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# Bernhard Langer and Defending Champion Brandt Jobe Highlight 2018 Principal Charity Classic Field

Tournament competition tees off June 8 at Wakonda Club in Des Moines

**DES MOINES (June 1, 2018)** – The <u>Principal Charity Classic®</u>, presented by Wells Fargo, today announced the final player field for its 2018 tournament, set for June 8-10 at historic Wakonda Club near downtown Des Moines.

The Principal Charity Classic has raised more than \$13 million for children's charities since 2007, including a record \$3,581,427 in 2017. The annual PGA TOUR Champions event is dedicated to helping Iowa kids succeed.

Defending tournament champion **Brandt Jobe**, who earned his first career PGA TOUR Champions victory at the 2017 Principal Charity Classic, will be joined in the field of 78 competitors by the following:

- Past Principal Charity Classic champions Scott McCarron ('16), Mark Calcavecchia ('15), Tom Pernice, Jr. ('14), Russ Cochran ('13) and Jay Haas ('07, '08, '12).
- Bernhard Langer, a two-time Masters Tournament champion and World Golf Hall of Fame member. Langer has 37 career PGA TOUR Champions victories, the second-highest total in TOUR history (Hale Irwin leads with 45). This year will mark Langer's fifth trip to the Principal Charity Classic, where he finished a career-best fourth in 2017.
- **Corey Pavin**, winner of the 1995 U.S. Open at Shinnecock Hills and captain of the 2010 U.S. Ryder Cup team. Pavin, who has 15 career victories on the PGA TOUR, last played at the Principal Charity Classic in 2014. His wife, Lisa (Nguyen) Pavin, grew up in Urbandale, Iowa, and is a University of Iowa graduate.
- Lee Janzen, a two-time U.S. Open champion and past winner of the PLAYERS Championship. Janzen, who was born in Austin, Minnesota, made his first Principal Charity Classic appearance in 2017.
- Perennial fan favorites Fred Funk, Tom Lehman, Jesper Parnevik, David Toms and Billy Andrade, who set the current Wakonda Club course record (63) during the second round of the 2016 Principal Charity Classic.
- Kevin Sutherland, the 2017 Charles Schwab Cup champion. Sutherland finished T2 in his first trip to the Principal Charity Classic last year.
- Jerry Smith, an Iowa native and 2017 Iowa Golf Hall of Fame inductee. Smith, who received a sponsor exemption to play in the 2014 Principal Charity Classic, went on to earn PGA TOUR Champions Rookie of the Year honors in 2015.

Also included in the 2018 Principal Charity Classic field are five players who received sponsor exemptions:

- **Brian Henninger**, a two-time PGA TOUR winner and T2 finisher at the 2015 Principal Charity Classic. Henninger will be making his fifth appearance at Wakonda Club.
- Len Mattiace, a 2018 PGA TOUR Champions rookie who won twice on the PGA TOUR during his career. Mattiace is often remembered for recording a 7-under 65 in the final round of the 2003 Masters Tournament to earn his way into a playoff with eventual champion Mike Weir.
- **Chad Proehl**, an Iowa native and the 2017 Iowa Section PGA champion. Proehl, who is the current teaching pro at Sugar Creek Municipal Golf Course, in Waukee, Iowa, has lived in the Des Moines area for the past 33 years. Proehl began his club professional career in 1990 at Wakonda Club and has also worked locally as a golf professional at both Jester Park Golf Course and Echo Valley Country Club.
- **Mike Small**, currently in his 18th year as head men's golf coach of the University of Illinois, his alma mater. This Spring, he coached the team to its fourth consecutive Big Ten title. Small also has competed on the PGA TOUR and the Web.com Tour, is a three-time winner of the PGA Professional Championship, and in 2017, was named the Senior PGA Professional of the Year. Since turning 50, he has played in seven PGA TOUR Champions events.
- Willie Wood, winner of two PGA TOUR Champions events including a memorable victory at the 2012 Dick's Sporting Goods Open, where Wood sank a 35-foot birdie at the end of regulation to force a playoff with Michael Allen. Wood will be playing in his eighth consecutive Principal Charity Classic.

Tickets to the Principal Charity Classic start at just \$20 and may be purchased online at <u>principalcharityclassic.com/tickets</u> or at the tournament gates. Kids 15 and under may attend the tournament for free if accompanied by a ticketed adult. Complimentary admission is also provided for all active duty, retired, veteran and reserve military along with their dependents.

For more information, visit principalcharityclassic.com.

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## About the Principal Charity Classic

The Principal Charity Classic is an annual PGA TOUR Champions event dedicated to helping lowa kids succeed. Since 2007, the Principal Charity Classic has distributed more than \$13 million to lowa children's charities. In 2017, the tournament donated a record \$3,581,427 and touched the lives of more than 130,000 lowa kids. The event benefits organizations that provide a broad level of support to children of lowa in the areas of education and culture, financial security and stability, and/or health and wellness.

The 2018 Principal Charity Classic tournament will be played June 5-10, 2018, at the historic Wakonda Club in Des Moines, Iowa. For more information, visit <u>principalcharityclassic.com</u> and connect with the tournament on social media at <u>facebook.com/principalcharityclassic</u>, on Twitter <u>@PCCTourney</u> and on Instagram <u>@principalcharityclassic</u>.

# **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, at <u>facebook.com/PGATOURChampions</u>, on Twitter @ChampionsTour and on Instagram @pgatourchampions.

## 2018 Principal Charity Classic field

Ames, Stephen Andrade, Billy Armour III, Tommy Austin, Woody Blake, Jay Don Bradley, Michael Brooks, Mark Browne, Olin Bryant, Bart Byrum, Tom Calcavecchia, Mark Cochran. Russ Day, Glen Dennis, Clark Dunlap, Scott Edwards, Danny Flesch. Steve Forsman. Dan Franco, Carlos Frost, David Funk, Fred Garwood, Doug Gilbert, Gibby Glasson, Bill Goodes, Mike Goydos, Paul Haas, Jay Hamilton. Todd Henninger, Brian + Hoch, Scott Huston, John Jacobs, John Jacobsen, Peter Janzen. Lee Jobe, Brandt \* Jones, Kent Kelly, Jerry Langer, Bernhard Lehman, Tom Lowery, Steve Mattiace, Len + Mayfair, Billy McCallister, Blaine McCarron, Scott McKenzie, David Mediate, Rocco Mize, Larry Parel, Scott Parnevik, Jesper

Pate, Steve Pavin, Corey Pernice Jr., Tom Perrv. Kennv Petrovic, Tim Proehl, Chad + Quinn. Fran Sauers, Gene Short, Jr., Wes Sindelar, Joey Sluman. Jeff Small. Mike + Smith, Jerry Spittle, Rod Sutherland, Kevin Tanigawa, Ken Thorpe, Jim Toledo, Esteban Tolles, Tommy Toms, David Tway, Bob Verplank, Scott Wadkins, Bobby Waldorf, Duffy Wood, Willie +

#### Field notes:

Final field will include 78 players; 4 event qualifiers **TBD** on Monday, June 4.

\* denotes defending champion

+ denotes players receiving 2018 sponsor exemptions (5 total)