

BMW Charity Pro-Am golf tournament announces courses, change in format for 2019 event

[Scott Keeper](#), [The Greenville News](#) Published 9:24 a.m. ET Jan. 10, 2019
CONNECT TWEET LINKEDIN COMMENT EMAIL MORE

The 2019 BMW Charity Pro-Am golf tournament will unfold on familiar turf.

The Web.com Tour and South Carolina Charities Inc., announced Thursday that Greer's Thornblade Club and The Cliffs Valley course near Travelers Rest will return as host courses for this year's event, which is set for June 3-9.

Thornblade Club and The Cliffs Communities have agreed to five-year extensions through 2023 to host the event, which is presented by SYNEX Corporation.



Buy Photo

Michael Arnaud, the 2018 BMW Charity Pro-Am winner, hits from the 12th tee en route to victory at Thornblade Club last May. (Photo: BART BOATWRIGHT/Staff)

Under a new format adopted this year, competitors could play up to three rounds at Thornblade. After all 160 contestants play 18 holes at both Thornblade and The Cliffs Valley, the field will be cut to the remaining amateur and celebrity teams as well as pros, who will play a third round at Thornblade.

The fourth and final round, also at Thornblade, will include only pros who make the cut to the low 65 scores and ties.

The BMW Charity Pro-Am, which is being held in the Upstate for a 19th consecutive year, is the only tournament on the Web.com Tour in which amateurs and celebrities are paired with Web.com Tour professionals in a four-day, better-ball competition.

The pro champion will pocket \$126,000 from a total purse of \$700,000.

“We are excited to continue our longstanding partnership with the Web.com Tour and South Carolina Charities Inc.,” said Thornblade Club CEO and General Manager Tim Mervosh. “Our membership has demonstrated tremendous support for this tournament as it has presented a wonderful opportunity for us to showcase our club on an international stage.”

A complete bunker renovation at Thornblade by The Fazio Golf Group will be in progress soon as well as clubhouse renovations, with both projects expected to be completed by the time the tournament tees off in June.

“We are thrilled to partner with the Web.com Tour, BMW, SYNEX Corporation, South Carolina Charities Inc., and Thornblade Club and to host the tournament again this year at The Cliffs Valley,” said David Sawyer, President and Managing Partner of The Cliffs Clubs. “Our Cliffs members and associates look forward to having fun with golf enthusiasts who visit The Cliffs during the tournament. Our goal is to inspire happiness in our beautiful slice of Blue Ridge mountain heaven.”

Since the tournament’s inception in 2001, the event has donated more than \$13 million to numerous charities across the Upstate.

The tournament field, including celebrities, is expected to be announced on May 1.