



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Second-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Xinjun Zhang	64-69—133 (-11)
	Adam Long	65-68—133 (-11)
3	Sam Ryder	67-67—134 (-10)
	Rob Oppenheim	68-66—134 (-10)
4	Five tied at	135 (-9)

Xinjun Zhang, Adam Long tied for 36-hole lead at LECOM Health Challenge

CLYMER, N.Y. – Xinjun Zhang of Shanxi, China went out in the morning wave and posted 3-under-par 69 to take the clubhouse lead at 11-under-par 133. Adam Long answered Zhang with a 6-under-par 68 Friday afternoon to take a share of the second-round lead at the LECOM Health Challenge. The duo sit one ahead of Sam Ryder, who carded his second straight score of 5-under 67, and Rob Oppenheim, who birdied his last hole of the day to tie Ryder.

Two back heading into Saturday are Anders Albertson, Ryan Yip, Jeff Gove, Austin Cook and Matt Harmon.

Zhang, who is attempting to become the first Chinese-born player to earn a PGA TOUR card, made eight straight pars before making three in a row. The 30-year-old all-time time earnings' leader on PGA TOUR China, with ¥1,664,016 in 29 career starts, dropped one at the par-4 13th hole, but used his length to reach the par-5 18th in two. Zhang two-putted from 50 feet for birdie and sat alone at the top of the leaderboard for the majority of the second round.

Zhang has been in contention a few times this year but has never led/co-led after 36 holes of a Tour event. With two victories under his belt in his time on PGA TOUR China, the seven-year pro knows the importance of being at the top of the leaderboard.

"I think today it was ideal, leading the first day and then leading into tomorrow," he said. "I won't be thinking about it too much. The main thing we've been focusing on lately is getting off to a good start off the tee to leave us in a good position. Focusing on the shot at hand and not the result and just keep looking forward."

Zhang is currently No. 15 on the Tour money list with two runner-up performances in 14 starts. With seven events to go in the Tour's regular season, he is closing in on one of the coveted 25 PGA TOUR cards issued at the conclusion of the WinCo Foods Portland Open in August.

Although he is tied at the top, Long is in a different position when it comes to season earnings. Through 14 events, the former standout at Duke University has recorded two top-10s, including a career-best fourth at the Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by NACHER. At No. 51 on the money list, Long is all but assured a spot in Web.com Tour Finals later this summer.

Long bogeyed two of his first three holes and quickly dropped well back of the lead. The St. Louis native remained calm and birdied holes five, eight, 10, 11, 12 and 17 to tie Zhang at 11-under.

Long stood in the fairway at the par-5 home hole with 230 yards into the green for his second, which is a perfect number for his hybrid. Thinking the hole location didn't set up for a long approach shot, the 29-year-old from New Orleans, La. elected to layup.

With a wedge in his hand, Long hit his ball 15 feet past the pin on top of a knob, leaving himself a tricky downhill putt. Long would two-putt for par to get in the house at 11-under.

"I didn't want to leave it there," he said, of the delicate putt. "The whole reason you lay up is to wedge it in there and leave it in there tight. I hit it up top and I'd hit that putt in the practice rounds. I knew that putt was so fast. Speed control was huge there."

Long has made 75 starts in four years as a Tour member, but never led after a round. A win on Sunday would secure his TOUR card for next season and Long is looking forward to the challenge.

"It's exciting," he said, about being at the top of the leaderboard. "It will be my first time with the lead or share of the lead going into the weekend. I'm excited, it will be fun."

Friday Notes:

* Friday weather: Partly cloudy. High: 80, Winds: SSW 6-12 mph.

* This week's purse is \$600,000, with \$108,000 going to the champion.

* The cut came at 3-under-par 141, with 72 players advancing to the weekend.

* Anders Albertson carded a 3-under 69 for a 9-under total. The 66-69 36-hole start is his third back-to-back sub-70 start of the season. Each of the two previous times, Albertson has finished inside the top-10 (Chitimacha Louisiana Open – T9, Lincoln Land Charity Championship – T5). Albertson is currently No. 65 on the money list and is looking to join fellow Yellow Jacket teammate Ollie Schniederjans on the PGA TOUR.

* Guillermo Pereira has been trending in the right direction since missing six cuts in his first eight events, including four straight. In his last five starts he's placed T44 (BMW Charity Pro-Am), T28 (Rust-Oleum Championship), T15 (Air Capital Classic), T11 (Lincoln Land Charity Championship) and T3 (Nashville Golf Open). Pereira carded a 7-under 65 on Friday afternoon, his lowest second round score this season.

* Beau Hossler carded his lowest round in relation to par on Friday (8-under-par). The last time he carded a 64 was at the Air Capital Classic where he finished solo second and earned Special Temporary membership. Hossler had 10 birdies on the card and two bogeys including one on the par-5 18th where he was greenside in two. He arrived at the Peek'n Peak Resort No. 36 on the money list.

* George Bryan IV carded a second-round even-par 72 to finish at 3-under-par and make the cut on the number. Bryan, is the older brother of 2016 Web.com Tour Player of the Year and has been competing on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica this season where he's recorded one top-10 in six starts (T4 – Essential Costa Rica Classic). Bryan caddied for his brother Wesley numerous times last season including his maiden Tour win at the Chitimacha Louisiana Open in Lafayette.

Bogey Free Rounds:

R1 – Xinjun Zhang (64), Adam Long (65), Jeff Gove (65), Anders Albertson (66), Albin Choi (66), Jarin Todd (67), Rob Oppenheim (68), Nick Rousey (68), Dawie Van der Walt (69), Armando Favela (69), Nicholas Thompson (69), Nick Flanagan (69), Andrew Yun (70), Dan McCarthy (70), Ben Kohles (70).

R2 – Austin Cook (66), Chesson Hadley (67), Matt Harmon (67), Jarin Todd (69)

Scoring Average for the Upper Course for the week:

	Front (35)	Back (35)	Total (70)
Round 1:	35.891	35.295	71.186
Round 2:	36.188	35.221	71.409

* **NEXT WEEK:** The Web.com Tour heads west to Farmington, Utah for the Utah Championship presented by Zions Bank contested at Oakridge Country Club July 13-16. Last year, Nicholas Lindheim held off a late charge by J.J. Spaun and Xander Schauffele to take home the crown and moved inside the top 15 on the money list after starting the week No. 83.

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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