

First-Round Notes – Thursday, March 25, 2021

Course Setup: Par 72 / 7,198 yards

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First-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Max McGreevy	65 (-7)
T2	Curtis Thompson	66 (-6)
	Stuart Macdonald	66 (-6)
T4	Six Tied	67 (-5)

Quick Links:

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- [Tournament Media Site](#) (interviews and other resources available for download)

Max McGreevy keeps hot streak rolling, sits atop first-round leaderboard at Club Car Championship at The Landings Club

SAVANNAH, Ga. – Max McGreevy's first and only Korn Ferry Tour win came after grabbing a share of the 18-hole lead last July. By the end of Thursday's opening round at the Club Car Championship at The Landings Club, McGreevy once again found himself atop the leaderboard and in the hunt for a title.

McGreevy, a native of Edmond, Oklahoma, carded a 7-under 65 Thursday, the same first-round score he posted at this event last October, when he finished T15. From the big Georgia pines lining fairways, to the sight lines off the tee, The Landings Club's Deer Creek Course suits McGreevy's game. The University of Oklahoma alum is also riding a wave of confidence from his final-round 8-under 63 – tied for the lowest score of his career – and T12 finish at last week's Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by MISTRAS.

"I was super excited to get back over here," McGreevy said. "I really like this golf course. I think it suits my game really well. You've got to hit a lot of fairways. It looks very comfortable to me out here. There's not a tee shot I don't like. I had some good momentum coming off Louisiana last week, too, some great Saturday and Sunday rounds."

After a bogey at the par-3 second, the toughest hole on the course Thursday, McGreevy bounced back with birdies at the third, fifth, and seventh. He nearly made three in a row, but three-putted after reaching the par-5 sixth in two.

Once McGreevy made the turn, his putter caught fire. His 11-putt back nine was highlighted by one-putt par saves at 10 and 12, routine birdies at 13, 16, and 18, and a 20-foot make from the fringe for eagle at the par-5 14th. All told, McGreevy played his final six holes at 5-under par.

McGreevy, who won PGA TOUR China's Order of Merit in 2019 to earn fully exempt status for the start of the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour season, hit 13 of 14 fairways, and 15 of 18 greens in regulation.

"I didn't get off to the best start. I bogeyed No. 2, was 1-over through two and was just trying to get some chances," McGreevy said. "The eagle I made on 14 was a plus for sure. I kind of mishit my shot. I was just trying to hit it over the green. Luckily, it just barely covered the bunker and rolled out to about 20 feet on the fringe, and I was able to roll it in. I was solid all day long. Made a couple good par saves to keep the round going and finished strong there at the end.

"At the end of the round, the cup looked like a bucket. I feel really comfortable out here on these greens, and I'm excited for the next three rounds."

Sitting 19th in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings, McGreevy is contending for his first PGA TOUR card largely because of his victory at last July's Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Dr Pepper, the only other tournament in his Tour career he led after 18 holes. McGreevy shot an 8-under 64 and shared the 18-hole lead, slipped to T9 after the third round, then closed with another 64 and won the title.

McGreevy holds a one-stroke lead over Stuart Macdonald and Curtis Thompson, one of his playing partners Thursday.

"Max played great," Thompson said. "You always want to beat the guys in your group, but he put up a really hard fight on that back nine. Thirty-one is tough, especially in this wind. It's always great to feed off somebody like that. I had putts on 16 and 17 from eight to 12 feet that I missed. He and I were on fire that back nine. It was just like we were feeding off each other."

Second-round tee times will run from 7:20 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Friday off the first and 10th tees.

Thursday Notes

- Thursday's weather: Partly cloudy with a high of 75 degrees and wind S to SE at 8-14 mph, with gusts up to 25 mph in the afternoon
- McGreevy's 65 tied the second-lowest opening round of his Korn Ferry Tour career, matching the 65 he shot Thursday at this event last October, and only a stroke behind his first-round 64 from the 2020 Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Dr Pepper
- Thursday was also McGreevy's sixth round of 65 or better on the Korn Ferry Tour, with this round coming just days after he tied his career-low score with an 8-under 63 last Sunday at the Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by MISTRAS
- McGreevy projects to jump from 19th to sixth in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings with a win; he is also looking to become the fifth 18-hole leader/co-leader to go on to win this season
- Shad Tuten (T4), who played collegiate golf at Savannah's Georgia Southern University-Armstrong Campus, won the 2016 Georgia Open at The Ford Plantation, which is roughly 20 miles from The Landings Club
- Matthew Short (T4) is making his third career Korn Ferry Tour start, with the previous two coming in 2019; he took medalist honors in the Monday qualifier at Savannah Quarters CC
- Sahith Theegala (T23) gained entry into the field with a T19 finish in his Korn Ferry Tour debut last week at the Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by MISTRAS
- There were six bogey-free rounds carded Thursday – Dawson Armstrong (-5), Joey Garber (-5), Rick Lamb (-4), Kevin Lucas (-4), Kyle Jones (-3), Theegala (-3)

- Dan McCarthy (-2, T43) and Evan Harmeling (+5, T148) are past champions of the tournament; McCarthy won in 2019, while Harmeling won in 2020
- Two amateurs in the field – both high school juniors – played their first PGA TOUR-sanctioned event Thursday (Jonathan Griz [E, T84] and Reed Lotter [+1, T108])
- Timothy O’Neal, one of the two Savannah residents in the field (Lotter is the other), opened with a 1-over 73
- 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 Club Car Championship at The Landings Club is the third event of 2021 and the 26th of the 2020-21 combined season
- The combined 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour schedule will conclude with 25 PGA TOUR cards awarded in August at the 2021 Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna, with an additional 25 cards awarded at the conclusion of the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Finals

First-Round Course Statistics

- Toughest Hole – No. 2, Par 3, 189 yards (3.429 – 14 birdies, 51 bogeys, 12 double bogeys or other)
- Easiest Hole – No. 6, Par 5, 580 yards (4.551 – four eagles, 70 birdies, eight bogeys)
- Scoring Average (Front 9) – 35.333
- Scoring Average (Back 9) – 36.135
- Scoring Average (Total) – 71.468