



Orange County National Championship presented by Knight 39

Orange County National Golf Center & Lodge – Panther Lake Course | Winter Garden, FL | October 8-11, 2020

Korn Ferry Tour Media Contact

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Quick Facts

Golf Course: Orange County National Golf Center & Lodge – Panther Lake (Par 71 / 7,309 yards) **Course Designer:** Phil Ritson, Isao Aoki and David Harman (1997) **Purse:** \$600,000 (Winner: \$108,000 / 500 points)

Field Overview (as of October 5)

- 58 Korn Ferry Tour winners with 78 victories
- Eight PGA TOUR winners with 12 victories
- Power Rankings
- Inside the Field
- Rds. 1 & 2 Tee Times

Course History

While this will mark the first official Korn Ferry Tour tournament at Orange County National, the property has hosted the Final Stage of the Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament twice, including last December and in 2016. Last year, with full status on Tour at stake, Braden Thornberry and Curtis Thompson earned co-medalist honors at 21-under competing on both the Panther Lake and the Crooked Cat courses. Each earned fully exempt status for the 2020-21 season on Tour, and Thompson broke through with his first victory a month ago at the Evans Scholars Invitational. Thompson sits 14th in the points standings entering this week, while Thornberry is 52nd.

Panther Lake, the course that will host this year's tournament, was the first course to open at Orange County National in 1997. The course was the result of a collaboration between Phil Ritson, Isao Aoki and David Harman. The par-71 Panther Lake course played to a scoring average of 69.597 last December.

The 2020 Orange County National Championship presented by Knight 39 is the final event of the year on the Korn Ferry Tour and the 23rd event of the 2020-21 combined schedule. The 2020 schedule was combined with the 2021 slate after the COVID-19 pandemic forced a number of tournament cancellations.

Local Players in the Field

Many players with ties to Florida will compete this week, including several specific to the Orlando area. Bobby Bai and Carl Yuan both reside in the Lake Mary area, while Andy Pope, Austen Truslow and Australians Curtis Luck, Brett Coletta and Ryan Ruffels each live in Orlando. Truslow earned his degree from nearby Rollins College.

By the Numbers: Orange County National – Panther Lake

Longest hole: No. 14 (par 5, 622 yards) Shortest hole: No. 17 (par 3, 167 yards) Competitive Course Record (18 holes): 61

Top Five to Watch

- **Evan Harmeling** The 32-year-old Princeton University alum earned his first career victory (and first career top-10) on the Korn Ferry Tour at last week's Savannah Golf Championship.
- Austen Truslow Truslow, who lives in Orlando, has recorded two top-three finishes over the last month, including a T3 mark at last week's Savannah Golf Championship.
- **Curtis Thompson** While his recent hot streak is highlighted by his breakthrough win at the Evans Scholars Invitational, Thompson has also made nine of his past 10 cuts. The Louisiana State University alum earned co-medalist honors at Orange County National in December at the Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament.
- **Chad Ramey** Ramey has been the model of consistency this season with 18 made cuts in 21 attempts. Last week's T3 effort was his fourth top-three finish of the year for the former Mississippi State University Bulldog.
- **Braden Thornberry** Thornberry is looking to rebound after a missed cut last week, though he had momentum with four consecutive top-30 finishes prior to that. The former Haskins Award winner finished as co-medalist (along with Curtis Thompson) at Orange County National in December.

Season Recap

- 1. *The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay* Tommy Gainey birdied his final three holes to pull away from the field and earn the first title of the 2019 season. It was the 44-year-old's first win since the 2012 RSM Classic on the PGA TOUR.
- 2. *The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at Baha Mar* Jared Wolfe ran away from the field with birdies on three of his final four holes at The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at Baha Mar. Wolfe battled windy conditions in the final round to clinch the first Korn Ferry Tour title of his career.
- 3. *Panamá Championship* After an eagle on the back nine during his final round, Davis Riley held on to win the Panama Championship by one stroke over Roberto Díaz. The victory was Riley's first on the Korn Ferry Tour and came in just his 21st Tour start.
- 4. *Country Club de Bogota Championship* Mito Pereira carded a final-round 64 to claim his first Korn Ferry Tour victory at the Country Club de Bogota Championship. Entering the 72nd hole tied at the top, Pereira sunk a long eagle putt to clinch the two-stroke victory.
- 5. *LECOM Suncoast Classic* Andrew Novak birdied each of his last two holes, including a 10-foot putt at the last, to win the LECOM Suncoast Classic last week by one shot over John Chin. He finished at 23-under 265 at Lakewood National Golf Club in his first career Korn Ferry Tour victory.
- 6. *El Bosque Mexico Championship by INNOVA* David Kocher survived a three-man playoff to claim his first Korn Ferry Tour victory. The 23-year-old defeated Paul Barjon and Chad Ramey on the first playoff hole to capture the title at El Bosque Country Club.
- 7. *Korn Ferry Challenge at TPC Sawgrass* Three months after beginning competition at THE PLAYERS Championship before the cancellation, Luke List returned to TPC Sawgrass and eventually edged a tight leaderboard at 12-under to win the Korn Ferry Challenge at TPC Sawgrass.
- 8. *The King & Bear Classic at World Golf Village* Chris Kirk erased a final-round four-stroke deficit to win The King & Bear Classic at World Golf Village. After taking six months off from golf as he worked through alcohol abuse and depression, Kirk returned to the winner's circle for the first time since 2015.
- 9. *Utah Championship presented by Zions Bank* Kyle Jones held off local favorite Daniel Summerhays and Paul Haley II to win the Utah Championship presented by Zions Bank. Jones clinched the win with a birdie on the second playoff hole at Oakridge Country Club.
- 10. *TPC Colorado Championship at Heron Lakes* Will Zalatoris broke through with his first professional win with a one-stroke victory at the TPC Colorado Championship at Heron Lakes. A final-round 3-under 69 was enough to hold off Chase Johnson by one stroke and springboard Zalatoris to the top spot on the Korn Ferry Tour points list for the first time in his career.
- 11. *TPC San Antonio Challenge at the Canyons* A day after matching Fred Couples' competitive course record (62) on moving day, David Lipsky capped off an incredible week with a final-round 66 to finish four strokes clear of the field at 25-under 263 at the TPC San Antonio Challenge at the Canyons.
- 12. *TPC San Antonio Championship at the Oaks* Davis Riley became the first player this season to win twice on Tour with a two-stroke win at the TPC San Antonio Championship at the Oaks. Riley posted a final-round 5-under 67 on Saturday and finished at 16-under for the week to top Paul Barjon and Taylor Pendrith.

- Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Dr Pepper Max McGreevy carded a bogey-free, 8-under 64 on Sunday to win the Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Dr Pepper by one stroke at 21-under 267. McGreevy held off José de Jesús Rodríguez, who finished the week in solo-second at 20-under 268.
- 14. *Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna* Seth Reeves carded a final-round 7-under 64 to rise from T27 to begin the day to his first Korn Ferry Tour victory at 11-under 273, edging five players by a stroke at the Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna.
- 15. *WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz* Entering the final round tied for the lead, Lee Hodges carded an even-par 71 to hang on for a two-stroke victory at the WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz. The win was Hodges' first as a professional and earned him a U.S. Open exemption by virtue of moving inside the top five of the points standings.
- 16. *Albertsons Boise Open presented by Kraft Nabisco* Stephan Jaeger carded a final-round 68 to take home his fifth Korn Ferry Tour title at the Albertsons Boise Open presented by Kraft Nabisco. With the victory, Jaeger became one of 13 players to win five or more times on the Korn Ferry Tour.
- 17. Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship Australian Curtis Luck, who won the 2016 U.S. Amateur, got up-and-down on the 72nd hole at Ohio State's famed Scarlet Course to claim his first Tour title at the Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship. The victory enabled Luck to earn one of the Tour's exemptions into the 2020 U.S. Open at Winged Foot Golf Club.
- 18. *Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance* Rookie Brandon Wu carded a finalround 65 – the low round of the day – to earn a one-stroke victory at the Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance. The win was his first as a professional and earned him an exemption into the 2020 U.S. Open at Winged Foot nearby his hometown in Scarsdale, New York.
- 19. *Lincoln Land Championship presented by LRS* Australian Brett Drewitt captured his first title in his 116th career start at the Lincoln Land Championship presented by LRS. Drewitt two-putted each of the last two holes for par, the two toughest holes on the course) to edge three players by one stroke.
- 20. *Evans Scholars Invitational* Curtis Thompson birdied his final hole to edge Will Zalatoris and Jimmy Stanger by one stroke and earn his first Korn Ferry Tour title at the Evans Scholars Invitational. With the win, the 27-year-old jumped to 12th in The 25.
- 21. Wichita Open Supporting Wichita's Youth Jared Wolfe survived a windy final round at Crestview Country Club to earn his second Korn Ferry Tour title of the season at the Wichita Open Supporting Wichita's Youth. The 32-year-old carded a final-round 71 to finish the week at 16-under 264.
- 22. Savannah Golf Championship Evan Harmeling outlasted Kevin Dougherty with dramatic birdies to close the final round. First, Harmeling birdied the 18th to force a playoff before birdieing the same hole on the first extra hole to earn his first victory at 21-under at the Savannah Golf Championship.

Revised 2020 Korn Ferry Tour Season schedule:

- June 8-14: Korn Ferry Challenge at TPC Sawgrass, TPC Sawgrass (Dye's Valley), Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida
- June 15-20: The King & Bear Classic at World Golf Village, The King & Bear GC at World Golf Village, St. Augustine, Florida (Saturday finish)
- June 22-28: Utah Championship presented by Zions Bank, Oakridge CC, Farmington, Utah
- June 29-July 5: TPC Colorado Championship at Heron Lakes, TPC Colorado, Berthoud, Colorado
- July 6-12: TPC San Antonio Challenge at the Canyons, TPC San Antonio (Canyons Course), San Antonio, Texas
- July 13-18: TPC San Antonio Championship at the Oaks, TPC San Antonio (Oaks Course), San Antonio, Texas (Saturday finish)
- July 20-26: Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Dr Pepper, Highland Springs CC, Springfield, Missouri
- July 27-August 2: Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna, The Club at Indian Creek, Omaha, Nebraska
- August 3-9: WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz, Pumpkin Ridge GC (Witch Hollow), North Plains, Oregon
- August 10-16: Albertsons Boise Open presented by Kraft Nabisco, Hillcrest CC, Boise, Idaho
- August 17-23: Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship, Ohio State University GC (Scarlet Course), Columbus, Ohio
- August 24-30: Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance, Victoria National GC, Newburgh, Indiana

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- August 31-September 6: Lincoln Land Championship presented by LRS, Panther Creek CC, Springfield, Illinois
- September 7-13 : Evans Scholars Invitational, Chicago Highlands Club, Westchester, Illinois
- September 21-27: Wichita Open Supporting Wichita's Youth, Crestview CC, Wichita, Kansas
- September 28-October 4: Savannah Golf Championship, The Landings Club (Deer Creek), Savannah, Georgia
- October 5-11: Orange County National Championship presented by Knight 39, Orange County Golf Center & Lodge (Panther Lake), Winter Garden, Florida

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).