

NEWS



Ascension CHARITY CLASSIC

presented by EMERSON



CHAMPIONS

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Masters champion Larry Mize joins Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson ambassadors and St. Louis natives Jay Delsing and Jay Williamson with exemptions to join the tournament's 2021 field

ST. LOUIS (August 23, 2021) – Officials of the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson announced today that three of the tournament's five exemptions have been filled. Larry Mize, Masters champion in 1987, has accepted one of the Ascension Charity Classic's three restricted exemptions. Joining Mize when the inaugural event takes place the week of Sept. 6-12 at historic Norwood Hills Country Club will be two of the tournament's ambassadors, St. Louis natives Jay Delsing and Jay Williamson, each receiving the Ascension Charity Classic's two unrestricted exemptions.

The first-year PGA TOUR Champions event already boasts one of the strongest fields of the season, with eight of the top-10 players in the Schwab Cup standings and eight members of the World Golf Hall of Fame, including Jim Furyk, Ernie Els, Bernhard Langer, Retief Goosen, and Davis Love III.

Tickets for the tournament can be purchased at 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. Limited pro-am spots are still available.

Mize's storied professional career boasts four PGA TOUR wins, including the 1987 Masters Tournament, and one PGA TOUR Champions title. The 62-year-old Georgia native has recorded 34 career top-10 finishes since joining the senior circuit in 2008 and finished as high as sixth on the money list. Mize has competed on two occasions in St. Louis, both at Bellerive Country Club. He finished T-40 at the 1992 PGA Championship and missed the cut at the 2013 Senior PGA Championship presented by KitchenAid.

"I'm honored to be playing in the inaugural Ascension Charity Classic," said former Masters champion and PGA TOUR Champions winner Mize. "The players are really excited to be coming back to St. Louis, which has shown itself time and again to be one of the best golf regions in the country. We've been sensing the buzz around this tournament for quite a while, and we hope the fans are as excited as the players!"

Delsing, 60, was born and raised in St. Louis and was a caddy at Norwood Hills Country Club before heading to UCLA in 1979 on a golf scholarship. The two-time All-American went on to earn his PGA TOUR card and competed in nearly 700 events, including a number of starts on the Korn Ferry Tour where he recorded two victories. He has played in 12 PGA TOUR Champions events during his career, his most recent at the Shaw Charity Classic earlier this month where he finished T-57. He also competed at Bellerive in 2013 at the Senior PGA Championship presented by KitchenAid, recording a T-69 finish. Delsing is deeply rooted in the St. Louis community and continues to give back to his hometown through the game of golf. He is one of the founders of the First Tee of Greater St. Louis and hosts a weekly radio show on 101 ESPN, titled Golf with Jay Delsing.

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“It’s the thrill of a lifetime to be playing a ‘home game’ at Norwood Hills,” said Delsing, who made nearly 700 starts on the PGA TOUR and is a member at Norwood Hills. “Having started my golfing career as a caddy at Norwood, to playing a PGA TOUR Champions event there, I can’t even put into words how much this means to me. And to think that it’s all to benefit local charities that are doing so much good for so many makes it even more special.”

Williamson attended Johns Burroughs High School in St. Louis where he played baseball and hockey. He left his home state for Trinity College in Hartford, Connecticut but did not start playing competitive golf until he graduated. He turned pro in 1990 and has since played in more than 400 professional tournaments across the PGA TOUR, PGA TOUR Champions, and Korn Ferry Tour. His resumé includes 18 top-10 finishes on the PGA TOUR, with two runner-up results, and one Korn Ferry Tour title. The 54-year-old counts the recent Shaw Charity Classic—where he finished T50—among his five PGA TOUR Champions career starts.

“I think our St. Louis fans are in for a treat—they’re going to see some of the best golfers in the world take on a stiff but fair test of golf,” said Williamson, who competed two weeks ago at the PGA TOUR Champion’s Shaw Charity Classic in Canada. “I can’t wait to play in front of our hometown fans and introduce the world of golf to Norwood Hills. It’s going to be a special week.”

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 Nov. 11-14, 2021, at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship at Phoenix Country Club.

All three rounds of the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson will be broadcast on Golf Channel. Internationally, telecasts air in more than 170 countries and territories, reaching at least 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. For the latest news and updates on social media, follow the tournament on Twitter at @ascensionccg, on Facebook at 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.

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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.

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, at 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.

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