



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 23, 2018

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Third-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Willy Wilcox	66-71-65—202 (-14)
2	Sungjae Im	71-67-65—203 (-13)
	Rhein Gibson	71-65-67—203 (-13)
	Adam Svensson	68-67-68—203 (-13)

Willy Wilcox in search of second Web.com Tour win at The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic

GREAT ABACO, The Bahamas – Willy Wilcox carded a flawless third-round 65 and moved into the lead at The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club. The 31-year-old from Birmingham, Alabama, with a 14-under-par202 total, is one-stroke ahead of The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Emerald Bay winner Sungjae Im, Rhein Gibson and Adan Svensson.

Wilcox needed a tie for 13th in last week's The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic to get into the field in Abaco. Last year, the former standout at University of Alabama-Birmingham competed in 14 PGA TOUR events but only made five cuts. His last top-10 on TOUR, a tie for sixth at the Waste Management Phoenix Open came in February of 2016.

"It's been a long time since I've played steady golf," said Wilcox, who has one top-10 in his last 16 starts on Tour. "It's been awhile since I can really say that I'm hitting it the way I know I really can. It's been a tough two years."

It's been five years since Wilcox's maiden Tour win at the 2013 South Georgia Classic. That magical week in Valdosta, Georgia, Wilcox held a seven-shot lead entering the final round and coasted to a four-stroke victory.

"It's cool to have a chance in the final round," said Wilcox, who has previously led/co-led twice in 76 starts on the Web.com Tour. "I know I can close out, but I just want to go out there and see how it goes. It's not going to be easy, but it will be a fun day, giving it a shot."

On Tuesday, Wilcox started fast, with birdies on four of his first five holes. He rolled in an 18-footer on the second hole to "get the juices flowing" and never looked back.

"My putting has been good for two of the three days and hopefully I can make it three of four," he said. "I'm hitting it good and working on the right stuff."

Wilcox's putting has been his nemesis the last few years and he's been working hard to correct his problems. Wilcox appears to be heading in the right direction and Wednesday's final round is another test to prove to himself that his game is back.

"It's a big relief," said Wilcox, about playing in the final group of the final round for the second straight tournament. "This is such a big weight off."

Im continues to impress and is looking to win his second Tour title in as many starts. On Wednesday, the 19-year-old from Jeju, South Korea will try to become the first player since Michael Putnam in 2013, and ninth in Tour history to win back-to-back weeks.

“I wasn't expecting to win the last tournament, but I just felt good,” said Im, who became the second youngest winner in Tour history with his victory in Exuma. “I'm trying to keep it going this week, I feel more confident and more comfortable being in contention.”

Last week, Im focused on hitting the fairways on the tight Greg Norman design. The Abaco Club has generous fairways compared to Emerald Bay Golf Club, but its green complexes are more complexed putting a premium on hitting the correct section. Im's iron game has been dialed in a result.

“Out here I'm more focused on the approach shot because I'm confident that I can keep the ball in play,” he said.

Im has only been playing professional golf for three years but has the calm demeanor of a veteran. For the second straight tournament, Im will play in the final group of the final round, with Wilcox no doubt.

The question remains, does being in contention rattle this teenager?

“I'm trying to keep everything to myself,” said Im, when asked if he feels pressure. “I focus on playing my game and what I'm doing.”

TUESDAY NOTES:

* Tuesday weather: Cloudy, high of 78. Winds were E/NE 5-10.

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

The Abaco Club	Front (36)	Back (36)	Total (72)
R1	35.477	37.447	72.924
R2	34.705	36.558	71.264
R3	34.973	35.836	70.806

* NEXT WEEK: The Web.com Tour is off for four days before returning to action in Panama City, Panama for the Panama Championship, January 29 – February 4. The Tour then heads to Bogota, Colombia for the Club Colombia Championship, February 5 – 11.

HIGHLIGHTS AND INTERVIEWS from today's play are available via the following FTP site:

website: <https://moveit.pgatourhq.com> <<https://moveit.pgatourhq.com/>>

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* First click on “FOLDER” on the top left of the main page. From there, navigate to the following folders:
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