

# NEWS



## Ascension CHARITY CLASSIC

presented by EMERSON



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### **St. Louis sports icons Ozzie Smith and Craig Berube join the Legends Charity Challenge presented by World Wide Technology with Jack Nicklaus and Tom Watson – Pairings Announced**

*Legends Charity Challenge exhibition to benefit  
First Tee of Greater St. Louis and PGA REACH Gateway*

**ST. LOUIS (July 7, 2021)** – Officials of the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson announced today that former St. Louis Cardinals Hall-of-Fame shortstop Ozzie Smith and St. Louis Blues Stanley Cup-winning head coach Craig Berube are the third and fourth members of the tournament’s signature event, the Legends Charity Challenge presented by World Wide Technology. Smith and Berube join golf’s greatest champion Jack Nicklaus and Missouri native and World Golf Hall-of-Famer Tom Watson to create a powerhouse foursome that will compete in an exhibition match to benefit charity.

The Legends Charity Challenge will take place on Saturday, September 11, following the final pairing of the tournament’s second round, and will begin on Hole No. 10 at Norwood Hills Country Club.

“Bringing together two St. Louis legends like ‘The Wizard’ and our Stanley Cup-winning coach Craig Berube, with arguably the greatest golfers of all time, is a dream come true for our inaugural event,” said Nick Ragone, Executive Vice President, Chief Marketing & Communications Officer, Ascension. “It’s going to be one highlight of so many for St. Louis fans and most importantly, proceeds will benefit two amazing charitable organizations.”

Smith began his Hall-of-Fame career with the San Diego Padres in 1978, where his talent as an infielder was evident from the start. He joined the Cardinals following the 1981 season and helped lead the team to three National League pennants and the 1982 World Series title. Over his 19-season major-league career, Smith received 13 Gold Glove Awards and was named to

15 All-Star teams. Known as “The Wizard,” Smith combined athletic ability with acrobatic skill to become one of the greatest defensive shortstops of all time. He retired in 1996, the same year the Cardinals retired his number, and in 2002, was elected in his first year of eligibility to the National Baseball Hall of Fame.

Berube played more than 1,000 NHL regular season games from 1986 to 2003 before entering the coaching ranks of professional hockey. In 2016, he was named the head coach of the American Hockey League’s Chicago Wolves, once an affiliate of the St. Louis Blues. Berube moved into an assistant head coaching role with the Blues the following season before taking over the head coaching responsibilities on an interim basis in November 2018. The Canadian led the St. Louis Blues to the organization’s first Stanley Cup title in 2019, and in June of that year the Blues dropped the “interim” tag from Berube’s title and officially named him the 26<sup>th</sup> head coach in the franchise’s history.

The pairings for this marquee competition will feature Nicklaus and Smith versus Watson and Berube in a nine-hole team scramble, match-play format. The teams will compete for a \$25,000 purse to benefit First Tee of Greater St. Louis and PGA REACH Gateway. Each hole will be given a dollar value that will be awarded per hole to the winning team’s charity. Nicklaus and Smith will compete for PGA REACH Gateway, with Watson and Berube teeing it up for First Tee of Greater St. Louis. The team that has won the most money for its charity at the end of nine holes will be declared the winner of the inaugural Legends Charity Challenge presented by World Wide Technology.

**LEGENDS CHARITY CHALLENGE HOLE VALUE BREAKDOWN**

Hole Nos. 10 thru 12.....	\$1,000 per hole
Hole Nos. 13 thru 15.....	\$1,500 per hole
Hole No. 16.....	\$2,500
Hole No. 17.....	\$5,000
Hole No. 18.....	\$10,000
<b>Total Purse.....</b>	<b>\$25,000</b>

Ties will result in a carryover of the assigned hole value to the next hole. A tie at the end of nine holes will result in a sudden-death chip-off on the 18<sup>th</sup> green.

“The pairings and format for this event will make for an incredibly unique and exciting Saturday at the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson,” said Matt Horner, Senior Vice President, Global Enterprise Sales, World Wide Technology. “Fans are sure to see a thrilling competition as The Golden Bear and The Wizard take on Watson and Berube in a battle for

bragging rights, and most importantly, to raise money in support of First Tee of Greater St. Louis and PGA REACH Gateway, which both offer so many wonderful programs for youth in our St. Louis community.”

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 in November 2021 at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship.

Recent PGA TOUR Champion winners include “rookie” sensations Jim Furyk and Phil Mickelson. Both are members of an exclusive club of only three players to win their first two PGA TOUR Champions starts. Other winners from last season include names like Darren Clarke, Ernie Els, Miguel Angel Jimenez, and Bernhard Langer.

The first playing of the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson is set for the week of Sept. 6-12 after being forced to reschedule from October 2020 due to the global pandemic.

Tickets for the tournament can be purchased at [ascensioncharityclassic.com](http://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.

All three rounds of the Ascension Charity Classic presented by Emerson will be broadcast on Golf Channel. Internationally, telecasts air in excess of 170 countries and territories, reaching more than 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](http://ascensioncharityclassic.com). For the latest news and updates on social media, follow the tournament on Twitter at @ascensionccg, on Facebook at [facebook.com/ascensioncharityclassic](https://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](http://ascensioncharityclassic.com).

**About Ascension**

Based in St. Louis, Ascension is the largest non-profit and Catholic health system in the U.S., with more than 160,000 associates and 2,600 sites of care across 19 states and the District of Columbia. In keeping with the organization's mission to deliver compassionate, personalized care to all, with special attention to persons living in poverty and those most vulnerable, all proceeds from the Ascension Charity Classic tournament will be donated to local non-profits. Last year, Ascension provided \$2.4 billion in care of persons living in poverty and other community benefit programs across the country.

**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](http://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](http://PGATOUR.com), at [facebook.com/PGATOURChampions](https://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](http://hnssports.com).

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