

## Panamá Championship

Club de Golf de Panamá | Panamá City, Panamá | January 30 – February 2, 2020

### Korn Ferry Tour Media Contact

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### Quick Facts

**Golf Course:** Club de Golf de Panamá (Par 70, 7,157 yards)

**Course Designer:** Jay Riviere (1976)

**Purse:** \$625,000 (Winner: \$112,500 / 500 points)

### Field Overview (as of January 28)

- 37 Korn Ferry Tour winners with 57 victories
- 10 PGA TOUR winners with 19 victories
- [Power Rankings](#)
- [Inside the Field](#)
- [Rds. 1 & 2 Tee Times](#)

### Past Champions

Last season, Michael Gligic fired a final-round 65 to earn his first Korn Ferry Tour title in Panamá. The Canadian posted a four-day total of 8-under 272 to capture a one-stroke victory. After the win, Gligic went on to finish the Regular Season ranked No. 17 in The 25 and secure his first PGA TOUR card. In 2018, Scott Langley erased a six-stroke deficit on Sunday with a final-round 65 to win the Panamá Championship at 7-under. Langley's come-from-behind victory is the largest in tournament history as he surpassed Miguel Angel Carballo's five-stroke deficit from 2007. Langley also became the first player in tournament history to record an over-par score in the opening round and go on to win. Since 2004, 11 Panamá Championship winners have gone on to earn their PGA TOUR card for the following season.

### Tournament History

This year will mark the 17<sup>th</sup> playing of the Panamá Championship. In 2017, Andrew Putnam claimed his second Korn Ferry Tour victory as he defeated Chris Baker in a playoff. Carlos Ortiz, the 2014 champion in Panamá, went on to finish first in The 25 that season. Jimmy Walker, who won the inaugural event in 2004, has since claimed six PGA TOUR victories including the 2016 PGA Championship. The Panamá Championship has had two playoff finishes in tournament history, one in 2017 with the other coming in 2009. Fran Quinn set the tournament scoring record at 15-under as he went on to win the 2010 tournament. Mathew Goggin and Vance Veazey have both won in Panamá twice.

### International Swing

The Korn Ferry Tour continues play outside the United States this week. The 2020 season began with two events in The Bahamas and will revert to Bogotá, Colombia next week. The Tour will also return to Leon, Mexico for the El Bosque Mexico Championship by INNOVA in late February to complete international play for the 2020 season.

Year	Champion	Scores	To Par	Margin
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2019	Michael Gligic	70-70-67-65 — 272	-8	1
2018	Scott Langley	71-68-69-65 — 273	-7	2
2017	Andrew Putnam*	64-68-67-68 — 267	-13	1
2016	Ryan Armour	70-69-65-66 — 268	-12	3
2015	Mathew Goggin	67-65-70-67 — 269	-11	4
2014	Carlos Ortiz	70-68-66-64 — 268	-12	4
2013	Kevin Foley	66-69-70-67 — 272	-8	1
2012	Edward Loar	66-68-68-74 — 276	-4	1
2011	Mathew Goggin	68-66-67-68 — 269	-11	2
2010	Fran Quinn	66-66-62-71 — 265	-15	2
2009	Vance Veazey*	67-69-68-69 — 273	-7	1
2008	Scott Dunlap	65-68-73-71 — 277	-3	1
2007	Miguel Angel Carballo	69-67-73-65 — 274	-6	2
2006	Tripp Isenhour	63-67-70-69 — 269	-11	3
2005	Vance Veazey	65-71-66-70 — 272	-8	1
2004	Jimmy Walker	65-69-70-69 — 273	-7	5

*\*Playoff Victory*

### **Course Information**

The Club de Golf de Panamá is traditionally one of the most difficult courses on the Korn Ferry Tour and ranked as the most difficult track on Tour last season. Only 14 players broke par in 2019 as the par-70 layout played to a scoring average of 72.012. The club featured five of the 50 hardest holes on the Korn Ferry Tour in 2019, including Nos. 2, 6, 7, 10 and 15. In 2004, 2008 and 2009, the Club de Golf de Panamá also ranked as the hardest course on Tour.

The Club de Golf de Panamá is one of the most iconic courses in the country and boasts a rich golf history. The course was originally designed in 1919 and has been at its current location since 1976. The club has hosted some of golf's greatest stars such as Arnold Palmer, Sam Snead, Curtis Strange and Roberto De Vincenzo. At the 1956 Panamá Open, held at the Club de Golf de Panamá, Palmer defeated Snead in a six-hole playoff to take home the title.

In addition to the Korn Ferry Tour, the club hosted the Latin American Amateur Championship in 2017. That year, Tomas Gana outlasted Joaquin Niemann to take home the title. Earlier this season on the PGA TOUR, Niemann earned his first TOUR victory at A Military Tribute at The Greenbrier. Last December, the 21-year-old was a member of the International Team at the Presidents Cup contested in Australia. Niemann also became the first player from Chile to qualify for the Presidents Cup.

In 2022, the Club de Golf de Panamá will host the Central American and Caribbean Games golf event.

### **By the Numbers: Club de Golf de Panamá**

**Hardest hole (2019):** No. 7\* (par 4, 412 yards) – 4.362 average, 126 bogeys, 27 double bogeys or worse

**Easiest hole (2019):** No. 4 (par 5, 520 yards) – 4.675 average, six eagles, 166 birdies

**Tournament Record (18 holes):** 61 (-9), 2011 – Ryan Armour – Second Round

**Tournament Record (72 holes):** 265 (-15), 2010 – Fran Quinn

*\*indicates the hole is in the 2019 top 50 toughest holes*

### **Top Five to Watch**

- **Jared Wolfe** – The 31-year-old used a final-round 69 to earn a four-stroke victory last week in the Bahamas. Wolfe has experienced plenty of success in Latin America and finished the 2019 season third on the PGA TOUR Latinoamérica Order of Merit.
- **Mickey DeMorat** – After open qualifying for the tournament in 2019, DeMorat made the most of his opportunity finishing the week T7. The Liberty University product returns to Panamá after earning guaranteed starts for the 2020 season through the Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament.

- **Nick Hardy** – After opening with a first-round 72 last week, Hardy found himself T66 at Royal Blue Golf Club in Baha Mar. The 23-year-old rallied with rounds of 65-67-71 to finish T3 at 13-under 275. The University of Illinois product finished T5 at the Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament's Final Stage to earn status for the 2020 season.
- **Curtis Thompson** – The Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament's co-medalist earned a T3 finish last week at The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at Baha Mar. In his three starts in Panama, Thompson has earned two top-10s including a T3 in 2016.
- **Kevin Roy** – After earning guaranteed starts at the Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament, Roy has recorded top-25 finishes in both events to start the year. The Long Beach State University product enters the week ranked No. 13 in The 25.

### **Chase for The 25**

The Korn Ferry Tour points list replaced the money list prior to the 2019 season as the system to ascend 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 point earners will receive 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.

<b>Rank</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Points</b>
1.	Jared Wolfe	506
2.	Tommy Gainey	500
3.	Brandon Harkins	332
4.	Dylan Wu	294
5.	John Oda	261

### **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.

### **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).