



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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First-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Kramer Hickok	63 (-7)
2	Justin Hueber	64 (-6)
3	Adam Schenk	66 (-4)
	Stephan Jaeger	66 (-4)
	Eric Axley	66 (-4)

Kramer Hickok takes opening-round lead and ties course record at Web.com Tour’s DAP Championship presented by NewBrick

BEACHWOOD, Ohio – In the second event of the Web.com Tour Finals, Kramer Hickok shot a 7-under 63 in the opening round and tied the course record at the DAP Championship presented by NewBrick. Hickok holds a one-shot lead heading into the second round.

Hickok recorded eight birdies with a lone bogey en route to his 7-under 63. The 2017 Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada Player of the Year had a good look at birdie on the par-4 18th to set the new course record but couldn’t get the 15-foot putt to drop on the last. His par would be good enough to tie the mark with Bobby Wyatt, who also shot a 63 in the first round of this event in 2016.

“I had no idea,” commented Hickok on his putt for the course record on the 18th hole. “I really wanted it to drop. I actually misread it a little bit. I hit my line perfectly, but it went a little right on me. It would’ve been cool to set the record, but I’ll take 63.”

Canterbury Golf Club was the site of Jack Nicklaus’ 12th major in the 1973 PGA Championship. Nicklaus’ best competitive round at Canterbury Golf Club was a 68, which was recorded in the second and third round of the 1973 PGA Championship and in the third round of the 1996 U.S. Senior Open. In a course filled with history and tradition, Hickok was proud to place his name in the history books along with the legends of golf.

“Those guys are my heroes,” said the Austin, Texas native. “They’re the ones I grew up watching. Tiger, Jack, Arnold and the list goes on and on. Those are the names that I want to see my name next to one day. That’s why I play this game. It shows that all my hard work is starting to pay off, but there’s a long way to go and I’m just going to keep my head down and keep focusing on what I’m doing and see what happens.”

Hickok had a stellar 2017 Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada season, where he recorded two victories and three runner-up finishes. He ultimately earned the Order of Merit title and gained fully exempt status on the Web.com Tour the following year.

The 26-year-old carried over his great play to the Web.com Tour, where he recorded four top-10 finishes, including a runner-up at the Lincoln Land Championship presented by LRS in his rookie season. The University of Texas product finished No. 23 on the Regular Season money list and will join college teammate Jordan Spieth on the PGA TOUR.

“The difference between Portland and these last two weeks has been huge, because now I feel like I have nothing to lose,” Hickok said. “I can go miss every cut and be in the same position as where I started. The only way is up for me

right now and anytime you can play golf stress-free, you're going to play your best. Hopefully I can continue to do that the next three days."

After a T14 finish at the Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship in the first Finals event, Hickok jumped 10 spots to No. 13 on the combined money list.

Justin Hueber sits one shot back of Hickok, as he carded a bogey-free 6-under 64. He hit 10 of 14 fairways and needed 28 putts in his opening round. The University of Indianapolis alum also had a chance to tie the course record, with a six-foot birdie putt on the 18th, but failed to convert and came one stroke shy of tying the course record.

"I did a really good job of hitting greens today," said Hueber, who only missed two greens in regulation. "My caddy kept me in it. I just wanted to give myself opportunities. I kept myself below the hole and gave myself a lot of looks."

The two-time PGA TOUR Latinoamérica winner had two top-10 finishes this Regular Season, including a T3 at the Savannah Golf Championship. The 30-year-old finished the Regular Season No. 42 on the money list and is looking to secure his card for the 2018-19 season through The Finals 25 after the conclusion of the Web.com Tour Championship.

"It's a fresh start, it's kind of nice," Hueber commented. "I didn't play the last five events very well and it kind of feels like a new season where anything goes. You have four chances to play well as opposed to the end of the Regular Season when I needed to play well."

The Jacksonville, Florida resident finished T72 at last week's Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship and entered the week No. 72 in The Finals money list.

Defending champion Nicholas Lindheim shot a 3-under 67 in the first round and sits four shots back of leader Hickok entering the second round. He defeated Chesson Hadley and Rob Oppenheim in a playoff last year and ultimately earned a spot in The Finals 25. The two-time Web.com Tour winner finished No. 146 in the FedExCup standings in the 2017-18 TOUR season and failed to retain his card for the following year.

"I don't really take anything for granted," Lindheim said. "You still have to go out and play. It's a tough golf course and everybody knows that. I've had success here, but that doesn't necessarily mean it's a given."

THURSDAY NOTES:

* Thursday weather: Mostly cloudy, High of 74, Winds N/NE 5-15 mph.

* This week's purse is \$1,000,000, with \$180,000 going to the champion.

* This week marks the second week of the Web.com Tour Finals, a four-event series that concludes at the Web.com Tour Championship in Atlantic Beach, Florida, Sept. 20-23. Twenty-five PGA TOUR cards were awarded on August 19 following the WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by Kraft-Heinz. An additional 25 cards are up for grabs during the four Finals events, as well as positioning for all 50 cards.

* This week's field features the defending champion, Nicholas Lindheim, who opened play with a 3-under 67.

* In the third year of the tournament, each of the previous champions have started with a low first round. Bryson DeChambeau carded a 6-under 64 and was one shot back after the first round in 2016, before going on to win the tournament at 7-under 273. In 2017, Lindheim shared the first-round lead at 6-under 64 and won the tournament at 8-under 272.

* Through 24 events this year, three first-round leaders have captured a title at the end of the week, with the most recent being Martin Trainer at the Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Dr Pepper.

* A playoff has decided each of the first two years of the DAP Championship presented by NewBrick. DeChambeau won a four-way playoff with a par on the second hole in 2016, while Lindheim knocked in a 35-foot birdie putt on the first playoff hole to top a three-hole playoff.

* Hank Lebioda, who earned his PGA TOUR card as the 25th member of The 25 two weeks ago, carded an albatross on the par-5, 552-yard ninth hole.

* The field includes 69 Web.com Tour winners and 26 PGA TOUR champions, including a Major champion. Eight players are currently ranked inside the top 200 of the Official World Golf Ranking.

* Canterbury Golf Club scoring average:

	Front (36)	Back (35)	Total
R1	35.243	35.463	70.706

* NEXT WEEK: The Web.com Tour takes a week off before traveling to Boise, Idaho for the Albertsons Boise Open presented by Kraft Nabisco, the third event of the Web.com Tour Finals. The season will conclude the following week in Atlantic Beach, Florida for the Web.com Tour Championship.

For highlights from today's round, or any 2018 event visit <http://bit.ly/webcomtour2018>

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