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Final-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Xinjun Zhang*	68-72-63-66—269 (-15)
2	Dylan Wu	68-73-65-63—269 (-15)
3	Nelson Ledesma	74-66-65-65—270 (-14)
	Vincent Whaley	68-68-68-66—270 (-14)
5	Three tied at	271 (-13)

**Won on the third hole of a sudden-death playoff*

Xinjun Zhang wins in playoff at Lincoln Land Championship presented by LRS

SPRINGFIELD, Illinois – 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.

“This confirms that we belong out here and even on the PGA TOUR,” said Zhang, who has already locked up his PGA TOUR card for the 2019-20 season. “Things that I’ve been working on like ball-striking and putting all went well today. It puts me in a great mindset going to the TOUR next year. It’s not very often that you get to be in a playoff going for the win. Being in that environment is a great learning experience, feeling the emotions and the intensity of it.”

With the win, Zhang reclaims the top spot on the season-long Web.com Tour points standings with 1,880 points. Zhang led the Tour in points for three weeks earlier in the season but was surpassed by Robby Shelton over the past four weeks.

This win held special significance for Zhang on Father’s Day as his wife, Chang Hong, is expecting the couple’s second child, a son, this month.

“At the beginning of the week I set a goal that if I finished T3 or better I can take next week off to go home a little early to see my wife and my family,” said Zhang, who turned 32 on Monday. “It just makes it that much sweeter. This win is really for her; she is holding down the fort at home. Obviously going through being pregnant, but also taking care of our daughter Vanessa at the same time.”

Including the three-hole playoff, Zhang went bogey-free over his final 41 holes (with 14 birdies over those holes). He birdied Nos. 12, 15 and 16 coming down the stretch to force a playoff winning on the third playoff hole. Both players made par on the first two playoff holes (contested on No. 18) before moving to the ninth hole where Zhang made birdie.

“I had a lot of confidence going into that ninth hole,” said Zhang. “We birdied it on three of the four days, including during the round today with the same hole location. It was just a great second shot to give us a good look.”

Though he had some dramatic shots in the playoff, Zhang’s best shot of the day may have been earlier at the par-5 16th hole. After a great tee shot, Zhang caught the lip of the bunker on the approach. He



managed to stick it to inside two feet from there for a tap-in birdie to tie the lead and eventually force a playoff.

"We knew where we stood going into 16 and knew it was the best opportunity for birdie coming in," said Zhang. "When I caught the bunker I got a little frustrated, but I talked to my caddie who calmed me down. He gave me confidence to hit a good bunker shot and I was able to stick it to about two feet and make the birdie putt."

Competing in just his second career Web.com Tour event, Dylan Wu used a flurry of birdies down the stretch – including five in his last eight holes – to force a playoff at 15-under. The Northwestern University alum sunk a five-foot putt to save par on the second playoff hole before falling on the third hole. The 22-year-old made a 15-foot birdie putt at the last to reach 15-under about an hour before the leader group finished.

"I did not have a good tee shot on the 18th, still had about 210 yards in, but I told my caddie that I'm going for this flag," said Wu. "I'm trying to make birdie here. It's all about seizing the opportunity...I actually played the first two events up this season up on the Mackenzie Tour, and was signed up to play the third one this week, but got in on the alternate list, took a red-eye flight here to get in on Tuesday morning and had a great week."

Nelson Ledesma and rookie Vincent Whaley finished T3 at 14-under 270.

SUNDAY NOTES:

* Sunday's weather: Mostly cloudy, high of 80. Winds S/SW at 8-16 miles per hour and gusts up to 20 miles per hour.

* After high winds caused a cumulative scoring average of 72.160 over the first two days, the weekend saw calmer conditions lower the scoring average closer to the tournament's average. Last year's cumulative scoring average of 68.348 was the lowest on Tour. This year the scoring average finished at 70.129.

* Vincent Whaley (T3, -14) was looking to become the second rookie this year to lock up his TOUR card (after good friend Scottie Scheffler). With a T3 finish, Whaley moved up to 11th in The 25, less than 100 points short of the projected threshold needed to lock up his TOUR card.

* Chase Seiffert (T5, -13) aced the second hole with a 9-iron from 159 yards. The ace was the second of the week at Panther Creek (John Oda). Seiffert moved up to ninth in The 25 with his top-10.

* After making the cut on the number (+1), James Driscoll (T5, -13) carded rounds of 63-65 on the weekend to finish two shots outside of the playoff. The last person to win after making the cut on the number was Lanto Griffin in 2017.

* Perhaps inspired by his hometown Raptors' NBA Finals victory, Michael Gligic (T11, -11) inched closer to locking up his PGA TOUR card. He currently has 782 points, less than 50 short of the 830-point threshold.

* Former Haskins Award winner Braden Thornberry (T5, -13) earned his best career finish on the Web.com Tour, and with the reshuffle coming after this tournament, likely earned his way into tournaments for the rest of the Regular Season.



* Each of the three previous winners of the tournament have gone on to earn their PGA TOUR card in the Regular Season as a member of The 25. Last year's champion, Anders Albertson, set a tournament record at 25-under 259. With Xinjun Zhang's victory, tournament champions are now four for four in earning their way to the PGA TOUR.

* This week's purse was \$550,000, with \$99,000 going to the champion, Xinjun Zhang. Zhang also earns 500 points in the Web.com Tour points standings.

* Thirty-seven former Web.com Tour champions competed in the field, amounting to 52 victories, as well as six PGA TOUR champions (equaling seven victories).

* The par-4 15th hole (465 yards) ranked as the toughest hole on Sunday at Panther Creek with an average of 4.167.

* The par-5 16th hole (529 yards) ranked as the easiest hole on Sunday at Panther Creek with an average of 4.212.

* Panther Creek Country Club Scoring Averages:

	Front (35)	Back (36)	Total (71)	Cumulative
R1	36.417	36.518	72.935	
R2	36.093	35.298	71.391	72.160
R3	34.197	33.667	67.864	70.728
R4	33.955	34.379	68.333	70.129

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