

**2015 Insperity Invitational**

*(8th of 25 events in the 2015 Champions Tour Season)*

**The Woodlands Country Club (Tournament)**

**The Woodlands, Texas**

**Par/Yards: 36-36—72/7,012**

**May 1-3, 2015**

**Charles Schwab Cup points: 308 to the winner**

**Purse: \$2,050,000**

## **Second-Round Notes – Saturday, May 2, 2015**

### **Weather**

Mostly sunny with highs in the low-80s and very light wind from the SE at 5-10 mph.

### **Second-Round Leaderboard**

Michael Allen	66-68--134	(-10)
Joe Durant	67-68--135	(-9)
Woody Austin	70-66--136	(-8)
Scott Dunlap	71-65--136	(-8)
Tom Lehman	70-66--136	(-8)

### **Recap**

Michael Allen posted a 4-under-par 68, using birdies on the last two holes to leapfrog Joe Durant into sole possession of the lead through 36 holes of the 2015 Insperity Invitational. Allen, a first-round co-leader, started fast and finished fast today. The seven-time winner on the Champions Tour opened with birdies on two of his first three holes, then played even-par golf for the next 13, before closing with a 12-foot birdie on No. 17 and a three-foot birdie on the final hole. Late in the round, it appeared as if Durant would be the sole leader, but he hit his second shot in the water on the par-4 17<sup>th</sup> and made double-bogey that temporarily left the tournament with a six-way tie for the lead. However, Durant rebounded by hitting a 6-iron approach shot to eight feet at the 18<sup>th</sup> hole and converting the birdie putt.

### **Michael Allen (-10)**

Is a Saturday leader on the Champions Tour for the fifth time in his career, and has gone on to win from this position twice in his four previous attempts, most recently as a sole Saturday leader at the 2014 Allianz Championship.

In 2012, was T4 at the Insperity Invitational after being two strokes out of the lead after 36 holes. He's never finished outside the top 25 in any of his previous four tournaments at The Woodlands Country Club. better than T4

Bidding to win his eighth career title on the Champions Tour and is trying to claim his second straight tournament in the state of Texas. Near the end of the Champions Tour season last year, Allen won the AT&T Championship in San Antonio.

Allen has now had consecutive rounds in the 60s on the Tournament Course at the Woodlands for the first time since 2012 when he shot 69-68 in the first two rounds.

### **Joe Durant (-9)**

He's making his 18<sup>th</sup> career start on the Champions Tour and his fifth appearance in the 2015 season. Durant, a winner last week with Billy Andrade at the Bass Pro Shops Legends of Golf, is bidding to become the first player since Kenny Perry (2013 Constellation SENIOR PLAYERS Championship, U.S. Senior Open) to win in consecutive starts. He also would become the first player on the 2015 Champions Tour to win multiple titles.

Durant won four times on the PGA TOUR and also claimed the 1996 Mississippi Gulf Coast Classic on the Web.com. Tour. He won multiple events on the PGA TOUR in 2001 when he was victorious at the Bob Hope Chrysler Classic and then the Genuity Championship.

Durant is making his first appearance at the Insuperity Invitational this year. On the PGA TOUR, he was T2 at the 2001 Shell Houston Open on this course, three strokes back of Hal Sutton.

### **Second-Round Leader Notes/Statistics**

Second-round leaders have gone on to win six of the previous 11 Insuperity Invitationals, including three of the last four years.

Michael Allen's 36-hole score of 10-under 134 matches the lowest first two rounds posted at this event since it's been at The Woodlands Country Club's Tournament Course. In addition to Bernhard Langer's 10-under score last year, both Corey Pavin (2010) and Brad Faxon (2011) had 36-hole scores of 134.

In 2015 on the Champions Tour, leaders/co-leaders after 36 holes have won four of the previous seven events and the winner has come out of the final grouping five times.

In Insuperity Invitational history, the winner has come from the final grouping in seven of the last nine years with 2009 and 2013 being the exceptions.

#### Leader Statistics:

Allen-- Fairways Hit: 24/28—T4; Greens In Regulation: 25/36—T24; Putts: 52—T2

Durant-- Fairways Hit: 23/28—T13; Greens In Regulation: 29/36—T1; Putts: 55—T13

### **Miscellaneous Notes**

World Golf Hall of Fame member Bernhard Langer, the defending champion in the Insuperity Invitational and an overall winner three times at this event, made a big move Saturday in his quest to claim this tournament for a fourth time. Langer's 66 jumped him up 25 spots into a T6 but he's only three strokes off the lead. In addition to his victory last year, Langer won this event in 2007 and 2008. Langer is the only player to successfully defend his title at this event. The last player to win the same tournament four times was Hale Irwin when he claimed the Senior PGA Championship in 1996, 1997, 1998 and 2004.

Scott Dunlap shot the best second round, posting a 7-under 65, the third time this year he's carded that score on Saturday (Allianz Championship, Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic). Dunlap moved up 28 places into a T3, the biggest move up by a player in the field.

The winner of tomorrow's Insuperity Invitational will earn 308 Charles Schwab Cup points. Olin Browne, the current Schwab Cup leader is T10 through two rounds of the Insuperity Invitational. Michael Allen, the tournament leader, is currently 21<sup>st</sup> in the Schwab Cup standings and could jump up into third place in the season-long race with a win tomorrow. Joe Durant, currently fourth in the Schwab Cup race, could take over the lead with a high finish tomorrow. He trails Browne by only 78 points after the first seven events of the season.

Woody Austin, making his second start on the 2015 Champions Tour, is in position to win for the first time on the Champions Tour. Austin was T5 earlier this year at the Mississippi Gulf Resort Classic. His best finish in nine career starts on the Champions Tour is T2 at the 2014 Dick's Sporting Goods Open.

After 44 professionals managed to break par in Round 1, there were 34 professionals with rounds under par today at The Woodlands Country Club. Today's scoring average was 71.823 compared to 71.772 in Round 1. Ian Woosnam has made the most birdies through 36 holes (13) while Mike Goodes has not made a bogey and Jeff Sluman only has one.

There were five bogey-free rounds at the Tournament Course at The Woodlands Country Club today – Bernhard Langer (66), Scott Hoch (69), Jeff Sluman (69), Mike Goodes (69), Duffy Waldorf (70).

World Golf Hall of Fame members Jack Nicklaus, Lee Trevino and Gary Player combined to shoot 13-under 59 in an 18-hole scramble and win the 3M Oil & Gas Greats of Golf Challenge. Charles Coody, David Graham and Tom Weiskopf shot 10-under 62 as a team as did Don January, Dave Stockton and Tony Jacklin. Weiskopf was making his first appearance in the event.

Tom Lehman's well-known caddie for 23 years, Andy Martinez, has gone back to the PGA TOUR and is now working for Zach Blair. Prior to looping for Lehman, Martinez was best known for being on World Golf Hall of Fame member Johnny Miller's bag during his heyday in the decade of the 1970s. This week, Lehman has employed former PGA TOUR veteran Dennis Trixler but he will also use his son as his caddie during the summer. "Andrew got a fantastic offer from Zach to go work for him and I'm happy for him," Lehman said. "We had a good run over the years."

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