

First-Round Notes – Friday, June 25, 2021

Course Setup: Falmouth Country Club – Par 71 / 7,326

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Second-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Brent Grant	64-66—130 (-12)
2	Chad Ramey	67-65—132 (-10)
T3	Five players tied at	133 (-9)

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

Brent Grant claims 36-hole lead at Live and Work in Maine Open

FALMOUTH, Maine – Brent Grant bounced back from a double bogey at the 16th with an eagle at the 17th on Friday at the Live and Work Maine Open en route to a 5-under 66 and a two-stroke lead at 12-under at the midway point of the tournament. Sixty-six professionals advanced to the weekend with the cutline falling at 2-under 140.

“It would be lame to say a double bounce-back,” laughed Grant, who followed up his eagle with a closing birdie at the 18th. “But yeah, a double bounce-back...Obviously you never want to make a double bogey in the closing stretch, but I have some really good feelings about right-pins on par-5s, especially with some left-to-right wind, so I kind of reached in the cookie jar there on the 17th hole and made the best swing of the day. I got up there and it was six inches away.”

Grant’s 66 followed up an opening 7-under 64 on Thursday that allowed him to earn a four-way tie for the lead after the first round. The rounds mark the third and fourth time he has led/co-led after a round on Tour.

“You want to win golf tournaments, but the only way that happens is if you shut everything out,” said the 25-year-old. “The first tournament of this year, the LECOM Suncoast Classic, I was in a similar position coming into the weekend and my eyes were like a deer in headlights. But I learned a lot from that and same thing in Nashville.”

Grant is seeking his third consecutive top-10, but the previous two were notched with a five-week gap between them. He noticed jolting pains in his wrist in Nashville on his way to a T5 finish, and after consulting a doctor, discovered he had a tear in his TFCC joint in his wrist. He missed five weeks – including three without touching a club – before returning with a T10 finish last week in Wichita.

“There were so many emotions that went through my brain and my heart,” reflected Grant on his injury. “I was a prima donna for a hot second and then I realized I can only focus on what I can control. At that

time, it was just myself. I can't control what the doctors were going to tell me, I can't control others. I was really fortunate to have a few people to lean on."

Grant entered the week 71st in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings and projects to move inside the top-30 with a win. He famously qualified for the 2014 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship without a partner after his scheduled partner, a doctor, got called in surgery at the last minute. Grant was 18 at the time.

Grant leads Chad Ramey by two strokes entering the weekend. Ramey, the No. 8 player in the standings, is also seeking his first career win on the Korn Ferry Tour.

Third-round tee times will run from 7:10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. on Saturday off of the first tee at Falmouth Country Club.

Second-Round Notes

- Friday's weather: Mostly cloudy with a high of 72 degrees and wind E/SE at 4-10 mph
- The Live and Work in Maine Open is the 15th event of 2021 and the 38th (of 43) of the 2020-21 combined season; Brent Grant projects to move to 30th in the standings with a win; just 11 of 37 second-round leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win this season
- With Falmouth Country Club recently extending its yardage, the new course record will be set this week; Josh Creel currently claimed the current course record with a 9-under 62 on Friday
- Spencer Levin (-8, T8) holed out for eagle twice (Nos. 4 and 14) on Friday; Levin had his second child, a daughter, late Thursday night
- Shawn Warren, the head professional at the host facility of Falmouth Country Club, needed a birdie at the final hole to make the cut but bogeyed the 18th and failed to make the weekend
- After a shaky start to his round, Josh McCarthy (-3, T38) birdied his final two holes to make the cut in his first tournament as a professional
- 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 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

Second-Round Course Statistics

- Toughest Hole – Par-4 eighth (4.212)
- Easiest Hole – Par-5 sixth (4.172)
- Scoring Average (Front 9) – 34.060
- Scoring Average (Back 9) – 36.119
- Scoring Average (Total) – 70.179
- Scoring Average (Cumulative) – 71.028