

Package ‘golfastr’

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Type Package

Title Efficiently Access Pro Golf Data

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Description Fetch Professional Golfers' Association (PGA) Tour tournament data from ESPN <<https://www.espn.com/golf/>> including leaderboards and hole-by-hole scoring. Data is returned in tidy tibble format ready for analysis. Supports local storage via RDS or 'Apache Arrow' Parquet files for fast repeated access. Designed for golf analytics, data journalism, and fantasy sports research.

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URL <https://github.com/array-carpenter/golfastr>

BugReports <https://github.com/array-carpenter/golfastr/issues>

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build_season	<i>Build Season Data File</i>
--------------	-------------------------------

Description

Incrementally load all tournaments for a season into a local file. Skips tournaments already saved. Safe to interrupt and resume.

Usage

```
build_season(year, file_path, tour = "pga")
```

Arguments

year	Season year
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet). Must be specified by user.
tour	Tour name (default: "pga")

Value

Invisibly returns number of tournaments added (integer).

Examples

```
## Not run:  
# Build 2025 season (run multiple times if needed)  
build_season(2025, file_path = tempfile(fileext = ".rds"))  
  
## End(Not run)
```

cache_info	<i>Display Cache Information</i>
------------	----------------------------------

Description

Shows information about the current cache including location, number of files, and total size.

Usage

```
cache_info()
```

Value

Invisible NULL. Called for side effects (prints to console).

Examples

```
cache_info()
```

check_season	<i>Check Season Progress</i>
--------------	------------------------------

Description

See which tournaments are loaded vs missing for a season.

Usage

```
check_season(year, file_path, tour = "pga")
```

Arguments

year	Season year
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet). Must be specified by user.
tour	Tour name (default: "pga")

Value

A tibble showing status of each tournament with columns: event_id, tournament_name, start_date, end_date, and status (either "loaded" or "missing").

Examples

```
## Not run:  
progress <- check_season(2025, file_path = "my_golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

clear_cache	<i>Clear golfastr Cache</i>
-------------	-----------------------------

Description

Removes all cached data files from the local cache directory.

Usage

```
clear_cache(confirm = TRUE)
```

Arguments

confirm	Logical. If TRUE (default), prompts for confirmation before clearing. Set to FALSE to skip confirmation.
---------	--

Value

Invisible NULL. Called for side effects.

Examples

```
clear_cache()
clear_cache(confirm = FALSE)
```

compare_players	<i>Compare Players</i>
-----------------	------------------------

Description

Side-by-side comparison of multiple players.

Usage

```
compare_players(players, year = NULL, file_path)
```

Arguments

players	Vector of player names
year	Optional year filter
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

Tibble comparing player statistics

Examples

```
## Not run:
compare_players(c("Scheffler", "McIlroy", "Hovland"), file_path = "golf_data.rds")

## End(Not run)
```

field_strength	<i>Field Strength Analysis</i>
----------------	--------------------------------

Description

Analyze the strength of a tournament field.

Usage

```
field_strength(tournament, year, file_path)
```

Arguments

tournament	Tournament name
year	Season year
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

Tibble with field statistics

Examples

```
## Not run:  
field_strength("Masters", 2025, file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

get_majors	<i>Get Major Championships</i>
------------	--------------------------------

Description

Get results from the four major championships.

Usage

```
get_majors(year, file_path)
```

Arguments

year	Season year
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

Tibble with major championship results

Examples

```
## Not run:  
# Get 2025 majors  
get_majors(2025, file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

get_player	<i>Get Player Results</i>
------------	---------------------------

Description

Look up a player's results across all tournaments in a data file.

Usage

```
get_player(name, file_path)
```

Arguments

- name Player name (partial match, case-insensitive)
- file_path Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

Tibble with player's tournament results

Examples

```
## Not run:  
# Get Rory McIlroy's results  
get_player("McIlroy", file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
# Get Scottie Scheffler's results  
get_player("Scheffler", file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

get_winners *Get Tournament Winners*

Description

Get all tournament winners from a data file.

Usage

```
get_winners(year = NULL, file_path)
```

Arguments

year	Optional year filter
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

Tibble with tournament winners

Examples

```
## Not run:  
# Get all winners  
get_winners(file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
# Get 2025 winners  
get_winners(2025, file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

leaderboard *Leaderboard Snapshot*

Description

Get formatted leaderboard for display.

Usage

```
leaderboard(tournament, year, top_n = 10, file_path)
```

Arguments

tournament	Tournament name
year	Season year
top_n	Number of players to show (default: 10)
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

Formatted tibble for display

Examples

```
## Not run:  
leaderboard("Masters", 2025, file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

list_tournaments	<i>List Available Tournaments</i>
------------------	-----------------------------------

Description

Get a list of all available tournaments for a given year.

Usage

```
list_tournaments(year, tour = "pga")
```

Arguments

year	Season year (e.g., 2025)
tour	Tour name: "pga" (default), "liv", "lpga", "euro", or "champions".

Value

Tibble with event_id, tournament_name, start_date, end_date

Examples

```
# See all 2025 PGA tournaments  
list_tournaments(2025)  
  
# See LIV Golf schedule  
list_tournaments(2026, tour = "liv")
```

load_data	<i>Load Tournament Data</i>
-----------	-----------------------------

Description

Load tournament data from a file. Auto-detects format based on extension.

Usage

```
load_data(file_path, tournament = NULL)
```

Arguments

file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)
tournament	Optional tournament name filter (partial match)

Value

A tibble with tournament leaderboard data

Examples

```
## Not run:  
# Load all data  
data <- load_data("golf_data.rds")  
  
# Load and filter to Masters  
masters <- load_data("golf_data.rds", tournament = "Masters")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

load_from_parquet	<i>Load Tournament Data from Parquet</i>
-------------------	--

Description

Load tournament data from a Parquet file. Requires the arrow package.

Usage

```
load_from_parquet(file_path)
```

Arguments

file_path	Path to Parquet file. Must be specified by user.
-----------	--

Value

A tibble with tournament leaderboard data containing columns such as position, player name, scores, and tournament metadata.

Examples

```
## Not run:  
data <- load_from_parquet(file_path = "my_golf_data.parquet")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

load_from_rds	<i>Load Tournament Data from RDS</i>
---------------	--------------------------------------

Description

Load Tournament Data from RDS

Usage

```
load_from_rds(file_path)
```

Arguments

file_path Path to RDS file. Must be specified by user.

Value

A tibble with tournament leaderboard data containing columns such as position, player name, scores, and tournament metadata.

Examples

```
## Not run:  
data <- load_from_rds(file_path = "my_golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

load_holes	<i>Load Hole-by-Hole Scoring</i>
------------	----------------------------------

Description

Retrieves hole-by-hole scoring data for tournaments.

Usage

```
load_holes(
  year = as.integer(format(Sys.Date(), "%Y")),
  tournament = NULL,
  top_n = NULL,
  tour = "pga"
)

get_player_scorecards(event_id, athlete_id)
```

Arguments

year	Season year (e.g., 2026). Defaults to current year.
tournament	Tournament identifier - either event_id or partial name match.
top_n	Number of top finishers to include. Default NULL returns all.
tour	Tour identifier. Currently supports "pga" (default).
event_id	ESPN event identifier (for legacy function)
athlete_id	ESPN athlete identifier (for legacy function)

Value

A tibble with hole-by-hole data including:

- player_id: ESPN athlete ID
- player_name: Player display name
- round: Round number (1-4)
- hole: Hole number (1-18)
- par: Par for the hole
- score: Player's score on the hole
- score_type: BIRDIE, PAR, BOGEY, EAGLE, etc.
- tournament_id: Event ID

A tibble with hole-by-hole scoring data

Functions

- get_player_scorecards(): Legacy function for backwards compatibility

Examples

```
# Load hole-by-hole for top 10 at Sony Open
holes <- load_holes(2026, "Sony", top_n = 10)
```

load_leaderboard	<i>Load Tournament Leaderboard</i>
------------------	------------------------------------

Description

Retrieves leaderboard data for tournaments. Can load a single tournament or all tournaments for a year.

Usage

```
load_leaderboard(
  year = as.integer(format(Sys.Date(), "%Y")),
  tournament = NULL,
  tour = "pga"
)

get_tournament_leaderboard(event_id)
```

Arguments

year	Season year (e.g., 2026). Defaults to current year.
tournament	Tournament identifier - either event_id or partial name match. If NULL, returns all tournaments for the year.
tour	Tour identifier. Currently supports "pga" (default).
event_id	ESPN event identifier (for legacy function)

Value

A tibble with leaderboard data including:

- position: Final standing
- player_id: ESPN athlete ID
- player_name: Player display name
- total_score: Total strokes
- score_to_par: Score relative to par (e.g., "-11")
- tournament_id: Event ID
- tournament_name: Tournament name

A tibble with leaderboard data

Functions

- `get_tournament_leaderboard()`: Legacy function for backwards compatibility

Examples

```
# Load specific tournament by name
sony <- load_leaderboard(2026, "Sony")
```

<code>load_pga_hbh</code>	<i>Load PGA Hole-by-Hole Data</i>
---------------------------	-----------------------------------

Description

Loads detailed hole-by-hole scoring data for specified tournaments.

Usage

```
load_pga_hbh(years, tournaments = NULL, top_n = 10, tour = "pga", dir = NULL)
```

Arguments

<code>years</code>	Numeric vector. Year(s) to load.
<code>tournaments</code>	Character vector. Optional tournament event IDs or names. If NULL, loads all tournaments.
<code>top_n</code>	Numeric. Number of top finishers to include scorecards for. Default is 10. Set to NULL for all players.
<code>tour</code>	Character. Tour type, default "pga".
<code>dir</code>	Character. Optional directory to save CSV files.

Value

A tibble with hole-by-hole scoring data.

Examples

```
# Load Masters hole-by-hole for top 10
masters_hbh <- load_pga_hbh(2025, tournaments = "401703504")

# Load with more players
masters_hbh <- load_pga_hbh(2025, tournaments = "401703504", top_n = 50)
```

load_pga_leaderboards *Load PGA Leaderboards*

Description

Loads tournament leaderboard data for specified year(s) and tournament(s). This is similar to nflfastR's data loading pattern.

Usage

```
load_pga_leaderboards(years, tournaments = NULL, tour = "pga", dir = NULL)
```

Arguments

years	Numeric vector. Year(s) to load (e.g., 2025 or 2023:2025).
tournaments	Character vector. Optional tournament event IDs or names to filter. If NULL, loads all tournaments.
tour	Character. Tour type, default "pga".
dir	Character. Optional directory to save CSV files.

Value

A tibble with leaderboard data.

Examples

```
# Load specific tournament
masters <- load_pga_leaderboards(2025, tournaments = "401703504")

# Load all 2025 tournaments
all_2025 <- load_pga_leaderboards(2025)
```

load_pga_schedule *Load PGA Tour Schedule*

Description

Loads the PGA Tour tournament schedule for a given year. Similar to nflfastR's schedule loading functions.

Usage

```
load_pga_schedule(year, tour = "pga")
```

Arguments

year Numeric. The year to load (e.g., 2025).
tour Character. Tour type, default "pga".

Value

A tibble with tournament schedule data.

Examples

```
schedule <- load_pga_schedule(2025)
```

load_players	<i>Load Player Directory</i>
--------------	------------------------------

Description

Retrieves a directory of players for a tour. Since ESPN doesn't have a dedicated player directory endpoint, this aggregates players from recent tournament leaderboards.

Usage

```
load_players(year = as.integer(format(Sys.Date(), "%Y")), tour = "pga")
```

Arguments

year Season year to pull players from. Defaults to current year.
tour Tour identifier. Currently supports "pga" (default).

Value

A tibble with player data including:

- player_id: ESPN athlete ID
- player_name: Player display name

Examples

```
# Get player directory  
players <- load_players()
```

load_schedule	<i>Load Golf Schedule</i>
---------------	---------------------------

Description

Retrieves the tournament schedule for a given year and tour.

Usage

```
load_schedule(year = as.integer(format(Sys.Date(), "%Y")), tour = "pga")
```

```
get_pga_schedule(year = format(Sys.Date(), "%Y"))
```

Arguments

year	Season year (e.g., 2026). Defaults to current year.
tour	Tour identifier. Currently supports "pga" (default).

Value

A tibble with columns:

- event_id: ESPN event identifier
- tournament_name: Tournament name
- start_date: Tournament start date
- end_date: Tournament end date

A tibble with tournament schedule data

Functions

- get_pga_schedule(): Legacy function for backwards compatibility

Examples

```
# Get current year schedule
schedule <- load_schedule()

# Get specific year
schedule_2025 <- load_schedule(2025)
```

load_strokes_gained *Load Strokes Gained Statistics*

Description

Returns pre-built strokes gained data from the PGA Tour, with all six SG categories per player: putting, around the green, approach, off the tee, tee to green, and total.

Usage

```
load_strokes_gained(player = NULL)
```

Arguments

player Optional player name filter (partial match, case-insensitive).

Details

Data is sourced from the PGA Tour and updated with each package release. To filter by player, use standard dplyr operations on the returned tibble.

Value

A tibble with one row per player and columns:

- player_id: PGA Tour player ID
- player_name: Player display name
- country: Three-letter country code
- sg_putt: Strokes Gained: Putting (per round avg)
- sg_arg: Strokes Gained: Around the Green (per round avg)
- sg_app: Strokes Gained: Approach the Green (per round avg)
- sg_ott: Strokes Gained: Off the Tee (per round avg)
- sg_t2g: Strokes Gained: Tee to Green (per round avg)
- sg_total: Strokes Gained: Total (per round avg)
- rounds: Number of measured (ShotLink) rounds
- season: PGA Tour season year

Examples

```
# Get all strokes gained data
sg <- load_strokes_gained()

# Look up a specific player
load_strokes_gained("Scheffler")
```

load_tournament	<i>Load Tournament Data</i>
-----------------	-----------------------------

Description

Fetch leaderboard data for a tournament. You can specify either the event_id or search by tournament name.

Usage

```
load_tournament(year, tournament, tour = "pga")
```

Arguments

year	Season year (e.g., 2025)
tournament	Tournament name (partial match) or event_id
tour	Tour name: "pga" (default), "liv", "lpga", "euro", or "champions".

Value

Tibble with tournament leaderboard

Examples

```
# Load by name (partial match works)
masters <- load_tournament(2025, "Masters")
pga_champ <- load_tournament(2025, "PGA Championship")

# Load LIV Golf tournament
adelaide <- load_tournament(2026, "Adelaide", tour = "liv")
```

load_tournament_detail	<i>Load Tournament with Hole-by-Hole Scores</i>
------------------------	---

Description

Fetch full tournament data including hole-by-hole scorecards.

Usage

```
load_tournament_detail(year, tournament, top_n = 10, tour = "pga")
```

Arguments

year	Season year (e.g., 2025)
tournament	Tournament name (partial match) or event_id
top_n	Only fetch scorecards for top N finishers (default: 10)
tour	Tour name: "pga" (default), "liv", "lpga", "euro", or "champions".

Value

List with 'leaderboard' and 'scorecards' tibbles

Examples

```
# Get Masters with top 10 scorecards
masters_detail <- load_tournament_detail(2025, "Masters", top_n = 10)
```

made_cuts_leaders	<i>Made Cuts Percentage</i>
-------------------	-----------------------------

Description

Get players by percentage of cuts made.

Usage

```
made_cuts_leaders(year = NULL, min_events = 5, top_n = 10, file_path)
```

Arguments

year	Optional year filter
min_events	Minimum events played
top_n	Number of players to show
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

Tibble with made cuts leaders

Examples

```
## Not run:
made_cuts_leaders(year = 2025, file_path = "golf_data.rds")

## End(Not run)
```

`pga_field_descriptions`*Get Field Descriptions for PGA Data*

Description

Returns a data frame with field names and descriptions for leaderboard or hole-by-hole data.

Usage

```
pga_field_descriptions(data_type = c("leaderboard", "holes"))
```

Arguments

`data_type` Character. Either "leaderboard" or "holes".

Value

A tibble with field and description columns.

Examples

```
pga_field_descriptions("leaderboard")  
pga_field_descriptions("holes")
```

`pga_majors`*Get PGA Major Championships*

Description

Returns a data frame with the four major championships and their typical schedule.

Usage

```
pga_majors()
```

Value

A tibble with tournament, month, and course columns.

Examples

```
pga_majors()
```

pga_score_types	<i>Get PGA Score Types</i>
-----------------	----------------------------

Description

Returns a data frame with score type classifications used in hole-by-hole data.

Usage

```
pga_score_types()
```

Value

A tibble with score_type, strokes_vs_par, and description columns.

Examples

```
pga_score_types()
```

player_summary	<i>Player Season Summary</i>
----------------	------------------------------

Description

Get aggregate statistics for a player's season.

Usage

```
player_summary(name, year = NULL, file_path)
```

Arguments

name	Player name (partial match)
year	Optional year filter
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

Tibble with season statistics

Examples

```
## Not run:  
player_summary("Scheffler", file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
player_summary("McIlroy", year = 2025, file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

plot_head_to_head *Plot Head-to-Head Comparison*

Description

Compare two or more players' finishes across tournaments.

Usage

```
plot_head_to_head(players, year = NULL, file_path)
```

Arguments

players	Vector of player names
year	Optional year filter
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

ggplot object

Examples

```
## Not run:  
plot_head_to_head(c("Scheffler", "McIlroy"), file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

plot_leaderboard *Plot Tournament Leaderboard*

Description

Bar chart of tournament leaderboard.

Usage

```
plot_leaderboard(tournament, year, top_n = 10, file_path)
```

Arguments

tournament	Tournament name
year	Season year
top_n	Number of players to show
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

ggplot object

Examples

```
## Not run:  
plot_leaderboard("Masters", 2025, file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

plot_player

Plot Player Results

Description

Visualize a player's finishes across tournaments.

Usage

```
plot_player(name, year = NULL, file_path)
```

Arguments

name	Player name
year	Optional year filter
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

ggplot object

Examples

```
## Not run:  
plot_player("Scheffler", file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

plot_scoring	<i>Plot Scoring Distribution</i>
--------------	----------------------------------

Description

Histogram of tournament scores.

Usage

```
plot_scoring(tournament, year, file_path)
```

Arguments

tournament	Tournament name
year	Season year
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

ggplot object

Examples

```
## Not run:  
plot_scoring("Masters", 2025, file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

plot_wins	<i>Plot Win Distribution</i>
-----------	------------------------------

Description

Pie/bar chart of wins by player.

Usage

```
plot_wins(year = NULL, top_n = 10, file_path)
```

Arguments

year	Optional year filter
top_n	Number of players to show
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

ggplot object

Examples

```
## Not run:  
plot_wins(year = 2025, file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

save_to_parquet	<i>Save Tournament Data to Parquet</i>
-----------------	--

Description

Save tournament data to a Parquet file for cross-language compatibility. Requires the arrow package.

Usage

```
save_to_parquet(data, file_path, append = TRUE)
```

Arguments

data	Tibble of tournament data
file_path	Path to Parquet file. Must be specified by user.
append	If TRUE, append to existing data

Value

Invisible NULL. Called for side effects (writes to file).

Examples

```
## Not run:  
masters <- load_tournament(2025, "Masters")  
save_to_parquet(masters, file_path = tempfile(fileext = ".parquet"))  
  
## End(Not run)
```

save_to_rds	<i>Save Tournament Data to RDS</i>
-------------	------------------------------------

Description

Save tournament data to an RDS file.

Usage

```
save_to_rds(data, file_path, append = TRUE)
```

Arguments

data	Tibble of tournament data
file_path	Path to RDS file. Must be specified by user.
append	If TRUE, append to existing data

Value

Invisible NULL. Called for side effects (writes to file).

Examples

```
## Not run:
masters <- load_tournament(2025, "Masters")
save_to_rds(masters, file_path = tempfile(fileext = ".rds"))

## End(Not run)
```

scoring_avg_leaders	<i>Scoring Average Leaders</i>
---------------------	--------------------------------

Description

Get players with best scoring average.

Usage

```
scoring_avg_leaders(year = NULL, min_events = 5, top_n = 10, file_path)
```

Arguments

year	Optional year filter
min_events	Minimum events played
top_n	Number of players to show
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

Tibble with scoring average leaders

Examples

```
## Not run:
scoring_avg_leaders(year = 2025, file_path = "golf_data.rds")

## End(Not run)
```

strokes_gained

PGA Tour Strokes Gained Statistics

Description

Pre-built dataset of strokes gained statistics from the PGA Tour. Contains per-round averages for all six strokes gained categories for players in the current season. Updated with each package release.

Usage

```
strokes_gained
```

Format

A tibble with one row per player and 11 columns:

player_id PGA Tour player ID
player_name Player display name
country Three-letter country code (e.g., "USA", "ENG")
sg_putt Strokes Gained: Putting (per round average)
sg_arg Strokes Gained: Around the Green (per round average)
sg_app Strokes Gained: Approach the Green (per round average)
sg_ott Strokes Gained: Off the Tee (per round average)
sg_t2g Strokes Gained: Tee to Green (per round average)
sg_total Strokes Gained: Total (per round average)
rounds Number of ShotLink-measured rounds
season PGA Tour season year

Source

PGA Tour (<https://www.pgatour.com/stats>)

top10_leaders	<i>Top 10 Leaders</i>
---------------	-----------------------

Description

Get players with most top 10 finishes.

Usage

```
top10_leaders(year = NULL, min_events = 5, top_n = 10, file_path)
```

Arguments

year	Optional year filter
min_events	Minimum events played
top_n	Number of players to show
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

Tibble with top 10 leaders

Examples

```
## Not run:  
top10_leaders(year = 2025, file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

tournament_history	<i>Tournament History</i>
--------------------	---------------------------

Description

Get historical results for a specific tournament.

Usage

```
tournament_history(tournament, file_path)
```

Arguments

tournament	Tournament name (partial match)
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

Tibble with tournament winners by year

Examples

```
## Not run:  
tournament_history("Masters", file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

win_leaders	<i>Most Wins</i>
-------------	------------------

Description

Get players with most wins.

Usage

```
win_leaders(year = NULL, top_n = 10, file_path)
```

Arguments

year	Optional year filter
top_n	Number of players to show
file_path	Path to data file (.rds or .parquet)

Value

Tibble with win leaders

Examples

```
## Not run:  
win_leaders(year = 2025, file_path = "golf_data.rds")  
  
## End(Not run)
```

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