



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: April 21, 2019

CONTACT: Preston Smith, [PrestonSmith@pgatourhq.com](mailto:PrestonSmith@pgatourhq.com), 706-844-2100

### Final-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Lanto Griffin*	68-68-69-68-273 (-15)
2	Robby Shelton	65-67-72-69-273 (-15)
3	Tyler McCumber	68-69-72-67-276 (-12)
	Austin Smotherman	66-75-67-68-276 (-12)
5	Scottie Scheffler	68-72-70-67-277 (-11)

*\*Won on the fourth hole of a sudden-death playoff*

## Lanto Griffin wins on fourth playoff hole at Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail Championship

**PRATTVILLE, Alabama** – Trailing by a stroke on the 72<sup>nd</sup> hole of the tournament, Lanto Griffin stuck it 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.

“You put so much work in and there’s so many days and weeks that things don’t click,” said Griffin. “You wonder if you’re going to get back into that situation to have a chance. Just being in contention, I texted my coach last night that I hit it terrible yesterday and my swing felt awful, but my putting came back...I made all of the putts I needed to.”

Griffin posted four front-nine birdies at The Senator Course and led by two at one point early, but seven pars and a bogey on the back nine led up to Griffin’s dramatic closing birdie to tie. His final-round 68 was his fourth round in the 60s all week, the only player to accomplish the feat at the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail Championship.

The 30-year-old credited legend Vijay Singh with a putting tip last week on the practice green at TPC Sawgrass to his improved play around the greens.

“I was putting on the back green and Vijay yells out to me from 20 yards away and said ‘get your right elbow in tighter and bend over more,’” said Griffin. “Of course I said ‘yes sir,’ and he came over and helped me for a couple of minutes...He told me after that to go win this week, so big shout out to him. That was cool. Especially from a legend. I don’t think people realize how good Vijay was. He won nine times in 2004. When a legend like that tells you something, you have to pay attention.”

The impromptu putting lesson came on Saturday morning during the Masters, a day after Singh missed the cut in Augusta.

While Vijay wasn’t shy about offering advice, Griffin’s girlfriend, Maya, hid from him all afternoon as he remained in contention. She flew in this morning and surprised him as he walked off the 18<sup>th</sup> as a champion.



"I was completely blindsided; I had no idea," said Griffin. "It will be fun to celebrate tonight. The last time I won was in Nashville, and that was the first week we were dating. It was hard doing the ceremony back then and the speeches to give her a shout out because I wasn't even sure if she wanted to date me longer than that week. Luckily now we're a lot more solid."

Griffin placed well in several statistical categories throughout the week. He finished fifth in driving distance (304 yards per) and T2 in greens in regulation (59/72, 82%). The win is the second of the year for Virginia Commonwealth University alumni; Griffin joins former teammate Rafael Campos as 2019 champions (The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic).

With the win, Griffin jumps to ninth on the Web.com Tour points list after beginning the week 93<sup>rd</sup>.

Robby Shelton, who led or co-led after each of the first three rounds, fell on the fourth hole of the playoff after four pars. Shelton was a local crowd favorite after growing up in the state and competing across the Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail as a junior golfer. The 23-year-old is a former All-American at the University of Alabama. With the solo-second finish, Shelton jumps to 12<sup>th</sup> on the Web.com Tour points list.

#### **SUNDAY NOTES:**

- \* Sunday's weather: Sunny, high of 76, winds W/NW at 5-10 miles per hour.
- \* Shelton fell just short in front of a big hometown crowd that supported him throughout the week. He recalled winning multiple junior golf titles at The Senator Course growing up.
- \* Will Zalatoris Monday qualified into the Savannah Golf Championship and finished T12 to earn his way into this week's tournament. The former Wake Forest star followed that up with a T10 this week to earn his way into next week's Dormie Network Classic at Briggs Ranch.
- \* Tyler McCumber (12-under, T3) and Scottie Scheffler (11-under, fifth) each earned their fourth top-10 finish on the Web.com Tour this season. The duo lead all Web.com Tour players with four top-10s.
- \* Despite posting a 10 during the first round (fifth hole), Charlie Saxon rallied to make the cut and finished T10 after a final three rounds of 68-68-69.
- \* Four out of 12 Monday qualifiers made the cut: Davis Riley (4-under, T29), Garrett Osborn (2-under, T37), Hayden Buckley (even-par, T47) and Akshay Bhatia (1-under, T42). This week was Bhatia's Web.com Tour debut. The 17-year-old made his PGA TOUR debut last month at the Valspar Championship and is currently the eighth-ranked amateur in the world.
- \* This tournament was the first Web.com Tour tournament in the state of Alabama since 2005. The Web.com Tour Championship was hosted at The Senator Course from 2001-2005. The LPGA had an event at The Senator Course from 2008-2016 and the Symetra Tour's Guardian Championship has been held at the course each of the past two years.
- \* This week's purse is \$550,000, with \$99,000 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 competed in the field, amounting to 68 victories, as well as 10 PGA TOUR champions (equaling 25 victories).
- \* The par-4 12<sup>th</sup> hole (496 yards) ranked as the toughest hole on the course on Sunday with a scoring average of 4.353.



\* The par-5 10<sup>th</sup> hole (616 yards) ranked as the easiest hole on Friday. The hole played to an average of 4.735 and yielded 26 birdies to the field.

\* The Senator Course Scoring Averages:

	Front (36)	Back (36)	Total (72)	Cumulative
R1	35.596	35.897	71.494	
R2	36.435	37.354	73.789	72.612
R3	35.824	35.838	71.662	72.315
R4	35.279	36.191	71.471	72.104

*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](http://www.pgatourmedia.com)*

*Scores available at [www.pgatour.com](http://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](http://www.Facebook.com/WebDotComTour) and on Instagram at [www.instagram.com/webdotcomtour](http://www.instagram.com/webdotcomtour)*