



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Final-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Lee McCoy (TC)	65-67-63-65-260 (-28)
2	Sung-Jae Im (TC)	68-67-60-67-262 (-26)
3	Mark Blakefield (TC)	69-65-66-66-266 (-22)
	Curtis Luck (TC)	67-64-68-67-266 (-22)
5	Kent Bulle (TC)	65-72-63-68-268 (-20)
	Brian Richey (TC)	68-64-67-69-268 (-20)

Lee McCoy completes redemption story, wins Web.com Tour Qualifying Tournament

CHANDLER, Ariz. – It was a week of redemption for University of Georgia alum Lee McCoy this week at the Web.com Tour Qualifying Tournament in Chandler, Arizona. After an injury prevented McCoy from playing his Second Stage site in 2016, the 23-year-old made the most of his opportunity this year, posting rounds of 65-67-63-65-260 (-28) to earn Medalist honors and fully exempt status for the 2018 Web.com Tour season.

The victory did not come easily for McCoy, however, who edged out South Korean Sung-Jae Im by just two strokes. The pair entered Sunday tied for the lead at 21-under and quickly turned the Whirlwind Golf Club's Cattail course into their own battlefield.

"I think it was Jack Nicklaus that was famous for saying that most of the tournaments he won, he didn't really win, other guys lost," McCoy remarked. "That was not the case today. I had to go out there and win... we had a great battle out there today. Every time I thought I had gotten far enough ahead and could start playing conservative, he would roll in a 20-footer and it was a little frustrating at times, but it's nice to be able to push yourself that hard in a big spot and come out on top."

The victory was the second win of the year for the Dunedin, Florida, native, who won the Freedom 55 Financial Open on the Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada in early June. McCoy had a successful 2017 season in Canada, making 10 cuts in 12 events and finishing No. 6 on the Order of Merit. Though he attributes a great deal of his success to his time spent playing up north, it wasn't where the former Bulldog envisioned himself playing the season.

Shortly after graduating college, McCoy competed in the First Stage of Q-School in West Palm Beach, Florida. A 9-under tournament total landed him in a tie for third and allowed him to advance on. The week before he was slated to compete in Second Stage, McCoy made his first professional cut at the Shriners Hospitals for Children Open. He finished the week T41 and took a red eye back to Florida to get in a practice round before competition. On his way to the Plantation Reserve Golf Club the following morning, McCoy was involved in a minor car accident, injuring his wrist in the process. The injury would leave him in a cast and would force him to withdraw from Second Stage.

"It was brutal," he said of the injury. "I was in a cast for six or seven weeks, I took it off and I was fine, so it wasn't a career-ender or life threatening but it was just the worst possible timing. It hurt even more because I was playing really well going into Second Stage. At some point, you just have to sit back and realize that sometimes you don't have control over your life and sometimes it's just part of the plan. If that hadn't happened, I wouldn't have ended up

in Canada and I might not have the same guy on the bag, and I might not have even come here this week. Who knows what would've happened. It certainly worked out for the best in the end.”

Today's victory takes a deal of pressure off McCoy heading into the 2018 season, as the Tour first-timer will be able to plan his entire schedule and won't be subject to any reshuffles during the year.

“It kind of just goes along with my whole strategy for golf,” McCoy said, “which is just trying to take as much pressure off of myself as I can. I don't really make goals for myself each day to try and hit a certain number and I'm not really trying to win. I kind of like to just let it happen by accident. So not having that added pressure of making the reshuffles and not knowing if I'll be in the upcoming weeks, that's huge. It definitely adds a level of comfort.”

Q-SCHOOL NOTES

The Web.com Tour Qualifying Tournament was a four-day, 72-hole competition that ended on Sunday December 10. The tournament was 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 competed for positions on the 2018 Web.com Tour priority ranking, which will be used to form tournament fields. The medalist is 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 earned \$25,000. Players Nos. 2-10 (and ties) earned \$15,000 each. Players Nos. 11-45 (and ties) earned \$10,000 each.

Curtis Luck

The 21-year-old from Perth, Australia, posted 67-64-68-67—266 (-22) at the Qualifying Tournament to finish tied for third. Luck earned enough non-member FedExCup points last season to qualify for the 2017 Web.com Tour Finals. After failing to earn one of the 25 PGA TOUR cards awarded at the conclusion of the Web.com Tour Championship, he was forced to go back and earn status for the following year. With his top three performance this week, the former United States Amateur champion will be exempt into the first 12 events.

Chase Wright

The 28-year-old from Muncie, Indiana, played full time on the Web.com Tour from 2014-16. In 2017, Wright competed on the Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada and ended the season No. 8 on the Order of Merit, thanks to two top-10 finishes, including a victory at the ATB Financial Classic. For most of the final round, the former Indiana Hoosier was comfortably inside the number needed to secure starts for the first part of the 2018 Tour season. A bogey, double-bogey finish made things interesting, dropping Wright back to 14-under-par. His 3-under 69 on Sunday ended up being just enough, as he finished the day T42, securing a Tour return in 2018.

Hank Lebioda

Lebioda started the final round T68, well outside of the number needed for a top-45 finish. The 23-year-old from Winter Park, Florida, carded a bogey-free, 7-under-par 65 to end the week T30. Lebioda spent 2017 on the Mackenzie Tour, where he posted 3 top-10s including a victory at the Mackenzie Investments Open presented by Jaguar Laval. Before leaving Florida State University, he became the program's career leader in three categories: par or better rounds (76), percentage of counting scores (93.4 percent) and birdies (467). In high school, Lebioda played baseball and had a batting average of .407 as a freshman member of the varsity team.

Matt Ryan

Ryan took home the honors for being the biggest mover on Sunday. The 31-year-old from Van Nuys, California, posted an 11-under-par 61 on Devil's Claw to finish the week T30. Ryan competed on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica in 2017 and recorded three top-10s. The Fresno State University alum will compete in a Tour event for the first time since turning professional in 2010. In his only other appearance at the Qualifying Tournament (2013), Ryan ended the week T105 and didn't get any starts.

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
R3	33.403	33.722	67.125
R4	33.592	33.901	67.493

The Cattail	Front (36)	Back (36)	Total (72)
R1	36.458	36.667	73.125
R2	34.847	35.514	70.361
R3	34.403	34.792	69.194
R4	34.597	34.792	69.389

HIGHLIGHTS AND INTERVIEWS from today's play are available via the following FTP site:

website: <https://moveit.pgatourhq.com> <<https://moveit.pgatourhq.com/>>

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.

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