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#### **FINAL Leaderboard**

# **Syncrude Oil Country Championship**

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Tyler McCumber (U.S.)	67-68-65-63—263 (-21)
2	Ian Holt (U.S.)	66-71-65-63—265 (-19)
3	George Cunningham (U.S.)	67-64-72-65—268 (-16)
4	Chris Williams (U.S.)	66-69-68-66—269 (-15)
T5	Yannik Paul (Germany)	70-64-66-70—270 (-14)
T5	Patrick Fishburn (U.S.)	69-68-66-67—270 (-14)
T5	Paul Park (U.S.)	69-69-66-66—270 (-14)

# Full leaderboard

# McCumber shoots Sunday 63 to win on McCumber-designed course

EDMONTON, Alberta, Canada—Before the Syncrude Oil Country Championship began, there was a fair bit of interest in Tyler McCumber for a couple of reasons. He was coming off a win in the last Mackenzie Tour event, outside Toronto, *and* his father, Mark, designed the Edmonton Petroleum Golf and Country Club, the course hosting this third-year event. Storylines abounded. Naturally, pre-tournament questions arose about what winning on a Dad-designed course would mean to him.

McCumber now can speak to that topic, after shooting a final-round 63 and taking a two-shot win over Ian Holt, who also shot a 63. The victory vaults McCumber to No. 1 on the Order of Merit (\$86,100), a \$19,040 advantage over Zach Wright with four tournaments left in the season. He also becomes the first player in Mackenzie Tour history to win back-to-back tournaments, taking this title two weeks after winning the Osprey Valley Open for his first win in Canada.

"It's an honor. It was such a fun week. Just being here was fun playing on a course and seeing all the things he talks about in course design being in play," McCumber said of his dad and the course he designed 25 years ago. "The more I kept playing this course, the more it grew on me.

"And my mom said to win this for her, so I have to say I won this for her and not my dad. Thanks, Mom," Tyler McCumber joked.

McCumber's mom did get the win she requested, but it didn't come easily as several players made runs at her son during the final round. The chief antagonist was Holt, who matched McCumber shot for shot while playing in the group ahead of him. "I did everything I could," Holt said following the runner-up performance, his career-best finish.

"I didn't really give anything away out there. To shoot 8-under, you can't be mad about it," reasoned Holt, who birdied four of his final five holes to keep the pressure on. "I was really happy with how my game help up. You can't do anything else."

"The level and quality of play from the players this year is remarkable," McCumber said. "Everyone has played really, really well. I'm not surprised at all. The guys take it deep every week."

Thirty-six-hole leader George Cunningham rebounded from a 1-over 72 the previous day to post a 65 to finish third.

# **Key Information**

- In his last five Mackenzie Tour tournaments, Tyler McCumber is a combined 85-under par. During that stretch, he has gotten increasingly better, going from a tie for 35th (GolfBC Championship), to a tie for 17th (Windsor Championship), to a tie for 10th (Staal Foundation Open) until wins at the Osprey Valley Open and the Syncrude Oil Country Championship.
- Tyler McCumber's nine birdies Sunday came at Nos. 1, 2, 4, 5, 6 and 8 on the front nine and Nos. 14, 17 and 18 on the back. His lone bogey was at No. 16.
- Dawson Armstrong was the first player to record an 8-under 63 Sunday, with Ian Holt and tournament champion Tyler McCumber following with 63s of their own.
- Tyler McCumber has made starts on four different Tours this season. He began his year at the Rebel Sport Masters on the PGA Tour of Australasia, in January. He finished 26th. He also made one PGA TOUR Latinoamerica start, at the Guatemala Stella Artois Open, tying for fourth. McCumber received a sponsor's invitation into the PGA TOUR's Corales Puntacana Resort & Club Championship in the Dominican Republic and entered the final round in third, four shots off Brice Garnett's lead. A final-round 75 dropped McCumber into a tie for 19th. This was McCumber's seventh Mackenzie Tour start.
- Entering the week, the Order of Merit looked like this:

Pos.	Player	Earnings
1	Zach Wright	\$65,980
2	Sam Fidone	\$54,212
3	George Cunningham	\$52,567

4	Tyler McCumber	\$50,100
5	Ben Griffin	\$49,186

• This is the new Order of Merit top five:

Pos.	Player	Earnings
1	Tyler McCumber	\$86,100
2	Zach Wright	\$67,060
3	George Cunningham	\$66,167
4	Sam Fidone	\$55,532
5	Ben Griffin	\$50,266

- Dawson Armstrong had himself quite a day as he picked up his second top-10 of the season, was the first of three players to set an Edmonton Petroleum Golf and Country Club course record, while making his first career Mackenzie Tour hole-in-one. Armstrong tied for fifth, on the strength of the ace at No. 13 and birdies coming in at Nos. 14, 16 and 17 that led to his 8-under 64. "That stretch of golf (on Nos. 16 and 17) was the best golf I'd played all week," Armstrong said. He improved for 42nd to 30th on the Order of Merit.
- Of Dawson Armstrong's hole-in-one, his first as a professional, second in competition and third overall, he thought his tee shot was going to fly over the green for "an easy bogey." Instead, his ball landed, and spun back about 20 feet, taking the ridge of the green and rolling into the hole. "That changed the momentum really quickly," Armstrong added.
- This was the seventh hole-in-one of the Mackenzie Tour season and second this week, the first coming from Scott Secord. Joseph Harrison and George Cunningham (GolfBC Championship), Ashton Van Horne (Lethbridge Paradise Canyon Open), Tyler Collier (Staal Foundation Open) and James Love (Osprey Valley Open) have the others.
- Patrick Fishburn started out hot, making birdies on his first four holes and was temporarily tied for the lead early in his front nine. But a bogey on No. 7 and seven consecutive pars after that ended any hopes he had about winning. Fishburn tied for fifth. The Utah native is four for four making the cut this season, and this is his career-best finish, bettering the tie for 17th he had at the GolfBC Championship. He improved from 68th to 40th on the Order of Merit.
- The low Canadian finisher was Aaron Crawford, who was making his Mackenzie Tour season debut and his fifth Mackenzie Tour start overall. This was his first cut on this circuit. Crawford tied for 23rd after shooting a final-round 65. Crawford was 9-under through 15 holes Sunday, but a double bogey-bogey-par finish dropped him back.
- The other Canadians to make the cut were Michael Gligic and Taylor Pendrith (tied for 23rd), Andrew Funk (tied for 42nd), Max Gilbert (tied for 45th) and Wil Bateman (63rd).
- The par-4 16th and 17th holes played as the first- and second-most difficult holes Sunday. The stroke average at No. 16 was 4.476, and the stroke average at No. 17 was 4.079. For the week, No. 16 was the overall toughest hole, yielding only 24 birdies in four rounds.
- For the second consecutive tournament, Tyler McCumber turned a 54-hole lead into a win. He was seven shots ahead with 18 holes to play at the Osprey Valley Open, and he

took a share of the lead, a two-stroke advantage—with Yannik Paul—and won by that same margin.

#### Quotable

"The goal is to go as low as you can every day. My goal starting the day was to at least get to 20 (-under). I didn't want to limit it to 20, but I didn't want to play just shooting 5- or 6-under." – **Tyler McCumber** 

"I've talked to him every night. He just reminded me of all the stuff I've been working on. All those normal reminders." –**Tyler McCumber on calls to his father in Florida** 

"I'm sure he likes to see it, but I'm pretty sure he'll be pumped to see me win anywhere." — Tyler McCumber on what his dad thinks about winning on a Mark McCumber-designed course

"I think the biggest part about this course is the momentum. You have two easy holes, two hard holes, three hard holes, one easy hole. It's hard to get the momentum going, and you have to hit really quality shots on the hard holes to keep the momentum going for the entire 18." – **Tyler McCumber** 

"I'm very happy where my game is at. I want to get better each week, and I think I'm doing that. I've been working really hard on the mental side, and I think that's what separates the good play from the decent play." – **Tyler McCumber** 

"My birdie putt on the first hole really got the momentum going. I hit a driver-wedge. I got more aggressive on the first hole. I wanted to play aggressively off the tee and get wedges in my hands." – Tyler McCumber said of his opening birdie putt from eight feet

"That was our gameplan today, to come out and make as many birdies as possible. There were so many guys in the hunt. It was important to get off to a good start and just keep the pedal down and not let up." – **Tyler McCumber** 

"What else am I supposed to do? Second stinks. Nobody likes to come in second. You have to take your hat off to a guy who plays like that in the final group. You can't do anything about that." – Ian Holt on Tyler McCumber's play

"We made the turn, and I was 3-under, and I looked at the leaderboard and [Tyler McCumber] was 5-under through seven. I was like, All right, we better start making some birdies." —Ian Holt

"Being in the second-to-last group and playing as well as I did, that got the juices flowing. I made some really good putts, some really good birdies coming down the stretch. I knew I had to, and knowing you have to do something and you do it is always good." – **Ian Holt** 

#### You Should Know

On the 14th hole, a wasp stung Yannik Paul on the hand right as he was preparing to putt. Eventual tournament champion Tyler McCumber pulled out the stinger (of course he did), but Paul still missed the putt.

Fourth-Round Weather: Sunny and hot. High of 28. Wind NNW at 6 kph.