

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: June 19, 2020

**CONTACTS:**

Stewart Moore – [StewartMoore@pgatourhq.com](mailto:StewartMoore@pgatourhq.com), (904-540-2765)

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

**Third-Round Leaderboard**

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Vince India	63-66-62—191 (-25)
2	Chris Kirk	66-65-64—195 (-21)
T3	Will Zalatoris	65-66-66—197 (-19)
T3	Justin Lower	65-65-67—197 (-19)
T3	Dawson Armstrong	67-63-67—197 (-19)

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

**Vince India rides course-record 62 to 54-hole lead at King & Bear Classic at World Golf Village**

**ST. AUGUSTINE, Florida** – Vince India recorded the second top-10 of his Korn Ferry Tour career with a T10 effort at last week’s Korn Ferry Challenge at TPC Sawgrass. This week, just 45 minutes down the road, the Chicago native is looking to add the first victory of his career, opening the King & Bear Classic at World Golf Village with rounds of 63-66 and a course-record 62 to take a commanding four-shot lead into Saturday’s final round.

India entered Friday’s third round tied atop the leaderboard with Australia’s Brett Coletta, as the two matched 36-hole totals of 15-under 129, thanks in part to perfect scoring conditions on the King & Bear Course.

Through four holes on his round, India was a modest 1-under par for the day before going on a tear to close out the opening nine. Starting with the par-5 fifth, the former University of Iowa golfer finished in eagle-birdie-birdie-birdie-birdie to turn in 7-under 29 on the day and 22-under for the week.

After converting a 10-footer for par on the par-4 10<sup>th</sup>, the 31-year-old overcame a bogey on 12 with birdies on 13 and 14 and a follow-up birdie on 16, thanks to a 40-foot putt made from across the green.

On the par-5 18<sup>th</sup>, India hit a 4-iron from 217 yards to 6 feet, and calmly two-putted for a career-best 10-under 62, matching the new course record set 20 minutes prior by Austin Smotherman.

“I just tried to stick to my plan – fairways, greens; there are a lot of opportunities and you’re going to have a bunch of wedges out here, and I feel like I’ve got those pretty dialed in at the

moment,” he said. “I just tried to put one foot in front of the other out there and it added up to a 62.”

India’s trip to the 2020 Korn Ferry Tour has had its share of ups and downs, most notably a 72<sup>nd</sup>-hole double-bogey at the 2019 WinCo Foods Portland Open which left him on the outside of the Korn Ferry Tour Finals and put him straight into the belly of the Qualifying Tournament as the best option to improve his status for the following season.

“It was certainly inspiring,” said India, reflecting on the week in Portland. “I played really well that week and had a lot of things go my way and then things just didn’t go my way on the 18<sup>th</sup> hole, which is fine. I had two really hard shots in a row from the greenside. I thought I hit decent ones on both, and they just ended up in a goofy spot. That’s just the nature of this stupid game.”

At Q-School host Orange County National Golf Club, India recorded a staggering five eagles over 72 holes en route to a T30 finish, which secured his spot in the first eight events of the 2020 season.

With just three made cuts in six starts prior to the Tour’s suspension of play due to the COVID-19 pandemic, India was still in search of a spark when he notched his T10 finish at the Dye’s Valley Course at TPC Sawgrass last week.

That spark has more than carried over to this week, and India is now on the precipice of a career-changing win, and possibly, a PGA TOUR card further down the line.

“There’s such a fine line between this Tour and the PGA TOUR. Not a lot of people really know. They see the PGA TOUR a lot more on television and we get a couple of events here and there, and not a whole lot of spectators,” he said. “But there are so many guys who can instantly gel with the PGA TOUR fellas and win majors right away. The talent out here is supreme and it’s definitely the second-best Tour in the world.”

Four-time PGA TOUR winner Chris Kirk sits alone in second place at 21-under following rounds of 66-65-64. The former University of Georgia standout is making his first Korn Ferry Tour start since 2010, where he won twice and added two runner-up finishes to secure a second-place finish on the money list and his first TOUR card.

Kirk’s four PGA TOUR titles include the 2011 Sanderson Farms Championship; 2013 RSM Classic; 2014 Deutsche Bank Championship; 2015 Charles Schwab Challenge. He reached a career-best 16th in the Official World Golf Ranking two weeks after the Charles Schwab Challenge victory.

“If I go play a good round tomorrow, I’ll be happy no matter what the outcome is,” said Kirk, 34. “Obviously I’d love to get a win, that’s going to be my goal, to go make as many birdies as I can

and make a run at it. I just want to go play some good golf, hit some good shots and roll in a few putts. It's that simple."

Saturday's final round will run from 7:50 a.m. to 10 a.m. off of Nos. 1 and 10 tees.

**FRIDAY NOTES:**

- \* Friday's weather: Partly cloudy, a high of 85 degrees and wind E at 6-12 mph.
- \* The 54-hole lead is the first of Vince India's career in his 99<sup>th</sup> start. Only two of seven 54-hole leaders have gone on to convert the lead into wins this season, while 11 of 26 54-hole leaders/co-leaders went on to win in 2019.
- \* The 10-under 62 is also the lowest round of India's career in a PGA TOUR-sanctioned event. He had previously carded a 63 twice, most recently in the second round of the 2020 Country Club de Bogota Championship.
- \* The lowest winning score in relation to par so far this season was 23-under by Andrew Novak at the LECOM Suncoast Classic. In 2019, the low score in relation to par was 26-under (twice), while the lowest all-time is 30-under 250 by Stephan Jaeger at the 2016 Ellie Mae Classic.
- \* The scoring average of the field in the third round (68.175/3.825 strokes under par) is the lowest in relation to par since the second round of the 1997 NIKE Puget Sound Open (68.148/3.852 strokes under par).
- \* India and Austin Smotherman (-16, T13) each shot a 10-under 62 on Friday to set the new competitive course record. The previous record was 63, which was originally set by Brett Coletta on Wednesday morning and later matched by five other players this week before Smotherman and India posted 62s on Friday afternoon. The record was 64 entering the week.
- \* The tournament marks the first time the Korn Ferry Tour has played at The King & Bear, but the course is no stranger to professional golf. The course hosted the Liberty Mutual Legends of Golf on PGA TOUR Champions in 2001 and 2002 and played host to a match between the course's co-designers, Arnold Palmer and Jack Nicklaus, as a part of Shell's Wonderful World of Golf series in 2001.
- \* The newly created 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour schedule will conclude with 25 PGA TOUR cards awarded at the 2021 WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz, with an additional 25 cards awarded at the conclusion of the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Finals.
- \* This week's purse is \$600,000 with \$108,000 going to the champion. The champion will also receive 500 Korn Ferry Tour points.
- \* The par-4 10<sup>th</sup> hole (436 yards) played as the hardest hole on Friday with a scoring average of 4.113.
- \* The par-5 fifth hole (546 yards) played as the easiest hole on Friday with a scoring average of 4.363.

	<b>Front</b>	<b>Back</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>Cumulative</b>
<b>R1</b>	<b>34.994</b>	<b>34.583</b>	<b>69.577</b>	
<b>R2</b>	<b>34.549</b>	<b>34.673</b>	<b>69.222</b>	<b>69.400</b>
<b>R3</b>	<b>34.113</b>	<b>34.063</b>	<b>68.175</b>	<b>68.991</b>



*For the latest information and updates on the Korn Ferry 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 Korn Ferry Tour on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/kornferrytour> on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/kornferrytour/](http://www.facebook.com/kornferrytour/) and on Instagram at <https://www.instagram.com/kornferrytour/?hl=en>*