



## 2011 Regions Tradition *Final-Round Notes*

*(The eighth of 24 official events on the 2011 Champions Tour)*

**Shoal Creek**

**Birmingham, Ala.**

**Par/Yards : 36-36—72/7,079**

**May 5-8, 2011**

**Purse: \$2,200,000**

**Charles Schwab Cup points: 660**

*Weather: Sunny with high temperatures in the mid-80s and winds from the SW in the afternoon at 5-10 mph.*

Tom Lehman won the 2011 Regions Tradition when Peter Senior lipped out a five-foot par putt on the second playoff hole. It appeared as if Senior was in the driver's seat on the first playoff hole, but he missed a 15-foot birdie putt and then Lehman was able to get up and down from the collection area right of the 18<sup>th</sup> green, making a five-foot par putt of his own. After Senior missed the green to the right in the same collection area that Lehman had just played from, he chipped five feet past the flag. Lehman's 21-foot birdie putt missed right but he won the event after Senior's par attempt to extend the overtime session missed. Lehman played the last 27 holes of the event without a bogey and made two key par saves (10<sup>th</sup> hole from 15 feet, 17<sup>th</sup> hole after bad drive in the trees) that allowed him to get into the playoff. He also did not have a three-putt green during the week.

**Final Leaderboard:** 1) **Tom Lehman/275 (-13)\***; 2) **Peter Senior/275 (-13)**; 3) **Loren Roberts/277 (-11)**; 4) **Michael Allen/278 (-10)**; T5) **Mark Calcavecchia/279 (-9)**, **Jay Haas/279 (-9)**, **Kenny Perry/279 (-9)**, **Nick Price/279 (-9)**, **Eduardo Romero/279 (-9)** \*--won playoff

Tom Lehman claims his third victory of the 2011 season in just his seventh event this year. Last year, Fred Couples won three events in his first four starts on the Champions Tour.

Tom Lehman now has claimed five career titles on the Champions Tour in 29 starts. He won five titles on the PGA TOUR, including the 1996 British Open Championship, in 266 career appearances.

Tom Lehman has now won a pair of major titles on the Champions Tour with both victories coming in playoffs. Last year, Lehman won the Senior PGA Championship at Colorado Golf Club near Denver, defeating both Fred Couples and David Frost in overtime.

Tom Lehman earned 660 Charles Schwab Cup points and now has 1,432 total points on the season. Nick Price is now in second place in the Schwab Cup standings with 698 points and Michael Allen is third with 580 points. At the end of the official season, the player earning the most Schwab Cup points will receive a \$1 million payout.

Tom Lehman also went over the \$1-million mark in season earnings in just his seventh event of 2011. Last year, Fred Couples set an all-time record for quickest to seven figures in a season, doing so in his sixth event, the Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf.

Today's playoff between Peter Senior and Tom Lehman was the eighth in the 23-year history of the Regions Tradition and second overtime session in the last three years of the event. It also marked the first time since 2008 (ACE Group Classic, Toshiba Classic, AT&T Champions Classic) that the

Champions Tour had three straight events end in playoffs. John Cook won this year's Outback Steakhouse Pro-Am in a playoff and then David Eger/Mark McNulty won the Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf in a playoff. Since 2008, the Champions Tour has now had at least one playoff in a major championship during the year.

Tom Lehman's winning score of 13-under 275 was the lowest to win the Regions Tradition since 2008 when Fred Funk triumphed with a 19-under 269 total at Crosswater in Sunriver, Oregon. Lehman became the third straight Tradition winner to come from behind in the final round. Last year, Lehman was the 54-hole leader at the Tradition but carded a final-round 73 and finished T4.

Also, in each of the last three Tradition events, the winner has posted 69 in the final round. Tom Lehman is also the first opening-round leader to win since Mark McNulty was tied for the Thursday lead in 2007 and went on to claim the Tradition in Oregon.

Tom Lehman's victory today means that 10 of the 23 Regions Traditions have been won by a player who claimed at least one major championship on the PGA TOUR. Lehman won the 1996 British Open at Royal Lytham & St. Annes. He became the first player to do so since Craig Stadler, the 2004 Tradition champion, who also won the 1982 Masters Tournament.

Australian Peter Senior matched his career-best finish on the Champions Tour with a runner-up performance at the Regions Tradition. Senior's previous-best effort in a Champions Tour event came in Birmingham last year when he was T2 at the old Regions Charity Classic at Ross Bridge.

Loren Roberts's final-round 65 was the low round of the day and matched the low round of the tournament (Mark Calcavecchia/Rd. 2, Kenny Perry/Rd. 2). Robert's score today moved him up 10 spots into third place. Today's round also allowed Roberts to become the only player to finish among the top five in the last two professional events at Shoal Creek. Roberts was T5 in the 1990 PGA Championship. It was Roberts' best performance in a Champions Tour event since he finished third at last year's Constellation Energy Senior Players Championship.

Each of the last two major championships on the Champions Tour has had a 1-2-3-4 finish and Michael Allen and Loren Roberts were involved in both of them. This week at the Regions Tradition, Roberts finished third and Allen fourth. At last year's Constellation Energy Senior Players Championship, Mark O'Meara won the event followed by Allen. Roberts finished third and Jeff Sluman was solo fourth.

#### Shoal Creek Statistics By Round

<b>Category</b>	<b>Round One</b>	<b>Round Two</b>	<b>Round Three</b>	<b>Round Four</b>
Stroke Average	74.179	72.870	73.126	72.840
Most difficult hole/average	No. 4/4.397	No. 4/4.390	No. 4/4.361	No. 8/3.240
Least difficult hole/average	No. 3/4.705	No. 3/4.675	No. 3/4.696	No. 3/4.747
Par or better	26	34	41	35
Below par	6	27	35	25

Mark Calcavecchia made the most birdies in the event (21) but his undoing was the back nine on the weekend. He made five bogeys and two double-bogeys on Shoal Creek's final nine holes on Saturday and Sunday combined.

There were 14 eagles made at Shoal Creek during the week but only one came on a par-4 (Jeff Sluman/No. 7 in the final round). Gil Morgan, the 1997 and 1998 Tradition champion, was the only player to make a pair of eagles this week.

