



# Lincoln Land Championship presented by LRS

Panther Creek Country Club | Springfield, Illinois | June 13-16, 2019

# Web.com Tour Media Contact

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### **Quick Facts**

**Golf Course:** Panther Creek Country Club (Par 71, 7,244) **Course Designer:** Hale Irwin (1992) **Purse:** \$550,000 (Winner: \$99,000 / 500 points)

#### Field Overview (as of June 10)

- 37 Web.com Tour winners with 52 victories
- Six PGA TOUR winners with seven victories
- Power Rankings
- Inside the Field
- Rds. 1 & 2 Tee Times

#### **Tournament History**

This year will mark the fourth playing of the Lincoln Land Championship presented by LRS, all four coming at Panther Creek Country Club. Martin Flores won the inaugural event in 2016, spurred by a final-round eagle at the par-5 seventh en route to a clinching 67. He went on to post 18 made cuts in 27 PGA TOUR events the following year. In 2017, Purdue University alum Adam Schenk outlasted a four-person playoff to claim his first Web.com Tour title. He has competed on the PGA TOUR over the past two seasons, earning nine top-25s. In 2018, Georgia Tech alum Anders Albertson set a new tournament record at 25-under 259, including four rounds at 66 or better. He has competed as a PGA TOUR rookie this season, earning two top-25s thus far.

Year	Champion	Scores	To Par	Margin
2018	Anders Albertson	66-66-64-63 - 259	-25	2
2017	Adam Schenk	67-66-65-72 - 270	-14	Playoff
2016	Martin Flores	66-64-65-67 - 262	-22	2

#### Local Players in the Field

Brian Campbell, a former star at the University of Illinois, headlines the local connections at this week's Lincoln Land Championship. Campbell is a former All-American for the Fighting Illini and was named the Big Ten Player of the Year in 2014. Last week on the Web.com Tour, he used a final-round 7-under 64 to rise to T3, his third top-10 of the year. Dylan Meyer, the 2017 Big Ten Player of the Year, adds another Illinois star to the field. Another former Illinois standout, Luke Guthrie, will not play this week after qualifying for the U.S. Open at Pebble Beach. Three Illinois products gained entry into the field via the Monday Qualifier, led by Brian Bullington of Frankford who topped the field at Gateway National Golf Links with a 65. Patrick Flavin of Highwood, Illinois, and Bryce Emory of Aurora, Illinois, also qualified.

# **Course History**

Panther Creek Country Club has served as the host course in each of the tournament's first three years. It was designed and opened in 1992 by Hale Irwin, a 20-time PGA TOUR winner and 45-time PGA TOUR Champions winner. His 45 wins on PGA TOUR Champions are most all-time. Panther Creek ranked as the third-easiest course on Tour in 2018 (by scoring average) at 68.348 (-2.652), though it ranked as the ninth easiest in 2017. In the tournament's debut (2016), it ranked as the fourth easiest on Tour. The tournament debuted in July of 2016 but has been held in June in each of the last two years.

# By the Numbers: Panther Creek Country Club

**Hardest hole:** No. 17 (par 3, 233 yards) – 3.173 average **Easiest hole:** No. 13 (par 5, 603 yards) – 4.348 average **Tournament Record (18 holes):** 61 (-10), Chase Wright (2018), second round **Tournament Record (72 holes):** 259 (-25), Anders Albertson (2018)

# **Top Five to Watch**

- **Rhein Gibson** Even before his breakthrough win at last week's BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by SYNNEX Corporation, Gibson was trending in the right direction. The week before, he posted weekend rounds of 65-66 to finish T4.
- **Brian Campbell** Campbell is coming off a final-round 63 to rise to T3 in South Carolina, and the University of Illinois alum will be competing in a state that he is familiar with.
- Jonathan Randolph Randolph has two things going for him: prior success at this tournament and recent success on Tour. He finished T3 at last week's BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by SYNNEX Corporation and finished T2 in Springfield in 2016.
- **Ben Kohles** While Kohles has struggled a bit of late, he did card a second-round 64 last week and in Springfield last year he finished T5, after a T11 in 2017.
- Michael Miller Miller is coming off the best finish of his career by far with a runner-up in South Carolina and will make his debut at the Lincoln Land Championship presented by LRS.

#### 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 Web.com Tour points (plus ties) will be eligible to play in the Web.com Tour Finals.

Rank	Name	Points
1.	Robby Shelton	1,558
2.	Scottie Scheffler	1,515
3.	Xinjun Zhang	1,380
4.	Lanto Griffin	1,029
5.	Mark Anderson	935

#### 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-yearold'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 Web.com 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 Web.com 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 Web.com 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 14<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> 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 Web.com 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.
- 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 Web.com Tour title.
- 9. Dormie Network Classic at Briggs Ranch Xinjun Zhang dominated the field to earn his first Web.com 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 Web.com Tour title. With the win, Shelton jumped to second in the Web.com 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 Web.com 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 Web.com Tour title at the Evans Scholars Invitational. Scheffler posted a final-round 9-under 63 to force the 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 SYNNEX 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.

# About the Web.com Tour

Founded (1990), owned and operated by the PGA TOUR, the Web.com Tour continues to identify those players who are ready to compete and win on golf's biggest stage. Web.com became the Tour's umbrella sponsor on June 27, 2012, with a 10-year agreement in place through 2021. In 2013, the Web.com Tour became The Path to the PGA TOUR with all 50 available PGA TOUR cards coming through the Web.com Tour and the season culminating at the three-event Web.com Tour Finals. This season marks the 30th year of competition on the Web.com Tour. Three out of four PGA TOUR members are Web.com Tour alumni. Tour alumni have won more than 500 PGA TOUR titles, including 23 major championships and eight PLAYERS Championships. To learn more about the PGA TOUR, the Web.com Tour and to follow the season-long quest for a PGA TOUR card, visit PGATOUR.COM, or follow the Tour on social media via Twitter (@WebDotComTour), Facebook (facebook.com/WebDotComTour) and Instagram (Instagram.com/WebDotComTour).