



## First-Round Notes – Friday, August 29, 2014

**Weather:** Mostly sunny in the morning before becoming mostly cloudy in the afternoon. Highs were in the mid-to-upper 60s. Winds were from the SSW at 10-15 mph.

### **Current Leaderboard:**

T1.	Bart Bryant	62/-8
	Tom Pernice, Jr.	62/-8
3.	David Frost	63/-7
T4.	Joe Durant	64/-6
	Joe Daley	64/-6

Tom Pernice, Jr., and Bart Bryant matched the course record (Bill Glasson/2013/Rd. 3) with 8-under-par 62s to share the opening-round lead at the 2<sup>nd</sup> annual Shaw Charity Classic. Pernice started his day with consecutive birdies on Nos. 10-14 and posted a 5-under-par 30 on the back nine which Bryant later duplicated. The pair leads David Frost by one stroke with Joe Daley and Joe Durant two back heading into the weekend.

This marks the second consecutive year Bryant has gotten off to a fast start. A year ago he finished with a 7-under-par 64 on Friday and was just one stroke off the pace. He eventually finished T10.

Tom Pernice, Jr., matched his career-low round in a Tour event with his 62. He originally posted a 62 at the Web.com Tour's Miami Valley Open in 1996 and then shot a 62 in a pair of PGA TOUR events – 2005 FUNAI Classic-Disney and 2009 Justin Timberlake Shriners Hospital for Childrens Hospital Open.

Bart Bryant matched his career-low round on the Champions Tour with his 8-under-par 62 today. His previous low was a 10-under-par 62 in the second round of the 2013 Dick's Sporting Goods Open, an event he would go on to win and become the winner of the Champions Tour's 1,000<sup>th</sup> event.

August 29<sup>th</sup> seems to bring out the best in Craig Stadler. The former Masters winner opened with a 5-under-par 65 today and is T6. Thirty-two years ago today he added a fourth title to his 1982 resume on his way to the PGA TOUR money title when he made up five strokes on the final day, thanks to a 5-under-par 65 and then defeated Raymond Floyd with a par on the fourth playoff hole to win the World Series of Golf. Ten years ago today, Stadler closed with four straight birdies to win his second major crown on the Champions Tour, a one-stroke win over Jerry Pate and Allen Doyle at the JELD-WEN Tradition in Oregon (now the Regions Tradition in Birmingham). Stadler was a combined 11-under-par on the final four holes during the event.

We'll see if Stadler can continue his momentum into the second round because 10 years after winning his first World Series of Golf title in Akron, Stadler added a second in 1992 when he held off a late charge by Corey Pavin, who birdies three of the final five holes, but still falls one stroke short of Stadler. It was Stadler's 10<sup>th</sup> career title on the PGA TOUR.



Jeff Sluman was making his 97<sup>th</sup> consecutive start on the Champions Tour today. The last event he missed was the 2010 Ensure Classic at Rock Barn (now the Greater Hickory Kia Classic at Rock Barn).

Calgary resident Stephen Ames shot an even-par 70 in his second start on the Champions Tour. He had finished T15 in May's Senior PGA Championship in Michigan. Earlier this week, Ames was inducted into the Canadian Golf Hall of Fame.

Defending champion Rocco Mediate opened with a 2-under-par 68 and is among 13 players T34. That group also includes Fred Couples.

One of the new looks at Canyon Meadows Golf & CC this year was changing No. 15 from a par-5 to a par-4 which dropped par from 71 to 70. A year ago No. 15 yielded 21 eagles and 141 birdies during the event and had a scoring average of 4.292 (-.708). It was the easiest hole on the Champions Tour in 2013. On Friday there were no eagles and just 15 birdies. The field averaged 3.988 during the round.

A year ago there were 16 eagles and 331 birdies in the opening round. This year those numbers were nine eagles and 312 birdies.

Brian Cairns, a club pro from Walled Lake, Michigan, who open qualified on Tuesday, will certainly have lasting memories of his first Champions Tour event. Cairns made an ace on No. 5 with a 9-iron from 167 yards. It was the third hole-in-one in event history --David Eger (No. 16/Rd. 3) and Gene Jones (No. 13/Rd. 1) in 2013. It was the sixth on Tour this year.

Joe Daley, Michael Allen, Kevin Sutherland, Corey Pavin, Tom Purtzer, Fred Funk, Olin Browne, and Fred Couples all posted bogey-free rounds.

John Riegger hit all 18 greens in regulation.

Darryl James, an open qualifier from Calgary, shot a 4-over-par 74 on Friday.

So far in 2014, first-round leaders/co-leaders have won seven of 18 events. The most recent was Bernhard Langer at the Senior Open Championship.

A total of 56 players finished under par on Friday compared to 59 a year ago. The scoring average was 68.457 compared to 69.074 in 2013.

The most difficult hole was No. 7 with an average score of 4.235 (+.235), while No. 11 was the easiest at 4.210 (-.790). There were seven eagles and 51 birdies.