

# FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE December 8, 2017

Contact: Alex Wood (850) 691-6756

### Second-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
T1	Curtis Luck (DC)	67-64 (-13)
	Jose Toledo (TC)	61-70 (-13)
T3	Brian Richey (TC)	68-64 (-12)
	Lee McCoy (DC)	65-67 (-12)
	Conner Godsey (DC)	69-63 (-12)

# Curtis Luck cards bogey-free 64 to jump into a share of the lead after Round 2 at Web.com Tour Qualifying Tournament

**CHANDLER, Arizona** – It was a cold, desert morning in Chandler, Arizona, but not even the weather could stop Australian Curtis Luck from firing on all cylinders en route to an 8-under 64 on the Whirlwind Golf Club's Devil's Claw course at this week's Web.com Tour Qualifying Tournament. The 21-year-old parted his first two holes before going on to card three-consecutive birdies and an eagle for a front-nine 31.

"It was great," Luck said of the start. "That little stretch really kick-started my round. I actually hit two really good shots into the first two holes but didn't quite make the most of them, so it was nice that I was able to keep the momentum going once I finally made that birdie on No. 3. It's always great to start a round like that."

The performance was enough to move Luck from seventh into a tie for the lead with 18-hole leader Jose Toledo. Brian Richey, Lee McCoy and Conner Godsey sit one back at 12-under after the second round.

Originally from Perth, Luck entered the spotlight after capturing the 2016 U.S. Amateur over University of Oklahoma standout Brad Dalke. Luck would later become the top-ranked amateur golfer in the world, before turning professional at the 2017 Valero Texas Open.

Luck entered the Web.com Tour Qualifying Tournament fresh off a T11 finish at the Australian PGA Championship. Being in a 'tournament mindset' has been key to the Aussie's early success at Final Stage.

"It's great that I was able to play two events – the Australian Open and the Australian PGA Championship – before coming over here. I putted great [last week] and made some really good up-and-downs, which was really important coming into this week, where I think it's really a putting competition out here because the courses aren't very long."

University of New Orleans alum Jose Toledo followed up his opening-round 61 with a 2-under 70 on the Cattail course to maintain his spot atop the leaderboard.

The Guatemala City native started off slow but steady, parring his first eight holes before carding a bogey on the par-4 18<sup>th</sup>. Toledo heated up on the front nine (his second nine), tallying four birdies before bogeying the final to drop into a tie for the lead. Sitting in a three-way tie for third is Lakeland, Florida, native Brian Richey. The 31-year-old carded a second-round 8-under 64 to enter the weekend at 12-under.

"Everything has been working well," the Florida Southern College alum remarked. "I've been driving it really well, rolling a few putts in, and managing my game when I'm not comfortable. I also started hitting my wedges really good on the last 10 or 12 holes, so I had some really good looks out there."

Richey earned a spot in this week's field after finishing No. 3 on the PGA TOUR Latinoamérica's Order of Merit. He experienced a great deal of success in Latin America in 2017, finishing the year fourth in scoring average (69.89) and notching seven top-10 finishes, including a win at the Roberto De Vicenzo Punta del Este Open Copa NEC. His season-long performance secured him 2018 Web.com Tour membership and gave him a boost of confidence heading into this week in Arizona.

Richey, who competed in the Qualifying Tournament in 2015, knows the nature of the event can lead some to play less aggressively on the course. Because the top 45 (and ties) earn guaranteed Tour starts for the following year, some players might find themselves playing for a certain place rather than for a victory. Richey, however, says that is not his game plan for the week.

"We all know the different levels of what positions are going to get you how many starts, but you just have to block that out," he said. "That could certainly be something you think about on the final round with a few holes left, but I think you just have to try and play this like a regular tournament. There's still a purse, there's still going to be a winner, so you have to just keep trying to put yourself into a good position and keep making birdies."

# **Q-SCHOOL NOTES**

The Web.com Tour Qualifying Tournament is a four-day, 72-hole competition that ends on Sunday December 10. The tournament is being contested at the Whirlwind Golf Club's Devil's Claw (DC) and Cattail (TC) course.

There were nearly 1,000 entries for the tournament, which included previous Pre-Qualifying, First and Second Stages that began in August.

A total of 144 players began play on Thursday morning.

Players in this event are competing for positions on the 2018 Web.com Tour priority ranking, which will be used to form tournament fields. The medalist (or co-medalists) will be guaranteed fully-exempt status next year. Players Nos. 2- 10 (and ties) will be subject to the third reshuffle next year and players Nos. 11-45 (and ties) will be subject to the second reshuffle.

This week's medalist will earn \$25,000. Players Nos. 2-10 (and ties) will earn \$15,000 each. Players Nos. 11-45 (and ties) will earn \$10,000 each.

#### **Conner Godsey**

Godsey carded a second-round 9-under 63 on Devil's Claw, moving into a tie for third at 12-under-par 132. Godsey was a member of Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada in 2015 and competed in nine events, making just one cut. This year, the former North Alabama Lion played eight times on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica, posting two top-25s including a T4 at the Flor de Caña Open. Godsey carded 71-68-68-73—280 (-8) and snagged the final spot through the Second Stage site, held at Southern Hills Plantation Club in Brooksville, Florida. During his time in Florence, Alabama, the 25-year-old from Rogersville earned All-American honors and Gulf Southern Conference Player of the Year (2014) as a senior, recording six top-10s and one victory.

#### **Garrett Osborn**

Osborn made seven birdies, two eagles and a double bogey en route to an 8-under-par 64 in his second round on Devil's Claw. The 33-year-old from Birmingham, Alabama, who played his college golf at the University of Alabama-Birmingham, sits in solo sixth after 36 holes of the Qualifying Tournament. After turning pro in 2007, Osborn competed full time on the Web.com Tour from 2008 to 2010. In 88 career starts on Tour, Osborn has recorded 23 top-25s including two third-place finishes (2008 Ford Wayne Gretzky Classic, 2010 Fort Smith Classic). It has been four years since Osborn has been a Tour member (2014). Osborn successfully navigated the Brooksville Second Stage site posting 73-66-69-68—276 (-12) and finishing T6.

## Sean Kelly

After opening with a 1-under 71 on the Cattail, Kelly took advantage of Devil's Claw, posting a bogey-free 9-underpar 63. At 10-under-par 134, the former South Carolina Gamecock from Staten Island, New York, is tied for seventh through 36 holes. While at the University of South Carolina, Kelly was the Male Scholar-Athlete of the Year during his senior year and recorded three top-10s while playing the season with a 73.23 stroke average. Kelly was comedalist at the Second Stage site located in Plantation, Florida, finishing at 13-under-par in a tie with Joey Garber and Daniel Mazziotta.

#### Scoring Averages for the week:

Devils Claw	Front (36)	Back (36)	Total (72)
R1	35.361	35.361	70.722
R2	33.889	33.889	67.778
The Cattail	Front (36)	Back (36)	Total (72)
R1	36.458	36.667	73.125
R2	34.847	35.514	70.361

HIGHLIGHTS AND INTERVIEWS from today's play are available via the following FTP site: website: <u>https://moveit.pgatourhq.com</u> <<u>https://moveit.pgatourhq.com</u>/>

Username: webcom\_Highlights

Password: pgatour13

\* First click on "FOLDER" on the top left of the main page. From there, navigate to the following folders: /Home/Highlights and then locate the event folder of your choice.

\* All footage is HD and use is free.

#### For the latest information and updates on the Web.com Tour visit www.pgatourmedia.com

#### Scores available at www.pgatour.com or on the Associated Press wire

Follow the Web.com Tour on Twitter at <u>http://twitter.com/webdotcomtour</u> on Facebook at <u>www.Facebook.com/WebDotComTour</u> and on Instagram at <u>www.instagram.com/webdotcomtour</u>