



LINCOLN LAND  
CHARITY CHAMPIONSHIP

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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### **Third-Round Leaderboard**

<b>Pos.</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Scores</b>
1	Kyle Thompson	68-64-64—196 (-17)
2	Adam Schenk	67-66-65—198 (-15)
	Tom Whitney	65-65-68—198 (-15)
4	Wes Roach	66-71-62—199 (-14)

## **Kyle Thompson cards 64 to take two-shot lead at Lincoln Land Charity Championship**

**Springfield, Ill.** – A few years ago, Kyle Thompson was ready to walk away from the game of golf. On Saturday afternoon, the 38-year-old Greenville, S.C. resident moved closer to a return trip to the PGA TOUR. Thompson carded his second consecutive round of 7-under 64 at Panther Creek Country Club in adverse conditions. His 54-hole total of 17-under-par 196 gives him a two-shot lead over Adam Schenk and Tom Whitney heading into the final round of the Lincoln Land Charity Championship.

With a career-low 9-under-par 62 in the third round, Wes Roach climbed up the leaderboard into solo fourth and stands 14-under-par.

Current Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada member Jordan Niebrugge and local favorite Scott Langley are four back entering the final round.

Once again, Thompson started off strong. He made five birdies on the front nine to go out in 30, including a 50-footer on the first hole to jumpstart the day. Thompson added two more on the back before closing out the round with six straight pars to secure the two-shot cushion.

“It was a bomb,” said Thompson, about the long one on the opening hole. “It fell in on the last roll. It was an amazing way to start the day and I just kept making putts all day long.”

In blustery conditions, Thompson’s game thrived. The former University of South Carolina graduate missed only one fairway, hit 15 of 18 greens in regulation and needed just 27 putts on the Hale Irwin design.

Earlier this season, Thompson captured his fifth Web.com Tour title at The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Bay Resort where the winds were more than 25 miles per hour each day. They haven’t been quite as drastic this week, but the 14-year-pro has embraced the conditions over the last three rounds.

“I really enjoy the wind,” said Thompson. “I like hitting a lot of off-speed shots and being creative. Ever since Exuma earlier this year, I’ve just grown to love the wind.”

If you’re going to win a tournament on Tour, you can’t afford many mistakes. Thompson leads the field this week in scrambling getting up-and-down 13 of the 14 times he’s missed a green, making just one bogey in three trips around Panther Creek CC.

“I’m happy that in the last two days I haven’t made a bogey,” said Thompson, who has gone a total of 46 holes without a blemish on his card. “That’s good golf, I’m proud of that. If I can play like that again tomorrow, I like where I will be at the end of the day.”

“If you’re NOT careful and you’re not controlling your ball you can get in trouble here,” he continued. “I’m rolling the putter awesome, that’s been the key to everything.”

If Thompson’s putter can stay hot he will join three players with six career wins on Tour. In 2007, the father-of-three won twice in a year on his way to securing his TOUR card. He hopes to not only accomplish that feat again on Sunday, but also get closer to catching good friend Jason Gore on the all-time victory list.

“I’d like to do it again,” said Thompson. “I’d like to win three times, that would be a new thing. Jason Gore has seven wins and I’ve only got five, so I would like to catch him one day.”

Whitney, who played alongside Thompson on Saturday, held his own in the final group and birdied the final three holes of his round to get within two of the lead. In search of his first Tour win, the 36-hole leader was surprised with how quickly his game has come around this season.

“I honestly didn’t think I could be in contention this soon on the Web.com Tour, especially with the way I started this year,” said Whitney, who entered 2017 with conditional status. “It’s great to be in contention, in the last group on the final day. I’m just going to play the way I know how to play and see what happens.”

Schenk made up significant ground on moving day after entering the third round in a tie for 22<sup>nd</sup> place. The 25-year-old from Vincennes, Ind. made nine birdies Saturday afternoon, including a three at the last to put himself in the final group on Sunday.

It’s been a while since Schenk has been in contention on Tour. Coming off a tie for fourth at the Air Capital Classic supporting Wichita’s Youth, the former Purdue Boilermaker believes his game is peaking at an opportune time.

“I got off to a slow start obviously,” said Schenk, who missed five cuts in the first six event. “I played well last week in Wichita, had a fun week and would like to keep it going. You make the majority of your money in three to four events, so when you play good it’s important to keep it going and finish off the tournament.”

### **Saturday Notes:**

\* Saturday weather: Mostly sunny. High: 78, Low: 58, Winds: W-SW 10-16 mph.

\* This week’s purse is \$550,000, with \$99,000 going to the champion.

\* Kyle Thompson (2007 – 2, 2011 – 1, 2015 – 1, 2017 – 1) looks to join Sean Murphy (1992 – 1, 1993 – 4, 1995 – 1), Matt Gogel (1996 – 1, 1997 – 1, 1998 – 2, 1999 – 2), Kevin Johnson (1997 – 1, 1999 – 1, 2000 – 1, 2006 – 1, 2009 – 2) with six Web.com Tour wins in a career.

\* A victory on Sunday would secure Thompson’s return to the PGA TOUR, make him the second player to win twice this season and move him to No. 2 on the money list.

\* Thompson has held the 54-hole lead/co-lead seven times in his career and has won twice (2007 – Rex Hospital Open, 2017 – The Great Bahamas Exuma Classic).

\* Adam Schenk has played in 12 events, made six cuts and recorded three top-25s this season. Schenk is currently No. 42 on the money list.

\* Wes Roach has made two top-25s in 12 starts this season and arrived in Springfield No. 84 on the money list. In 2015, Roach won the El Bosque Mexico Championship by INNOVA on his way to earning his PGA TOUR card.

\* In two starts this season on the Mackenzie Tour, Jordan Niebrugge has recorded a T2 (Freedom 55 Financial Open) and a T34 (Bayview Place Open). He is currently No. 5 on the Order of Merit.

\* Niebrugge has a chance to play his way on Tour like Rafael Campos and Beau Hossler have done this season with a high finish on Sunday. Niebrugge made \$1,645 at the Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by NACHER back in March. He must earn the equivalent of No. 100 on the money list last season (Andrew Yun – \$43,161) to earn Special Temporary membership. A three-way tie for second or better on Sunday would allow Niebrugge to join the Tour.

\* Web.com Tour money leader Stephan Jaeger is 8-under through 54 holes in a tie for 31<sup>st</sup>. Jaeger (\$247,860) leads Andrew Putnam (\$242,245) by a little less than \$6,000. Putnam is 5-under after the third round in a tie for 57<sup>th</sup>.

### **Bogey Free Rounds:**

R1 – Carlos Ortiz (64), Vince India (64), Jin Park (64), Billy Kennerly (65), Brice Garnett (65), Abraham Ancer (66), Ben Kohles (66), Robert Allenby (67), Michael Gellerman (67), Brad Elder (67), Derek Ernst (68), Tyler Duncan (68), Jordan Niebrugge (68), Chris Worrell (68), Chris Naegel (69).

R2 – Kyle Thompson (64), Adam Svensson (64), Jonathan Byrd (64), Sepp Straka (65), Dawie van der Walt (65), Steve Allan (66), Corey Connors (66), Anders Albertson (66), Jim Knous (67), Cameron Meyers (67), Andrew Putnam (67), Sam Ryder (68), Josh Teater (68), Jacques Blaauw (68), Sam Ryder (68).

R3 – Wes Roach (62), Kyle Thompson (64), Guillermo Pereira (65), Jordan Niebrugge (66), Sam Ryder (66), Mark Anguiano (67), Charlie Danielson (67), Ethan Tracy (67).

### **Scoring Average Panther Creek Country Club for the week:**

	Front (36)	Back (35)	Total (70)
Round 1:	34.885	34.449	69.333
Round 2:	34.987	34.833	69.821
Round 3:	34.494	35.188	69.682

\* **NEXT WEEK:** The Web.com Tour heads east to Nashville for the Nashville Golf Open Benefitting the Snedeker Foundation where James Driscoll edged out Brian Campbell by three shots for the win, his second career Web.com Tour victory.

**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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