



(the 14th of 25 official events on the 2015 Champions Tour)

North Shore Country Club
Glenview, Illinois
Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,103

July 10-12, 2015
Charles Schwab Cup points: 285
Purse: \$1,900,000

Final-Round Notes – Sunday, July 12, 2015

Weather: Plenty of sunshine throughout the day with high temperatures in the low-80s and winds from the E in the afternoon at 5-10 mph.

Final Leaderboard

Jerry Smith	66-64-70—200 (-16)
David Frost	66-70-68—203 (-13)
Wes Short, Jr.	70-66-68—204 (-12)
Woody Austin	67-68-70—205 (-11)
Bart Bryant	69-66-70—205 (-11)

Recap

Champions Tour rookie Jerry Smith shook off a shaky start on Sunday and then holed a greenside bunker shot at the par-5 16th hole for an eagle to separate himself from David Frost and win his first career title on the circuit. Smith started the day with a three-stroke lead and eventually won by three thanks to a 4-under 32 on the back nine. There were quite a few ups and downs during his Sunday round. Smith bogeyed three of his first five holes and found himself in a temporary tie for the lead at the turn. He moved back into the lead for good after a birdie at the par-5 11th hole. Nursing a one-stroke lead over Frost down the stretch, Smith hit his second shot into the bunker by the green at the par-5 16th and then holed the shot for an eagle to increase his lead to three strokes. Smith's final-round 70 gave him a 54-hole total of 16-under 200, a tournament record.

With His Victory...Jerry Smith

- Smith claims his first victory on the Champions Tour in his 14th career start on the circuit.
- He becomes the sixth first-time winner on the Champions Tour this year and the first since Ian Woosnam at the Insperity Invitational.
- He joins Miguel Angel Jimenez (Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai) as the second rookie to win on the 2015 Champions Tour.
- Smith is the 13th different winner on the Champions Tour in the 14 official events played in 2015.
- Smith wins in his first appearance at this event. His previous-best finish on the Champions Tour was T9 in late March at the Tucson Conquistadores Classic.
- Smith earns 285 Charles Schwab Cup points and also receives a two-year exemption into the season-opening Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai.
- Smith earns a check for \$285,000 and moves up into 26th place on the 2015 earnings list with \$447,219.

Smith's statistical breakdown this week vs. Tom Lehman last year at North Shore Country Club:

Smith – *Fairways Hit: 26/42 (T36); Greens In Regulation: 36/54 (T43); Total Putts: 76 (1st)*

Lehman – *Fairways Hit: 33/42 (T3); Greens In Regulation: 43/54 (T3); Total Putts: 82 (6th)*

Smith played on numerous golf tours worldwide, including the PGA TOUR, Web.com Tour, Asian Tour, Champions Tour, South American Tour and the European Senior Tour, among others. His resume includes wins at the 1991 Waterloo (Iowa) Open Golf Classic and the 1998 Guam Open.

Smith played the PGA TOUR full-time from 2000-02 and again from 2006-07. Made 153 starts in his TOUR career and earned \$1.9 million, with his best season coming in 2001 when he finished 85th on the money list (\$592,030). Best finish that year was a third-place effort at the National Car Rental Golf Classic at Walt Disney Classic, where he closed with a 9-under-par 63, a career low.

Smith played collegiately at Baylor University after a stellar junior college career at McLennan Community College in Texas where he was the national junior college champion (NJCAA).

Miscellaneous Notes

Smith's winning total of 16-under-par 200 is the lowest winning score in the three years for the Encompass Championship at North Shore Country Club. Last year, Tom Lehman won with a score of 15-under 201. Smith's three-stroke victory gives the Champions Tour a winner by multiple strokes in four of the last five tournaments.

Smith's win also meant the 36-hole leader in the Encompass Championship went on to triumph at North Shore Country Club all three years. The 36-hole leader/co-leader has also won on the Champions Tour in the last six straight events.

Each of the three winners of the Encompass Championship shot a round in the 70s on Sunday at North Shore Country Club. Like Tom Lehman the year before him, Jerry Smith shot 70 today in the final round. Smith's Sunday round was the highest finish by a winner of a 54-hole event on the 2015 Champions Tour. Jeff Maggert shot an even-par 72 in the last round of the Regions Tradition, a 72-hole eventP.

Defending champion Tom Lehman carded a 4-under 68 on Sunday, his ninth straight sub-par round at North Shore Country Club and the round elevated him into a T10. Kenny Perry also shot 68 today and has nine straight sub-par rounds at this course. He also finished T10 in the event. Both Lehman and Perry are the only two players to finish among the top-10 each year the Encompass Championship was played at North Shore. Lehman finish T3 in 2013 before winning last year. Perry was T3 in 2013 and T6 last year.

Jeff Maggert, a two-time major champion on the 2015 Champions Tour, was T13 this week and did not pick up any ground on Colin Montgomerie in the 2015 Charles Schwab Cup race. Maggert still remains 160 points back of Montgomerie in the season-long race. Maggert's final-round 71 today did extend his streak of par/better rounds to 14. He's not been above par in any round on the Champions Tour since posting 76 on the final day of the Senior PGA Championship.

In his return to competition for the first time since The Masters, World Golf Hall of Fame member Fred Couples shot a bogey-free 5-under 67 and finished T10. Couples had been out of action with back issues and this week's Encompass Championship was only his fourth start of the year on the Champions Tour.

Wes Short, Jr.'s third-place finish this week was his best on the Champions Tour since winning last year at the Quebec Championship.

Lee Janzen has been among the top six in each of his last three events – 6th at Constellation Energy SENIOR PLAYERS, T5 at U.S. Senior Open, T6 at Encompass Championship. He's now a cumulative 25-under in those three tournaments.

Mike Goodes also finished T6 this week at the Encompass Championship, his best effort since finishing solo sixth at last year's 3M Championship.

Canadian Jim Rutledge played his last six holes in 5-under to shoot a final-round 64, matching the 18-hole tournament record originally set by Russ Cochran in Round 3 of the 2014 Encompass Championship. Jerry Smith also shot 64 yesterday at North Shore Country Club. Rutledge's round jumped him up 64 places into a T14. It marked the fourth time Rutledge has shot 64 on the Champions Tour and was his best score since the 2014 ACE Group Classic. Rutledge's career-low round on the Champions Tour is 62 at the 2013 Toshiba Classic. Interestingly, all five of Rutledge's best scores on the circuit have come on the last day of the event.

There were 21 rounds in the 60s today, the same number as yesterday. A total of 31 players posted rounds in the 60s on Friday. Round 3 scoring was 71.587 vs. 71.400 in Round 2 and 70.605 in Round 1. This year's cumulative average was 71.195 compared to 70.914 last year at North Shore Country Club.

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