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First-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Tommy Gainey	66 (-6)
2	Joshua Creel	67 (-5)
	Dylan Wu	67 (-5)
4	Two tied at	68 (-4)

[Full Leaderboard](#) | [Tee Times](#)

Tommy Gainey takes first-round lead at The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay

Great Exuma, The Bahamas — Beginning with a birdie on his first hole of the 2020 season, Tommy Gainey carded a 6-under 66 to take a one-stroke lead after the first round of The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay. Joshua Creel and Dylan Wu sit one stroke off the lead with matching 67s on Sunday. Play was suspended due to darkness at 5:44 p.m. and will resume at 7:20 a.m.

“It’s always nice to get off to a good start,” said Gainey. “In these conditions, I consider it a great number. I mean, 6-under out here in these conditions, it’s awesome. I feel great about shooting 6-under today but, you know what, this is just the first day. You can’t win it on the first day but you can lose it.”

The oceanside course experienced sustained wind of 18-24 miles per hour on Sunday with gusts up to 30 miles per hour. While the front nine is more protected by trees lining the fairways, the back nine includes six holes on the ocean.

“You just have to flight your ball out here; If you don’t, the wind is going to just eat it up,” said Gainey. “Out here, as tough as this course is with the wind blowing, you have to flight it...This wind can put a lot of doubt in your mind. For instance, the short par-3 (No. 13) out there, I hit a punch eight. It’s was like 121 or 123 and I hit a punch eight and that’s my 180-185 club.”

The 44-year-old is making his 108th start on the Korn Ferry Tour to go along with 200 career starts on the PGA TOUR. Gainey has two victories on the Korn Ferry Tour (both in 2010) and won The RSM Classic on the PGA TOUR in 2012. Even with an impressive resume, Gainey entered the week looking to hang on in windy conditions.

“Before the round, I would’ve taken even-par and not even teed it up this week,” said Gainey. “If you gave me even-par for four days, I wouldn’t have even teed it up.”

University of Central Oklahoma alum Joshua Creel posted a 5-under first round to sit T2. The 29-year-old credited growing up in the wind with preparing him for similar conditions.

“I grew up in windy Wyoming and live in windy Oklahoma now,” said Creel. “The wind is something I’ve dealt with my whole life. I wouldn’t call it an advantage, but I don’t mind playing in it.”

Dylan Wu finished the morning wave with back-to-back birdies to sit T2. The Northwestern University alum is entering his first full season on the Korn Ferry Tour after playing 13 events last season.

“I think what kick-started my round was paring the first three holes on the back nine,” said Wu. “You could easily play a lot of good shots and be 3-over. I birdied No. 13 and I made about a 35-footer when it was pretty windy on that hole; that was probably the highlight of the round.”

SUNDAY NOTES:

- * Sunday’s weather: Breezy and partly cloudy, high of 79, winds E 18-24 mph with gusts up to 30 mph.
- * This week’s purse is \$600,000 with \$108,000 going to the winner. The champion will also receive 500 Korn Ferry Tour points.
- * First-round play was suspended due to darkness at 5:44 p.m. with eight groups still on the course.
- * Tommy Gainey fired the low round of the day posting a 6-under 66.
- * Gainey has held at least a share of the first-round lead three times on the Korn Ferry Tour but failed to convert those leads in victories.
- * Gainey is making his second start at The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay. In 2017, he missed the cut in Exuma.
- * Dylan Wu (T2, -5) is making his first start at The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay. Last season, Wu finished solo-second at the Lincoln Land Championship presented by L
- * Joshua Creel (T2, -5) recorded three top-10s in 25 starts on the Korn Ferry Tour in 2019.
- * Brent Grant made the first ace of the 2020 season on the par-3 sixth using a 5-iron.
- * John Oda (T6, -3) was the only player to complete a bogey-free round on Sunday.
- * The par-3 11th played as the most difficult hole on Sunday with a scoring average of 3.550.
- * The par-5 first hole played as the easiest on Sunday with a scoring average of 4.702.
- * Last season, Sandals Emerald Bay Golf Course ranked as the 12th hardest course on the Korn Ferry Tour.
- * The par-4 fifth hole at Sandals Emerald Bay Golf Course ranked as the 12th hardest hole on the Korn Ferry Tour in 2019. In 2017, the par-4 12th ranked as the most difficult on the Korn Ferry Tour and played to a scoring average of 5.008.

Sandals Emerald Bay Golf Course Scoring Average:

	Front	Back	Total	Cumulative
R1	36.774	37.992	74.736	

For highlights from today's round, or any 2020 event visit [this link](#).

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