



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Final-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Martin Trainer	67-60-68-69 – 274 (-14)
2	John Chin	67-68-73-68 – 276 (-12)
3	Chase Wright	68-69-70-70 – 277 (-11)
	Sebastian Munoz	64-72-70-71 – 277 (-11)
5	Taylor Moore	72-70-70-66 – 278 (-10)

Martin Trainer picks up first Web.com Tour victory At El Bosque Mexico Championship by Innova

LEON, GTO, Mexico – It takes a certain skill to be able to perform knowing an entire season is on the line. Just this past Sunday, University of Southern California alum Martin Trainer proved that is a skill in his arsenal, winning a three-for-one playoff at a local qualifier to earn one a sponsors exemption into this week’s El Bosque Mexico Championship by Innova. But simply getting into the field wasn’t enough for Trainer – he knew a win in Leon would earn him full status on Tour. Knowing what was on the line, Trainer battled all week, posting rounds of 67-70-68-69 – 274 (-14) to capture his first win on Tour and earn exempt status through 2019 by two strokes over Virginia native John Chin.

Trainer entered Sunday two strokes behind Alabamian Conner Godsey. The Parisian-born professional began closing that gap right out of the gate, carding a birdie on the opening par-5 first. Trainer carded two more birdies on the front nine to make the turn with a share of the lead.

A double-bogey on the par-4 11th put Trainer’s victory in jeopardy, but he proved to be unfazed by the bump, carding two birdies in his next three holes (Nos. 12 and 14) to enter his final hole with a two-stroke lead, greeted by the cheers of a grandstand full of spectators.

“I was extremely nervous today,” Trainer laughed after his round. “I hit a bunch of shots that I was kind of like, ‘where did that come from?’ because it was so uncharacteristic, but that’s what happens under pressure – it’s just a different kind of golf. But thankfully I was able to scrape through and pick up the win.”

Like his entrance into this week’s field, Trainer’s journey to professional golf was unlike most. The California resident didn’t begin playing golf until the age of 12, when his father brought him to a municipal golf course in Palo Alto. Trainer went on to have an incredibly successful amateur career, qualifying for the U.S. Amateur and then accepting a full golf scholarship to the University of Southern California. While in college Trainer won the 2011 Pac-10 individual title and lead the team in stroke average during his final season.

After turning professional in 2013, Trainer went on to gain status on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica in 2014. He would make six cuts in 11 starts during his first season in Latin America, finishing at No. 44 on the Order of Merit. Trainer had a similar season the following year before breaking out in 2016 with a come-from-behind victory at the Mazatlan Open in Mazatlan, Mexico. He would finish the season at No. 7 on the Order of Merit, earning a spot at the 2016 Web.com Tour Qualifying Tournament.

Trainer made seven starts on the Web.com Tour in 2017, missing the cut in six and withdrawing from one. When Trainer did play the weekend, however, he made the most of it – carding a T16 at the Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae.

“I think I’ve just improved a lot since the last time I played on the Web.com Tour,” Trainer commented. “I’ve been playing well the past few months, but honestly had no idea this was a possibility, to win a Web.com Tour event. In the end, it’s just golf and you just keep hitting it.”

Trainer’s first Tour victory in Leon marks the first time a sponsors exemption took home a Tour trophy since Sebastian Munoz won the Club Colombia Championship in 2016. The title comes with a \$117,000 paycheck for Trainer, moving him to No. 5 on the Regular Season money list. It also guarantees Trainer a Tour to play on, as the victory comes with exempt status on the Web.com Tour through 2019. For someone who entered the week without full status on any tour (Trainer only had conditional status on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica), the feeling of having job security is almost too great to put into words.

“The amount of scenarios that could have happened today were just so vast. If I finished first obviously I would win and get status on the Web.com Tour. . . Then if I finished third I would get to play the next event, but there’s no guarantee [as to the outcome]. I really couldn’t sleep last night I was just so nervous. Now I’m going to go home and rest, not play golf and just let it sink in.”

SUNDAY NOTES:

* Sunday weather: Mostly Sunny, High: 88, Winds: W/SW 6-12 mph.

* This week’s purse was \$650,000, with \$117,000 going to the champion.

* This week’s field featured four past champions – Matt Atkins (2017), Wes Roach (2015), Carlos Ortiz (2014) and Michael Putnam (2013). All four players successfully made the cut. Carlos Ortiz recorded the best finish of the past champions, picking up a T18 finish in his home country of Mexico. In the 11 years of the tournament, there has never been a repeat winner.

* In his second start on Tour in 2018 after battling injury, Joseph Bramlett carded a final-round 7-under 65 to move up 34 spots to T6, claiming his first top-10 finish since the 2012 Chile Classic presented by Pacific Rubiales. Bramlett’s Sunday performance was the lowest round of the day.

* Sponsors exemption and Mexico native Gerardo Ruiz posted rounds of 71-69-70-69 – 279 (-9) to finish the week at T6 and earn a spot in the Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by Nacher. Mexico native Rodolfo Cazaubon also earned a spot in the Louisiana event, ending the week in Leon at T13.

* Indiana native Chase Wright picked up his first top-10 finish since the 2015 Rex Hospital Open after posting rounds of 68-69-70-70–277 (-11) to finish the week at T3.

* Trainer’s win marks the fifth-consecutive win by a first-time winner on Tour in 2018. It’s the first time the Web.com Tour Season has opened with five first-time victors since 2002.

* Trainer’s opening-round 5-under 67 marks the lowest start by a tournament winner during the 2018 season. The record was previously held by Ben Taylor and Adam Svensson, who both opened their respective wins with 4-under rounds.

* Sungjae Im remains atop the money list for a fifth-straight week despite missing the cut in Mexico. Adam Svensson remains at No. 2 with \$139,277. Scott Langley overtook Ben Taylor for the No. 3 spot.

* El Bosque CC scoring averages:

	Front (36)	Back (36)	Total (72)
R1	36.294	35.818	72.112
R2	35.852	36.282	72.134
R3	36.053	35.853	71.907
R4	36.120	35.987	72.107

* NEXT WEEK: The Web.com Tour takes one week off before traveling to Le Triomphe Golf and Country Club in Broussard, Louisiana, for the Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by NACHER.

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