

Third-Round Notes – Sunday, November 7, 2021

Course Setup: The Landings Club – Marshwood (Par 71 / 7,000) and Magnolia (Par 70 / 6,954)

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Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Zack Fischer	67-67-65—199 (-12)
2	Sam Stevens	65-69-68—202 (-9)
T3	Andrew Kozan	73-67-63—203 (-8)
	Vincent Norrman	69-68-66—203 (-8)
T5	Three players tied	204 (-7)

Quick Links:

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

Zack Fischer swipes 54-hole lead at Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament's Final Stage

SAVANNAH, Ga. – Zack Fischer claimed medalist honors at the 2013 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament, the first edition of Q-School after the PGA TOUR modernized the process. Several players in the field were future PGA TOUR winners. Tony Finau finished T3. Max Homa ended up T6. Carlos Ortiz was T15. Si Woo Kim took T22. Justin Thomas shared T32 position with Daniel Berger.

Fischer has seven PGA TOUR starts to date. Five were missed cuts. On the Korn Ferry Tour, Fischer never finished higher than 46th on the regular season money list. By the end of 2017, Fischer lost his Korn Ferry Tour status; he has four Tour starts since 2018.

Playing with a fresh perspective, Fischer is in position to earn fully exempt status for the upcoming 2022 Korn Ferry Tour season, which would give him the luxury of crafting a full schedule as he once again bids for a PGA TOUR card. The 32-year-old Texan fired a 5-under 65 on The Landings Club's Magnolia Course Sunday afternoon, taking Fischer to 12-under par for the tournament and giving him a three-stroke lead ahead of Monday's final round of the Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament's Final Stage.

"I guess you could say it's a second chance just because I've been through a lot in my career," Fischer said. "Every single person, to some extent, goes through a part where they doubt if they're supposed to be doing this. It's just going to be awesome to compete again on the Korn Ferry Tour. Even if I was to play really, really bad for some reason and not get full status, just having a conditional number, having a chance to play \$100 qualifiers instead of \$500 qualifiers, those are just small things, but it helps your mental aspect."

"I don't want to take it for granted this time."

A 2011 graduate of University of Texas-Arlington, Fischer made a pair of birdies and a bogey on his front nine Sunday. Four birdies in a five-hole stretch (Nos. 11, 13, 14, 15) launched him to the top of the leaderboard.

"I made a two on No. 14, and the 9-iron I hit there was the best shot I hit all day," Fischer said. "It was only to 10 feet, but it was exactly the shot shape, exactly the amount of spin I wanted to put on it. The next hole, I got a really fortunate break. I hit it left, it hits the tree and comes out in the fairway, and I hit a sand wedge to two feet. The ball could've gone out of bounds, hit the cart path. God is good; he's going to give me some starts next year, and I'm just really blessed to be here. The fact I barely got through at Second Stage, it's a miracle I'm here in itself."

Fischer's [improbable turnaround at Second Stage](#) led to the opportunity he has now. But another bounce-back round earlier this year paved the way for his latest run at Q-School.

Playing in a mini-tour event at his home club, Fischer opened with a 78. It nearly drove him out of professional golf.

After a lengthy, tearful conversation with his teacher, Fischer returned the next day and shot 62, still missing the cut but regaining some much-needed confidence.

Much has changed since the 2013 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament. For one, Final Stage is no longer six rounds. The six-round Final Stage only lasted through 2014. And while Fischer is not the star many of his Q-School classmates went on to become, he celebrates every day he gets to spend with his wife and daughter, who was born earlier this year.

"I thought I was going to take on the world," Fischer said. "I thought I was going to get PGA TOUR starts. I thought everything was going to be great. And it was great. I learned so much in all that. My swing coach says, 'You put a brick on every single day.' I'm just going to try and stack bricks.

"If tomorrow is a bad brick, I've got a little girl who's going to love me, a wonderful wife who's going to love me, and I'll go back home and see them."

The Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament's Final Stage determines which players earn guaranteed starts for the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour season.

- The medalist (and ties) receives fully exempt status for 2022
- Finishers 2-10 (and ties) are guaranteed entry into the first 12 events of the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour season
- Finishers 11-40 (and ties) are guaranteed entry into the first eight events of the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour season
- The remainder of the field receives conditional status for 2022

Through three rounds, the cutoff for guaranteed starts is a nine-way T40 at even par. The group sitting on the cutoff includes Michael Visacki, who [went viral earlier this year](#) after successfully Monday qualifying into the Valspar Championship. The viral video saw Visacki make an emotional phone call to his father, who is [caddying for him this week](#).

Final-round tee times will run from 8-10:12 a.m. ET off the first and 10th tees of both courses. PGA TOUR LIVE will provide [live streaming coverage](#) for Monday's final round via the NBC Sports App and GolfChannel.com from 9:30 a.m. through 3:30 p.m. ET.

Coverage will center around the 10:01 a.m. ET group – Visacki, Kyle Westmoreland, and Leandro Marelli – playing Magnolia, with additional coverage on the 18th hole of the Marshwood Course.

Third-Round Notes

- Twenty-one of the top 23 players on the current leaderboard will play Marshwood, the host course, for Monday's final-round
- **Sam Stevens** (2nd / -9), an Oklahoma State University alum who turned professional in 2018, shot a 2-under 68 on Magnolia Sunday; he is a third-generation professional golfer, as his grandfather, Johnny, made 30 PGA TOUR starts and made 21 cuts (mostly across the 1968 and 1969 seasons), and his father, Charlie, played collegiately at Oklahoma and Texas Christian University before he made two Korn Ferry Tour starts in 1992
 - Since the start of 2019, Sam Stevens earned \$203,692 across 26 starts on the All Pro Tour; he won six events, with two victories coming earlier this year
- **Andrew Koza**n (T3 / -8) carded a 7-under 63 on Magnolia, the lowest score of the week on the course; he was a First Stage medalist and saved bogey (after an unplayable lie) on his last hole at Second Stage to qualify for Final Stage on the cut number
- **Vincent Norrman** (T3 / -8) shot a 4-under 66 on Magnolia Sunday; the Swede played four seasons at NCAA Division II Georgia Southwestern (2016-20) prior to a graduate transfer season at Florida State (2020-21)
- **Tripp Kinney** (T9 / -5) recorded a 2-over 72 on Magnolia Sunday; he is one of eight players who played through all stages of this year's Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament, beginning with pre-qualifying
 - Kinney turned professional earlier this year following a five-season career at Iowa State University, where he was an All-America Honorable Mention in 2019
 - Kinney is the only one of the eight players who played through all stages of this year's Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament, beginning with pre-qualifying, currently inside the top 50
- **Austin Squires** (T99 / +6) made a hole-in-one on Magnolia's par-3 14th
- Weather: cloudy, high of 61 degrees, wind N/NW at 10-15 mph (gusts up to 25 mph)
- This week's purse is \$480,000, with \$50,000 going to the medalist

Third-Round Course Statistics (Marshwood Course)

- Toughest Hole – No. 13, Par 4, 511 yards (4.534)
- Easiest Hole – No. 15, Par 5, 523 yards (4.425)
- Scoring Average (Front 9 – Par 36) – 35.329
- Scoring Average (Back 9 – Par 35) – 34.904
- Scoring Average (Total – Par 71) – 70.233

Third-Round Course Statistics (Magnolia Course)

- Toughest Hole – No. 6, Par 4, 492 yards (4.467)
- Easiest Hole – No. 10, Par 4, 397 yards (3.827)
- Scoring Average (Front 9) – 35.440

- Scoring Average (Back 9) – 34.973
- Scoring Average (Total – Par 70) – 70.413