



LECOM Health Challenge

Peek'n Peak Resort – Upper Course | Findley Lake, New York | July 4-7, 2019

Korn Ferry Tour Media Contact

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Quick Facts

Golf Course: Peek'n Peak Resort – Upper Course (Par 72, 7,088 yards)

Course Designer: John Exley (Redesign, 2006)

Purse: \$600,000 (Winner: \$108,000 / 500 points)

Field Overview (as of July 1)

- 48 Korn Ferry Tour winners with 67 victories
- 11 PGA TOUR winners with 17 victories
- [Power Rankings](#)
- [Inside the Field](#)
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Tournament History

The LECOM Health Challenge returns for the fourth time this year at Peek'n Peak Resort's Upper Course. In 2016, the tournament's inaugural year, Rick Lamb survived a four-man playoff at 19-under 269 on his way to earning his first PGA TOUR card. Another member of that year's playoff, C.T. Pan, became a PGA TOUR champion this year at the RBC Heritage. In 2017, Chesson Hadley earned his first of two victories at 23-under 265, topping another future PGA TOUR member Beau Hossler by one stroke. Hadley went on to win Player of the Year in 2017. In 2018, rookie Argentinian Nelson Ledesma earned a two-stroke victory at 22-under 266 on his way to retaining his Korn Ferry Tour card. He will return this week to defend his title, looking to become the first person in the Tour's history to successfully retain the trophy.

Past Champions

| Year | Champion | Scores | To Par | Margin |
|------|----------------|-------------------|--------|---------|
| 2018 | Nelson Ledesma | 68-67-64-67 – 266 | -22 | 2 |
| 2017 | Chesson Hadley | 69-67-64-65 – 265 | -23 | 1 |
| 2016 | Rick Lamb* | 69-69-68-63 – 269 | -19 | Playoff |

*Playoff Victory

Local Players in the Field

Syracuse, New York, native Dan McCarthy headlines local players in the field. The 33-year-old sits 21st in The 25 and is looking to earn his PGA TOUR card for the first time. He has made the cut at this event in each of the past two years. He will be joined by New York state natives Michael Miller (Brewster) and Bryan Bigley (Schenectady), each of which have earned runner-up finishes in the last month on Tour. Trevor Sluman, a graduate of McQuaid Jesuit High in Rochester, will make his third career start on the Korn Ferry Tour. Other players from the state competing include Andrew Svoboda (New

Rochelle), Derek Bard (New Hartford), Matthew Campbell (Rome) and Kevin Roy (Syracuse). David Denlinger from Pennsylvania earned medalist honors at the Monday Qualifier with a 12-under 60 at Shorewood Country Club.

Course History

The Peek'n Peak Resort's Upper Course will host the LECOM Health Challenge for the fourth consecutive year. The par-72 layout is part of a larger ski resort in southwestern New York, the western end of the ski country snowbelt. With each of the previous three years' champions posting scores of 19-under or better, there are ample scoring opportunities on the Upper Course. While it ranked as the seventh-easiest course on Tour in 2018 with a scoring average of 70.642, it was closer to the middle of the pack in 2016 and 2017 (10th-easiest and 11th-easiest, respectively). The course did surrender 55 eagles in 2018, the third-most on Tour. The par-5 11th was responsible for 21 of those eagles and the hole ranked as the fifth-easiest hole on Tour last year by scoring average (4.331).

By the Numbers: Peek'n Peak Resort – Upper Course

Hardest hole (2018): No. 6 (par 4, 460 yards) – 4.162 average, 109 bogeys or worse

Easiest hole (2018): No. 11 (par 5, 523 yards) – 4.331 average, 21 eagles, 281 birdies

Tournament Record (18 holes): 63 (-9), 2016 – Rick Lamb (Final Round) and 2018 – Kyle Jones (Third Round)

Tournament Record (72 holes): 265 (-23), 2017 – Chesson Hadley

Top Five to Watch

- **Kristoffer Ventura** – Ventura survived a three-hole playoff last week to win his first career Korn Ferry Tour event in his fifth start. The 24-year-old also had a T3 finish at the BMW Charity Pro-Am in June.
- **Charlie Saxon** – After a top-25 finish two weeks ago in Wichita, Saxon broke through with the best finish of his career last week in Utah with a T3. The University of Oklahoma alum ranks fourth on Tour in driving distance.
- **Nelson Ledesma** – Ledesma will return and attempt to defend his title at the LECOM Health Challenge. The Argentinian will be seeking his fifth top-10 of the season and a good finish could earn him his first PGA TOUR card.
- **Matthew Campbell** – After making his debut three weeks ago in Springfield, Illinois, Matthew Campbell has posted two top-25s in three starts. The 30-year-old is originally from New York State (Rome).
- **Kevin Dougherty** – Something has clicked for Dougherty of late. After not finishing better than T15 in any of his first 14 starts of the year, he has finished T2 and T3 in the last two weeks, respectively. With the finishes, he has leaped to No. 23 in The 25.

Chase for The 25

- A new points system has been put in place to replace the Regular Season money list as the way to earn one of the 25 PGA TOUR cards awarded at the end of the Regular Season in Portland. At the conclusion of the WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz, the top 25 points earners will earn their PGA TOUR cards. Additionally, the top-75 players in Korn Ferry Tour points (plus ties) will be eligible to play in the Korn Ferry Tour Finals.

| Rank | Name | Points |
|------|-------------------|--------|
| 1. | Xinjun Zhang | 1,880 |
| 2. | Robby Shelton | 1,663 |
| 3. | Scottie Scheffler | 1,609 |
| 4. | Lanto Griffin | 1,081 |
| 5. | Henrik Norlander | 991 |

Season Recap

1. *The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay* – Zecheng “Marty” Dou hit a 50-foot birdie putt on the final hole to slam the door on a potential playoff and earn the first title of the 2019 season. It was the 21-year-

- old's first win in nearly a year and a half, and second overall, by two strokes over Steve LeBrun and Ben Kohles. Dou was using a caddie he had met six days prior and a different driver after cracking his early in the week.
2. *The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club* – Rafael Campos earned his first career Korn Ferry Tour victory battling windy conditions all week. Campos used a final-round 70 to hold off rookies Vincent Whaley and Paul Imondi who finished in second and third. Players battled the weather all week as gusts of winds hit 38 miles per hour during the final round.
 3. *Country Club de Bogotá Championship* – Mark Anderson captured the Country Club de Bogotá Championship for his second career Korn Ferry Tour victory and first title in nearly six years. Anderson held a two-stroke lead entering the final round and ran away from the field with a Sunday 67 to finish at 17-under. This year marked the first time that both the Fundadores and Pacos y Fabios courses were played in the event.
 4. *Panamá Championship* – Canadian Michael Gligic carded a final-round 5-under 65 to come from behind for his first Korn Ferry Tour victory. Gligic began the final round T7 and three strokes off the lead, but three straight birdies on Nos. 9-11 vaulted him up the leaderboard before adding birdies at the 14th and 16th to clinch the one-stroke win at 8-under for the week in windy conditions.
 5. *LECOM Suncoast Classic* – Mark Hubbard converted a 54-hole lead to win the LECOM Suncoast Classic by two strokes at 26-under 262. Hubbard carded four rounds in the 60s – including a final-round 67 – to outlast Maverick McNealy. The 29-year-old made five birdies on the front nine to make the turn at 5-under 31 during the final round and opened an insurmountable lead.
 6. *Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by MISTRAS* – Vince Covello birdied the final hole in regulation and the third playoff hole to earn his first Korn Ferry Tour title at the Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by MISTRAS. Covello topped 54-hole leader Justin Lower in the playoff with a birdie after both players made pars on the first two holes.
 7. *Savannah Golf Championship* – Dan McCarthy, a 33-year-old Le Moyne College graduate, held off a late charge from Scottie Scheffler to win the second-annual Savannah Golf Championship. McCarthy built a three-stroke lead at one point on the back nine but needed to sink a short par putt at the 18th to win by one.
 8. *Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail Championship* – Trailing by a stroke on the 72nd hole of the tournament, Lanto Griffin stuck his approach to five feet before converting a tying birdie and reach a playoff with Robby Shelton at 15-under 273. After both players made pars on the first three holes of the playoff (18-18-9), Griffin stuck it to two feet for a tap-in birdie and his second career Korn Ferry Tour title.
 9. *Dormie Network Classic at Briggs Ranch* – Xinjun Zhang dominated the field to earn his first Korn Ferry Tour title at Briggs Ranch Golf by five strokes. The former PGA TOUR member used rounds of 63-64-65-70 to finish 26-under 262 for the week. Zhang led or co-led after every round of the tournament and became the first player of the year to mathematically guarantee a PGA TOUR card next season.
 10. *Nashville Golf Open Benefitting the Snedeker Foundation* – Two weeks after falling in a playoff at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail Championship, Robby Shelton won with a birdie in a one-hole playoff over Scottie Scheffler to win his first Korn Ferry Tour title. With the win, Shelton jumped to second in the Korn Ferry Tour points list and earned his first PGA TOUR card for next season.
 11. *KC Golf Classic* – Michael Gellerman outlasted three final-round weather delays to earn his first Korn Ferry Tour title with an 11-under total at Blue Hills Country Club. Gellerman posted a bogey-free 69 during the final round to top Nelson Ledesma and Harry Higgs by one stroke.
 12. *Knoxville Open* – For the second time in three weeks, Robby Shelton came out on top in the state of Tennessee, as the 23-year-old posted a final-round 71 to claim the Knoxville Open title with a 15-under total. Shelton edged out Mark Anderson who finished in solo-second at 14-under.
 13. *Evans Scholars Invitational* – Scottie Scheffler rallied from a six-shot deficit to claim his first Korn Ferry Tour title at the Evans Scholars Invitational. Scheffler posted a final-round 9-under 63 to force a playoff and drained a 15-foot birdie putt on the second extra hole to capture his first professional win.
 14. *REX Hospital Open* – Sebastian Cappelen entered the final round four strokes off the lead but posted a 7-under 64 on Sunday for his second career victory at the REX Hospital Open. Cappelen bogeyed his first two holes on Sunday, but the Dane tallied seven birdies and an eagle over his next 16 holes to earn the win.
 15. *BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by SYNEX Corporation* – Rhein Gibson carded a final-round 8-under 63 for a come-from-behind win at 21-under 193. He posted a bogey-free final round and only collected one bogey (against 20 birdies and an eagle) on the tournament. The tournament was shortened to 54 holes due to inclement weather.

16. *Lincoln Land Championship presented by LRS* – Xinjun Zhang birdied the third hole of a sudden-death playoff to top Dylan Wu for his second victory of the season at the Lincoln Land Championship presented by LRS. Zhang carded a final-round 6-under 65 on Sunday to reach 15-under for the tournament before eventually closing out the win.
17. *Wichita Open Supporting Wichita's Youth* – Henrik Norlander defeated Bryan Bigley on the third playoff hole to take home the Wichita Open Supporting Wichita's Youth. Norlander carded a final-round 4-under 66 before eventually closing out the win by surviving a five-man playoff.
18. *Utah Championship presented by Zions Bank* – In just his fifth career Korn Ferry Tour start, rookie Kristoffer Ventura topped Joshua Creel with a par on the third hole of a playoff to win the Utah Championship presented by Zions Bank. The Oklahoma State University alum posted a final-round 65 to finish at 14-under.

About Korn Ferry Tour

Founded (1990), owned and operated by the PGA TOUR, the Korn Ferry Tour identifies and develops those players who are ready to compete and win on golf's biggest stage. In 2013, the Korn Ferry Tour became The Path to the PGA TOUR with all 50 available PGA TOUR cards coming through the Tour and the season culminating at the Korn Ferry Tour Finals. This season marks the 30th year of competition on the Korn Ferry Tour. Three out of four PGA TOUR members are Korn Ferry Tour alumni. Tour alumni have won more than 500 PGA TOUR titles, including 24 major championships and eight PLAYERS Championships. To learn more about the PGA TOUR, the Korn Ferry Tour and to follow the season-long quest for a PGA TOUR card, visit PGATOUR.COM, or follow the Tour on social media via Instagram (@KornFerryTour), Twitter (@KornFerryTour) and Facebook (facebook.com/KornFerryTour).