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### Final-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Zac Blair	66-65-65-67—263 (-17)
2	Brandon Crick	67-67-62-68—264 (-16)
3	Maverick McNealy	66-63-68-69—265 (-15)
4	Four tied at	266 (-14)

### Zac Blair wins first title at Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae

**Hayward, Calif.** — Entering the day one stroke off the lead, Zac Blair posted a final-round 3-under 67 to win his first Korn Ferry Tour title at 17-under at the Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae. The win catapulted Blair to 10<sup>th</sup> in the season-long points standings and secures his return to the PGA TOUR for the 2019-20 season.

“I’ve been playing really well these last few weeks, so I felt like I was close,” said Blair. “It was nice to get it done and lock up my card. It’ll be great to get back out there.”

Blair tallied five top-10s and 15 top-25s on the PGA TOUR from 2015-18 before returning to the Korn Ferry Tour for the 2019 season. He entered the week on a hot streak, posting top-10s in three out of his last four events, but was still outside The 25 with two weeks remaining in the Regular Season.

“I knew after last week that if I had a top-five finish over the next five weeks that it was going to be close, and this week I obviously came through,” said Blair. “I definitely got my game back on track over the last couple of months. I tried to keep things really simple and clean up my attitude a little bit. I was getting down on myself and a little negative, which isn’t when I’m at my best. I just got back to how I like to play.”

While players ebbed and flowed around him during the final round, Blair held steady with a bogey-free round, his second of the week. Though he claimed birdies at Nos. 3, 5 and 14, he credited several par saves with keeping his momentum during the round.

“I made a couple of big par saves on the front nine,” said Blair, a Brigham Young University product. “I hit a great one on the fourth hole after a really bad lag putt and then made a 10-footer at the seventh. Again at the eighth I had about a 12-footer that I made. Those are the kind of putts that you need to make to keep the round going.”

Blair, who ranked in the top 10 in both fairways hit (T3) and greens in regulation (T1), looked to be in control with a couple of holes to play, but playing competitor Brandon Crick birdied the par-4 17<sup>th</sup> to pull within one with one hole to play. Crick’s birdie attempt missed at the 18<sup>th</sup> but the tap-in par put the pressure on Blair to par the final hole.

“The last putt was a little longer than I wanted for sure, I was just trying not to do something stupid and three-putt on the last hole,” said Blair. “My first putt was probably 35 feet and then three feet or so on the last one. Not really the putt you want on poa greens being the last group in, but at the same time any putt to win is a good putt. I’m glad I made it.”

With the win, Blair becomes the 13<sup>th</sup> first-time champion of the year on the Korn Ferry Tour. The win is also the first for the 28-year-old on any PGA TOUR-sanctioned Tour. Crick, who finished as the solo runner-up at 16-under, clinched his spot in the Korn Ferry Tour Finals.

Stanford University alum Maverick McNealy finished in solo third at 15-under, rising to No. 20 on the Korn Ferry Tour points list with one event remaining. Four players tied for fourth at 14-under: Joshua Creel, Todd Baek, Ethan Tracy and Tyson Alexander.

**SUNDAY NOTES:**

\* Sunday’s weather: Mostly sunny with a high of 78. Winds W/SW at 6-12 miles per hour. Final-round tee times were originally scheduled to run off of the first tee from 7 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., but after thick fog on Sunday morning, tee times were adjusted to two tees from 10:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.

\* Though Zac Blair ranked in the top-three in both fairways hit and greens in regulation, he ranked just T36 in putting while averaging 29.5 putts per round. T36 is the lowest rank by a champion since the Evans Scholars Invitational (11 tournaments ago) and the second-lowest rank of the year.

\* By winning out of the final group, Blair became the fifth champion in a row to win while playing out of the final group. The last player to win playing out of a different group was Kristoffer Ventura at the Utah Championship (sixth-to-last group).

\* Brandon Crick’s runner-up finish is the first top-10 of his career in his 42<sup>nd</sup> event. The University of Nebraska product will compete in the Korn Ferry Tour Finals for the first time in his career.

\* Maverick McNealy’s solo-third finish was his second top-three finish of the year (runner-up, LECOM Suncoast Classic) and moves him to 777 points and 20<sup>th</sup> in the points standings. McNealy starred at nearby Stanford University where he won the 2015 Haskins Award (annually presented to the best collegiate male golfer). He is also the former No. 1 amateur in the world.

\* Tyson Alexander (T4) and Todd Baek (T4) both posted their best career finishes on the Korn Ferry Tour.

\* Brandon Wu (-8, T30), a recent graduate at Stanford University, competed this week as an amateur. Wu competed in both the U.S. Open and The Open Championship this summer, making the cut at the U.S. Open and finishing T35. He also led Stanford to a national championship in May.

\* Spencer Levin (-5, T39) led two Monday qualifiers that made the cut, joining Nyasha Mauchaza (E, T60).

\* This week’s purse was \$600,000, with \$108,000 going to the champion, Zac Blair. Blair also received 500 Korn Ferry Tour points with the win.

\* Thirty-nine Korn Ferry Tour winners were in the field this week, with a combined 57 victories between them. Ten past PGA TOUR champions were also in the field, combining for 19 victories.

\* The par-4 eighth hole (465 yards) ranked as the toughest hole on the course on Sunday with a scoring average of 4.333.

\* The par-5 15<sup>th</sup> hole (606 yards) ranked as the easiest hole on Sunday. The hole played to an average of 4.485.

**\* TPC Stonebrae Scoring Average:**

	<b>Front (35)</b>	<b>Back (35)</b>	<b>Total (70)</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
<b>R1</b>	<b>35.250</b>	<b>35.314</b>	<b>70.564</b>	



R2	33.871	34.542	68.413	69.489
R3	34.106	34.394	68.500	69.159
R4	34.758	34.864	69.621	69.363

For highlights from today's round, or any 2019 event visit <http://bit.ly/kornferry2019video>

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