



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 11, 2019

CONTACT: Preston Smith, PrestonSmith@pgatourhq.com, 706-844-2100

Third-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Nelson Ledesma	72-68-65—205 (-11)
2	Kyle Reifers	74-66-67—207 (-9)
3	Jack Maguire	71-68-69—208 (-8)
	Michael Gellerman	71-67-70—208 (-8)
	Luke Guthrie	69-67-72—208 (-8)
	Five players tied	210 (-6)

Nelson Ledesma captures 54-hole lead at KC Golf Classic

KANSAS CITY, MISSOURI – Argentinian Nelson Ledesma carded a bogey-free 65 on Saturday to take a two-stroke lead at the KC Golf Classic. Ledesma's round was one of three bogey-free rounds on moving day and one of only seven over the first three rounds at Blue Hills Country Club.

"Today was a solid round," said Ledesma. "I hit it really well all day; everything felt right. I believe what is making a difference for me right now is my putting on the greens."

Ledesma leads the field with only 80 putts through 54 holes, including 26 on Saturday. His strong putting has offset some struggles off the tee through the first three rounds. He has hit only 19 of 42 fairways and was worst in the field in that category during the first round (three of 14 fairways).

Ledesma will play in the final group on Sunday for the first time since joining the Web.com Tour in 2018. He earned his first Web.com Tour victory at the 2018 LECOM Health Challenge playing out of the second-to-last group.

"I feel good at the top of the leaderboard," said Ledesma. "I have had two top-10s this year. I feel relaxed and feel like I'm playing well."

While Ledesma's birdie numbers have been impressive, bogey-avoidance might be the key to the 28-year-old's success. After racking up five bogeys in his opening round on Thursday, Ledesma only had one bogey over his last 36 holes. He added seven more birdies to his tournament-leading 17 during the third round, punctuated by getting up and down for birdie at the par-5 18th to close out his 65.

Despite a multitude of birdies to choose from, it was an approach shot at the 17th leading to a par that proved he was dialed in.

"My shot of the day was on No. 17 when I hit the flagstick with my approach shot," said Ledesma. "It didn't result in a birdie, but when you actually hit the flagstick then you know it was a great shot."

Kyle Reifers, a 35-year-old Wake Forest University alum, sits two shots back after a third-round 67 and 9-under total. On Thursday, Reifers triple-bogeyed his first hole of the tournament with an 8 at the par-5 first. He then played the next 53 holes in 12-under to sit solo second.



Reifers is seeking his first top-10 finish on the Web.com Tour since 2014 when he had three third-place finishes on his way to earning his PGA TOUR card. He competed on TOUR in 2015, 2016 and 2017 before returning to the Web.com Tour for the last two years.

Three players are tied for third at 8-under 208: Jack Maguire, Michael Gellerman and 36-hole leader Luke Guthrie.

Final-round tee times will run from 7 a.m. to 9:12 a.m. off of the first and 10th tees.

SATURDAY NOTES:

* Saturday's weather: Cloudy, high of 58, winds S/SE at 5-10 miles per hour. Players played lift, clean and place during the third round due to wet course conditions. With potential thunderstorms on Sunday afternoon, final round tee times have been moved up (7-9:12 a.m. off of Nos. 1 and 10).

* Blue Hills has a rich history with legends of the game. Most notably, the Club hosted Tom Watson's Children's Mercy Hospital Golf Classic for 25 years through 2005. Along with Watson, a local resident, other legends to compete included Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Gary Player and Lee Trevino. The event raised more than \$12 million over the years for the hospital and was one of the largest grossing charity events of its kind.

* Two locals played well on Saturday to move up the leaderboard. Playing in front of one of the largest galleries on the course, Harry Higgs (-6, T6) carded a third-round 70 to move into the top-10. Playing in the third group off, Joseph Winslow (-2, T33) fired a 4-under 68. Higgs starred at nearby Blue Valley North High School growing up while Winslow competed for St. Thomas Aquinas High School.

* Jack Maguire (-8, T3) had missed his previous nine cuts this season before this week. His previous best finish on Tour came in 2016 at the WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by Kraft Heinz (T4). Michael Gellerman (-8, T3) is seeking his second career top-10 after a T8 at The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay.

* Second-round leader Luke Guthrie (-8, T3) double-bogeyed the 17th on Saturday to fall out of Sunday's final group. Guthrie learned he got into the field as an alternate on Monday morning.

* Chris Naegel (-5, T11) continues to pace the Monday qualifiers. He is one of four Monday qualifiers to make the cut at Blue Hills. Naegel Monday qualified into the LECOM Suncoast Classic in February and finished T25 to earn a spot into the following week's tournament, one of 10 Monday qualifiers this year to earn a top-25 finish.

* This year marks the first year the KC Golf Classic is hosted at Blue Hills Country Club. The previous nine years of the tournament were held at Nicklaus Golf Club at LionsGate.

* This week's purse is \$675,000, with \$121,500 going to the champion. The champion will also earn 500 points in the Web.com Tour points system.

* Forty-seven former Web.com Tour champions are competing in the field, amounting to 65 victories, as well as eight PGA TOUR champions (equaling 18 victories).

* The par-4 fourth hole (446 yards) and par-4 17th hole (449 yards) tied as the two toughest holes on the course on Saturday with a scoring average of 4.280.



* The par-5 13th hole (560 yards) ranked as the easiest hole on Saturday. The hole played to an average of 4.587 and yielded two eagles and 29 birdies to the field.

* Blue Hills Country Club Scoring Averages:

	Front (36)	Back (36)	Total (72)	Cumulative
R1	36.851	36.740	73.591	
R2	36.579	36.572	73.151	73.374
R3	35.400	35.573	70.973	72.576

For highlights from today's round, or any 2019 event visit <http://bit.ly/webcom2019video>

For the latest information and updates on the Web.com Tour visit www.pgatourmedia.com

Scores available at www.pgatour.com or on the Associated Press wire

Follow the Web.com Tour on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/webdotcomtour> on Facebook at www.Facebook.com/WebDotComTour and on Instagram at www.instagram.com/webdotcomtour