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Second-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Dan McCarthy	70-66—136 (-8)
2	Rhein Gibson	69-68—137 (-7)
	Mark Anderson	66-71—137 (-7)

Dan McCarthy grabs lead at The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay

GREAT EXUMA, Bahamas – Playing out of the Major Medical category this season, Dan McCarthy posted a flawless 6-under-par 66 to move into sole possession of the lead halfway through the second round of The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay. The 32-year-old from Syracuse, New York is 8-under for the tournament, two ahead of Rhein Gibson and Mark Anderson.

Second-round play was suspended at 5:32 p.m. local time with half the field still on the golf course. Play will resume Monday morning at 7:30 a.m.

As the wind picked up in the Caribbean, McCarthy's game flourished. The former Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada alum recorded six birdies and no bogeys to post one of two blemish-free rounds in the first wave of the second round. The highlight of Sunday came at the 10^{th} hole where McCarthy chipped in to ignite his surge up the leaderboard.

"That was probably the biggest, most important stretch right there," said McCarthy, about his four birdies in a row to start his back nine. "I was dead to rights down there and I came away with a three. I felt like I was stealing a shot or two on the field there."

After a solo fourth performance in Exuma last season, McCarthy was positioned well inside the top 25 on the money list. He maintained his standing for four events until he suffered a wrist injury that sidelined him for more than five months.

"I've never gone through anything like that in my entire life," said McCarthy, who had a partial tear in his right wrist. "It was the most frustrating thing I've gone through in my career."

McCarthy, who turned pro in 2007, took the Mackenzie Tour by storm in 2016 winning four times on his way to an Order of Merit title and Player of the Year honors. He carried that momentum into his first Web.com Tour season fully exempt and was forced to a break from the game.

"It took a while to get the right diagnosis which was frustrating," said McCarthy. "I didn't know what was going on. I received a lot treatment for a few months in a row that didn't do anything."

With his wrist feeling better, McCarthy was able to return to action in the summer, but never found the magic he had during his historic Mackenzie Tour season. Even though McCarthy had surgery and went through rehab to strengthen his wrist, the former Le Moyne College graduate is still protective of his newly repaired joint.

"I've been very cautious in the off season with my practice and workouts to make sure I don't reinjure it," he said. "This is something I will always be hyper-sensitive to going forward."

No matter what the outcome is at the end of the week, McCarthy is excited to be competing on Tour this season.

"I'm extremely excited to be back playing," he said. "It puts things in perspective when you can't do the thing you love most."

FRIDAY NOTES:

* Friday weather: Scattered thunderstorms, high of 78.

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

* There was a two-hour delay to the resumption of the first round. The second round started at 10 am local time and play was suspended for the day at 5:33 pm due to darkness. The second round will resume on Monday morning at 7:30 am.

Sandals Emerald Bay GC	Front (36)	Back (36)	Total (72)
R1	35.659	35.114	71.773
R2	36.553	36.695	73.248

* NEXT WEEK: The Web.co, Tour is in Abaco for the

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