



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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First-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Conrad Shindler	62 (-10)
2	Joel Dahmen	66 (-6)
	Dawie van der Walt	66 (-6)

Conrad Shindler breaks course record with 10-under 62 to open in Nashville

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Conrad Shindler added two items to his golfing resume Thursday – a course record and another hole-in-one. The 28-year-old posted a 10-under 62, the lowest round in relation to par this season on the Web.com Tour, to break Wesley Bryan’s course record (63) from a year ago. Shindler’s 62 was four shots better than anyone else in the field in the first round at the Nashville Golf Open as the Texan posted two eagles and seven birdies. Joel Dahmen and Dawie van der Walt sit in second after a pair of 6-under 66s as play was suspended due to darkness at 8:06 p.m. CT.

“It’s a lot of fun to have a little piece of history somewhere,” Shindler said. “It’s kind of a crazy day. Everything really went in, and you get some luck like a hole-in-one and a long eagle putt and a couple other good putts to drop. It’s kind of one of those once in a lifetime rounds. They don’t come around very often, so you have to enjoy it for what it is.”

Starting on the back nine, Shindler saw glimmers early that he could be in for a special, special day when he hit a wayward tee shot right into the trees at No. 11 but produced a spectacular recovery shot out to six feet for his first birdie of the day. From there, the former Texas A&M Aggie two-putted for birdie at No. 13, made an eight-footer for birdie at the 14th, and then produced his first of two eagles with a 25-foot eagle putt at the par-5 15th.

After turning in 5-under 31, the 2017 Rex Hospital Open winner was 6-under through 14 holes when he produced the first ace in tournament history – a soft 8-iron from 180 yards into the bottom of the cup at the par-3 sixth for his fourth career hole-in-one and second in competition.

“I wanted to hit a hard nine and my caddie, Tim, said ‘Man, I think it’s the 8,’” Shindler said. “I said alright, let’s grip an eight, and we hit it kind of right at it, and it stayed right there and one hop, two hop and in it went.”

After settling down from the excitement, he poured in another birdie at the seventh, and then turned his attention to Bryan’s course record. The Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada alum got it with a 15-foot birdie at the ninth. It’s the first time he’s ever held a course record.

“I knew it was for the course record because I was talking to my caddie Tim yesterday and I saw a tweet about Wesley Bryan’s 63 last year,” Shindler said. “After I made the birdie on 7, he goes ‘Hey, you know you’re tied for the course record and can get it if you birdie one of the last two.’ We executed nine good, nine’s a tough green, and we had a decent look and put a good putt on it and it went in. So we’ll take it.”

If Shindler’s four-shot lead stays the same when first-round play is completed beginning at 7:00 p.m. ET Friday, it would mark the largest first-round lead since Stephan Jaeger’s four-shot lead in his victory at the 2016 Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae.

Dahmen, who has made 10 starts on the PGA TOUR this season with one top-10, is making his third Web.com Tour start of the season. This tournament was critical for Dahmen in securing his TOUR card for this season after finishing T3 at last year's Nashville Golf Open.

Van der Walt, a two-time Web.com Tour winner, is in the hunt for his third after an opening 66 that included eight birdies and two bogeys.

First-round play was briefly suspended from 2:48 p.m – 4:38 p.m. CT due to a heavy storm moving through the area.

Thursday Notes:

- * Thursday weather: Isolated Thunderstorms, High: 86, Winds: S 7-14 mph.
- * This week's purse is \$550,000 with \$99,000 going to the champion.
- * Defending champion James Driscoll opened with a 4-over 76. Driscoll could become the first player in Web.com Tour history to defend their title with a victory this week.
- * Davis Love IV, also known as Dru, was 1-over with three holes to play when play was suspended for the day.
- * 16 total eagles were made in the first round, which is more than half of the 31 made over four rounds last year.
- * Tennessee's own Stephan Jaeger could earn his Three-Victory Promotion this week. Jaeger, a Chattanooga resident, is 4-under through 16 holes after making an eagle at the par-5 seventh, his last hole of the day before play was called for the day.
- * After breaking the course record a year ago with an opening 63, Wesley Bryan went on to shoot a 4-over 76 in the second round on his way to a T9 finish.
- * Following a career-best T5 finish at last week's Lincoln Land Charity Championship in which he finished one shot out of a playoff, Tom Whitney continued the good golf Thursday with an opening 5-under 67.

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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