

**NEWS**



**Ascension**  
**CHARITY CLASSIC**

presented by **EMERSON**



**CHAMPIONS**

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## **Charles Schwab Cup leader Jerry Kelly joins 2021 U.S. Senior Open Champion Jim Furyk, four-time major championship winner Ernie Els and St. Louis native Jay Haas to highlight early commitments to the inaugural Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson**

*TOURNAMENT AMBASSADORS TOM LEHMAN AND BILLY ANDRADE  
STRENGTHEN WORLD-CLASS FIELD*

### **Public parking plan announced for Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson**

**ST. LOUIS (August 10, 2021)** – Officials of the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson today announced Charles Schwab Cup leader Jerry Kelly joins 2021 U.S. Senior Open champion Jim Furyk, four-time major champion Ernie Els and St. Louis native Jay Haas to highlight early commitments to the inaugural edition of the Official PGA TOUR Champions stop.

Ascension Charity Classic Ambassadors Tom Lehman and Billy Andrade also commit to compete at Norwood Hills Country Club in St. Louis, Mo. the week of September 6-12, 2021.

Additional player commitments will be added to the world-class field over the coming weeks, including top-ranked PGA TOUR Champions professionals and members of the World Golf Hall of fame. The final field of competitors will be available Friday, September 3, after 5 p.m. EST.

In other news, the Ascension Charity Classic today introduced the event's public parking plan. The 2021 tournament is offering one central and convenient parking solution for fans attending the PGA TOUR Champions stop.

Public parking is available beginning Thursday, September 9 through Sunday, September 12 at 8640 Evans Lane, St. Louis, Mo. 63134. Parking is located three miles from Norwood Hills Country Club and complimentary shuttles will run continuously from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m., or one hour after the completion of play. ADA Parking and Rideshare locations are also available. Visit the tournament website at [ascensioncharityclassic.com](http://ascensioncharityclassic.com) for details.

Kelly has been a model of consistency and productivity since making his first PGA TOUR Champions start in 2017. He was selected as PGA TOUR Champions Rookie of the Year after an impressive first season that included two wins, 10 top-10 finishes over 20 starts, and setting a PGA TOUR Champions record with 16 consecutive rounds in the 60s, breaking Hale Irwin's 18-year mark. The 54-year-old Wisconsin native's win total now sits at eight, including his first major title at the 2020 Bridgestone SENIOR PLAYERS Championship. Kelly currently sits atop the Charles Schwab Cup Money List on strength of 14 top-10 finishes over 27 starts, including two wins. In

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his last four starts he finished first, second, tied for eighth, and sixth. During his PGA TOUR Champions career Kelly has amassed 49 career top-10 finishes to go with \$8,136,107 in prize money.

Furyk, 51, became the 19<sup>th</sup> player in PGA TOUR Champions history to win his debut with his victory at the 2020 Ally Challenge. He went on to join Bruce Fleisher in September as the only players to win their first two starts on the senior circuit after his win at the PURE Insurance Championship. Phil Mickelson became a member of the exclusive fraternity a month later. Furyk grabbed his third, and most recent, PGA TOUR Champions title at the 2021 U.S. Senior Open Championship in July. The victory marked his first senior major and second overall, adding to his U.S. Open Championship win in 2003. Notably, among Furyk's 188 top-10 finishes on the PGA TOUR was a T-3 effort at the 2008 BMW Championship at Bellerive in St. Louis. Ten years later, again at Bellerive, Furyk—serving as the U.S. team captain—announced the 2018 U.S. Ryder Cup team members. The Florida resident has continued his consistent play since turning 50 by finishing inside the top-25 in all 17 starts of his PGA TOUR Champions career, including 10 top-10 outings. Furyk currently ranks No. 2 on the Charles Schwab Cup Money List and his three wins this season rank No. 1 on TOUR.

Els, 51, made his PGA TOUR Champions debut in January of 2020 with a T-2 finish at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. He grabbed his first senior victory two starts later at the Hoag Classic. The South African is ranked No. 4 on the Charles Schwab Cup Money List with 14 top-10 finishes during a rookie campaign currently comprised of 26 starts, two wins, two second-place outings and one third-place finish. Els is the owner 47 international victories and 19 PGA TOUR titles, including four major championships—two U.S. Open wins in 1994 and 1997, along with two The Open Championship titles in 2002 and 2012. The “Big Easy” played in the 1992 PGA Championship at Bellerive Country Club in just his second start in a major and finished T-17 at Bellerive in 2008 at the BMW Championship. During his 32 years as a professional golfer, Els is ranked No. 11 in career prize money with more than \$51 million in earnings and in 2015 was named the recipient of the Payne Stewart Award by the PGA TOUR in recognition of character, sportsmanship, and dedication to charitable giving.

Haas burst on to the PGA TOUR Champions scene in 2005 grabbing Rookie of the Year honors and proceeded to win 14 times in his first five years on the senior circuit. In total, he currently has 18 PGA TOUR Champions wins, including three majors and two Charles Schwab Cup titles. The 67-year-old St. Louis native is one of only six players to win the coveted Schwab Cup more than once, and his \$19,359,051 in career PGA TOUR Champions earnings ranks No. 4 all-time. Haas, the 2004 Payne Stewart Award recipient, has nine-career PGA TOUR victories to his credit—with a T-62 effort at the 1992 PGA Championship at Bellerive among his TOUR finishes—and was the 2015 U.S. team Presidents Cup winning captain.

Lehman, 62, claimed five wins on the PGA TOUR, including The Open Championship in 1996. Since joining the PGA TOUR Champions in 2009, he has recorded 12 victories, with three majors. Lehman has logged at least one victory in 9 of his 12 seasons on the senior circuit to go with 88-career top-10 finishes. The Arizona resident is a two-time winner of the Charles Schwab Cup, joining Haas, Hale Irwin, Tom Watson, Loren Roberts and Bernard Langer as multiple winners of the title. In 2010, Lehman received the Payne Stewart Award, the same year he won the Senior PGA Championship.

Andrade enjoyed a successful PGA TOUR career that included four wins, plus a T-12 finish at Bellerive in 1992 at the PGA Championship. The 57-year-old made his PGA TOUR Champions debut in 2014 before a breakout year the following season that consisted of three wins and a fourth-place finish on the money list. With two top-10 finishes this season Andrade is currently ranked No. 51 in Charles Schwab Cup points.

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The Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson will be one of the premier Regular Season events on the PGA TOUR Champions in 2021, which will give way to the Charles Schwab Cup Playoffs — a season-ending, three-tournament series used to determine the TOUR's season-long champion. Due to the circumstances related to the COVID-19 pandemic, PGA TOUR Champions has combined its tournaments in 2020 and 2021 to form one season, and the next Charles Schwab Cup champion will be crowned in November 2021 at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship.

Recent PGA TOUR Champion winners include “rookie” sensations Phil Mickelson, Els, and newly minted 2021 U.S. Senior Open Champion Jim Furyk. Other winners from last season include names like Darren Clarke, Miguel Angel Jimenez, and Bernhard Langer.

Tickets for the tournament can be purchased at [ascensioncharityclassic.com](http://ascensioncharityclassic.com). Two types of weekly admission options are available, a Clubhouse Ticket as well as a Grounds Ticket. Daily tickets are also offered. Tickets start at \$20, and kids 16 and under can attend for free with a ticketed adult.

All three rounds of the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson will be broadcast on Golf Channel. Internationally, telecasts air in excess of 170 countries and territories, reaching more than 340 million potential households, and distributed in 15+ markets via GOLFTV.

For more information about the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson, including ticket, pro-am and hospitality availability, visit the Ascension Charity Classic website at [ascensioncharityclassic.com](http://ascensioncharityclassic.com). For the latest news and updates on social media, follow the tournament on Twitter at @ascensionccg, on Facebook at [facebook.com/ascensioncharityclassic](https://facebook.com/ascensioncharityclassic) and Instagram at @ascensioncharityclassic.

#### **About Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson**

The Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson is an official event on the PGA TOUR Champions operated by Tournaments for Charity, a 501 (c) 3 non-profit entity. This 54-hole stroke play golf tournament features 81 PGA TOUR Champions professionals competing for a \$2 million purse at historic Norwood Hills Country Club in St. Louis, Missouri. The event is designed to showcase the best golf on the PGA TOUR Champions for the enjoyment of spectators and to benefit local charities in the North St. Louis County area and beyond. All three official rounds will be internationally televised on the Golf Channel. For more information, visit [ascensioncharityclassic.com](http://ascensioncharityclassic.com).

#### **About Ascension**

Ascension is a faith-based healthcare organization dedicated to transformation through innovation across the continuum of care. As one of the leading non-profit and Catholic health systems in the U.S., Ascension is committed to delivering compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable. In FY2020, Ascension provided \$2.4 billion in care of persons living in poverty and other community benefit programs. Ascension includes more than 160,000 associates and 40,000 aligned providers. The national health system operates more than 2,600 sites of care – including 146 hospitals and more than 40 senior living facilities – in 19 states and the District of Columbia, while providing a variety of services including clinical and network services, venture capital investing, investment management, biomedical engineering, facilities management, risk management, and contracting through Ascension's own group purchasing organization.

#### **About Emerson**

Emerson (NYSE: EMR), headquartered in St. Louis, Missouri (USA), is a global technology and engineering company providing innovative solutions for customers in industrial, commercial and residential markets. Our Automation Solutions business helps process, hybrid and discrete manufacturers maximize production, protect personnel and the environment while optimizing their energy and operating costs. Our Commercial & Residential Solutions business helps ensure human comfort and health, protect food quality and safety, advance energy efficiency and create sustainable infrastructure. For more information visit [Emerson.com](http://Emerson.com).

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**About PGA TOUR Champions**

PGA TOUR Champions is a membership organization of professional golfers 50 and older, including 33 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. 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 170 countries and territories, reaching more than 340 million potential households, and distributed in 15+ markets via GOLFTV. 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://instagram.com/pgatourchampions).

**About HNS Sports Group**

HNS Sports Group is a Dublin, Ohio-based LLC founded in 2000. The company offers over 125-plus years of collective experience and is committed to providing professional, efficient and effective client representation in the categories of sponsorship consultation, event management, hospitality management, sales representation and tournament operations within the golf market. To learn more about HNS Sports Group, visit [hnssports.com](http://hnssports.com).

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