



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Second-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Sam Ryder	67-67-62—196 (-17)
2	Vince Covello	67-70-66—203 (-10)
	Scott Gutschewski	67-69-67—203 (-10)
	Bronson Burgoon	66-69-68—203 (-10)
	Matt Davidson	68-65-70—203 (-10)

Sam Ryder cards 62, leads by seven at Pinnacle Bank Championship

ELKHORN, Neb. – Sam Ryder carded a flawless 9-under 62 on Saturday afternoon, at the Club at Indian Creek to distance himself from the field by seven shots. The 27-year-old from Winter Park, Fla. stands 17-under-par 196 after the third round of the inaugural Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Heartland Chevy Dealers and holds the largest 54-hole lead on the Web.com Tour this season.

Vince Covello, local favorite Scott Gutschewski, Bronson Burgoon and Matt Davidson are 10-under-par heading into Sunday.

“The tournament is far from over and there are a lot of great players gunning for me,” said Ryder, who has led once before after 54 holes on Tour. “Someone is going to get a hot round. It’s about me staying focused on what I’m doing.”

From the moment Ryder stepped foot on Indian Creek, he knew this could be a special week. He fell in love with the course immediately and knew it fit his game. On Saturday, the former standout at Stetson University blitzed the back nine with four birdies and an eagle to pull away from the pack.

“I’ve been waiting to have that round where the putter catches fire,” said Ryder, who rolled it 26 times in round three. “I’ve been hitting it great for a while now. I had a secret conversation last night that helped. I think that was the difference maker for me.”

It only took a birdie at the first hole for Ryder to get a sense that he could be in for a special day. The Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada alum found something with the flat stick Friday night after a conversation with his coach.

“It’s not like I woke up today and thought it would be the best day ever,” said Ryder, who set a new personal-best low-round on Tour. “You have to ease into the round. I just had a feeling because my hands felt really soft on the putter. I told my caddie before I made anything (that) the putter feels awesome in my hands.”

Ryder is in search of his second professional win in a PGA TOUR-sanctioned event. In 2015, the five-year pro was victorious at the National Capital Open to Support Our Troops, on the Mackenzie Tour, and went on to end the year No. 4 on the Order of Merit to earn his Web.com Tour card.

With a seven-stroke advantage heading into Sunday, Ryder doesn’t see his strategy varying too much.

“Your game changes based on where you’re at,” said Ryder. “I’m just going to keep pushing and try and create a little more distance if I can and just have fun tomorrow.”

Gutschewski, who is from Omaha, birdied three of his final five holes to move into a share of second in front of his friends and family. This week is huge for the two-time Tour winner as he tries to secure a spot in the Web.com Tour Finals later this year.

“I don’t know if there is any extra pressure,” said Gutschewski, who has competed in 165 events on Tour. “It probably means a little more to me to play well here. I hate to say it, but you play so many events through the years that there are some weeks where you’re going through the motions a little bit. That is not the case here.”

Saturday Notes:

* Saturday weather: Partly cloudy. High: 94, Winds: N 10-14 mph.

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

* Vince Covello is coming off his best showing of the season at last week’s Utah Championship presented by Zions Bank (T19). Covello entered the week No. 113 on the money list and is looking to move inside the top 75 with a great score on Sunday.

* Michael Johnson came home in 30 to card a third-round 65. Johnson is 9-under through 54 holes and has been trending in the right direction the past two weeks (T12 – LECOM Health Challenge, T19 – Utah Championship).

Bogey Free Rounds:

R1 – Stephan Jaeger (66), Scott Harrington (66), Sebastian Cappelen (67), Lanto Griffin (69), Daniel Chopra (71).

R2 – Michael Hebert (66), Sam Ryder (67).

R3 – Sam Ryder (62), Brice Garnett (65), Vince Covello (66), Michael Johnson (66), Matt Harmon (68), Bo Hoag (68), Matt Davidson (70),

Scoring Average at the Club at Indian Creek for the week:

	Front (36)	Back (35)	Total (71)
Round 1:	35.699	34.590	70.288
Round 2:	35.994	35.292	71.286
Round 3:	35.833	33.744	69.577

* **NEXT WEEK:** The Web.com Tour heads east to Overland Park, Kansas for the Digital Ally Open, contested at the Nicklaus GC at LionsGate, July 27-30. Last year, Wesley Bryan birdied the second extra hole in a three-man playoff with J.T. Poston and Grayson Murray, to earn an automatic promotion to the PGA TOUR with his third Web.com Tour victory of the season.

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.

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