Gary Nicklaus** will make their first starts at the Rapiscan Systems Classic. Clarke and DiMarco are making their fifth start of the season. Clarke finished three of his first four events in the top 20. At the Cologuard Classic, he finished runner-up to Mark O'Meara, his best finish on PGA TOUR Champions. DiMarco's best finish came in his first start at the Oasis Championship where he finished T30.

Nicklaus will play as a sponsor exemption and has made one start on PGA TOUR Champions at the Oasis Championship. Here he carded a 5-under 67 in the opening round, but ultimately finished T51. The highest finish for a sponsor exemption at the Rapiscan Systems Classic is T5 by Bobby Clampett in 2012.

Rapiscan Systems Classic Quick Stats

- There has been one playoff in tournament history: **Gene Sauers** had a one-stroke lead over Miguel Angel Jimenez entering the final round in 2017. Jimenez tied him by the end of regulation and prevailed in a one-hole playoff to repeat as champion.
- **Michael Allen** is the only player to win after finishing second the prior year. He finished second to **Fred Couples** in 2012 before winning in 2013. Two other players have a win and a second-place finish here, **Tom Lehman** (won in 2011, 2nd in 2015) and **David Frost** (won in 2015, 2nd in 2013).
- There have only been three Holes-in-One recorded at Fallen Oak for the tournament.
 - Nick Price: #14, 152 yards, 9-iron, 3rd round, 2014
 - Grant Waite: #8, 187 yards, 5-iron, 1st round, 2016
 - **Glen Day**: #14, 156 yards, 8-iron, 2nd round, 2017

PGA TOUR Champions – 2019 Season Overview

Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs

The 2019 Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs will begin with 72 players at the Dominion Energy Charity Classic (Oct. 14-20). The top-54 will advance to the Invesco QQQ Championship (Oct. 28 – Nov. 3), and the season will conclude with the top-36 players at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship (Nov. 4-10), where they will compete for the Charles Schwab Cup.

At the start of the Playoffs, each player's regular-season money total will become the equivalent number of points (e.g. \$330,000 equals 330,000 points). During the three Playoffs events, each dollar earned is worth two points, and those points will be added to a player's regular-season point total. After the Dominion Energy Charity Classic, the top 54 players will advance, and after the Invesco QQQ Championship, the top 36 players will qualify for the season-ending Charles Schwab Cup Championship. The player with the most points at the conclusion of the Charles Schwab Cup Championship will win the Charles Schwab Cup.

The 2019 Rookie Class

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 2019 with at least one PGA TOUR win include:

- Shaun Micheel (January 5, 1969)
- Retief Goosen (February 3, 1969)
- Frank Lickliter, II (July 28, 1969)
- Shigeki Maruyama (September 12, 1969)
- Angel Cabrera (September 12, 1969)
- Rod Pampling (September 23, 1969)

Upcoming rookie classes include:

- **2020** – Ernie Els (October 17, 1969), Tim Herron (February 6, 1970), Jim Furyk (May 12, 1970), Mike Weir (May 12, 1970), K.J. Choi (May 19, 1970), Phil Mickelson (June 16, 1970)
- **2021** – John Senden (April 20, 1971), Stuart Appleby (May 1, 1971), Robert Allenby (July 12, 1971), Padraig Harrington (August 31, 1971)
- **2022** – David Duval (November 9, 1971), Brian Gay (December 14, 1971), Y.E. Yang (January 15, 1972), Justin Leonard (June 15, 1972), Notah Begay II (September 14, 1972)

2019 Schedule

The 2019 schedule features 27 official tournaments in Canada, Japan, Scotland and 19 states, with prize money totaling nearly \$58 million. After the 24-event Regular Season, the fourth-annual Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs will determine the winner of the season-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup.

1. **Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai:** Tom Lehman closed with a 7-under 65 to erase a four-shot deficit and win the season-opener with a 17-under total. Lehman topped David Toms, who opened with rounds of 65-65 and led by four at the start of the final round. He maintained a three-shot cushion through 12 but was 1-over on his last six holes, including a three-putt bogey on No. 18, and fell one shot shy of Lehman's winning total.
2. **Oasis Championship:** Bernhard Langer became the tournament's first repeat champion, winning with a tournament-record score of 19-under 197. His five-stroke victory over Marco Dawson is the largest margin in the Oasis Championship's 13-year history. With the win, he surpassed Hale Irwin and became No. 1 on the Tour's all-time money list.
3. **Chubb Classic:** Miguel Angel Jimenez defeated Bernhard Langer and Olin Browne on the first playoff hole to secure his seventh career victory Sunday at the Chubb Classic. Jimenez posted the day's only bogey-free round, a 5-under 66, and played the last 39 holes (38 regulation, 1 playoff) of the tournament bogey free.
4. **Cologuard Classic:** Mark O'Meara ended an eight-year drought when he won the 2019 Cologuard Classic by closing with a 7-under 66 for a four-shot victory. At 8 years, 4 months and 21 days, it is the second-longest gap between victories on Tour. The 62-year-old became the fourth-oldest winner in PGA TOUR Champions history.
5. **Hoag Classic:** Kirk Triplett defeated Woody Austin on the second playoff hole when he made a 12-foot eagle putt to claim his seventh victory on PGA TOUR Champions. It was Triplett's second playoff in his career, improving his record to 2-0.
6. Rapisan Systems Classic
7. Mitsubishi Electric Classic
8. Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf at Big Cedar Lodge
9. Insperity Invitational

10. Regions Tradition
11. KitchenAid Senior PGA Championship
12. Principal Charity Classic
13. Mastercard Japan Championship
14. American Family Insurance Championship
15. U.S. Senior Open Championship
16. Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship
17. The Senior Open Championship presented by Rolex
18. DICK'S Sporting Goods Open
19. Boeing Classic
20. Shaw Charity Classic
21. The Ally Challenge
22. Sanford International
23. PURE Insurance Championship
24. SAS Championship
25. Dominion Energy Charity Classic
26. Invesco QQQ Championship
27. Charles Schwab Cup Championship