



Pre-Tournament Notes – Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna

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Dates: August 12-15, 2021

Where: Omaha, Nebraska

Course: The Club at Indian Creek (71 / 7,581)

Course Designer: Frank Hummel (1991), Mark Rathert (1997), Todd Quitno (renovation, 2009-11)

Field: 156 players

Defending Champion: Seth Reeves

Purse: \$750,000 (\$135,000/winner)

Format: 72-hole stroke play

Quick Links

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Things to Know

- The Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna is the 20th Korn Ferry Tour tournament of 2021, as well as the 43rd and final event of the 2020-21 combined regular season
 - 25 PGA TOUR cards will be awarded to the top 25 players in the Korn Ferry Tour's regular season points standings following the conclusion of this week's final round
- While this is the fifth iteration of the Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna, which debuted in 2017, it is the first time the tournament will serve as the final regular season event where the 25 is finalized and players receive their PGA TOUR cards
- GOLF Channel will have live telecast coverage from 6-8 p.m. ET all four rounds, and the PGA TOUR Card Ceremony will be streamed live via Korn Ferry Tour social media accounts at 8:15 p.m. ET following Sunday's final round
- 19 players have crossed the 1,600-point threshold the Korn Ferry Tour is currently using as its fail-safe number for players to finish inside the top 25, leaving six PGA TOUR cards up for grabs this week
- Players ranked 21st through 27th in the points standings are within 93 points of each other, while players ranked 24th through 27th are separated by 18 points
- Additionally, the top-75 players in the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour points standings at the conclusion of this week's final round will earn spots in the three-event Korn Ferry Tour Finals and retain full status on the Korn Ferry Tour for the 2022 season
 - Players ranked 73rd through 80th are within 97 points of each other
- **Cameron Young**, who ranks 18th in the points standings and has secured a PGA TOUR card, Monday qualified into the 2020 Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna for his first career Korn Ferry Tour start, finished T11, and proceeded to finish T14, T6, and T2 in the next three events en route to Special Temporary Membership; he won back-to-back tournaments this past May
- Defending champion Seth Reeves, who sits 17th in the points standings and finished T5 last week to cross the 1,600-point threshold and secure a return to the PGA TOUR, is not in the field; he and his wife, Patricia, had their first child this week
- The 2018 champion **David Skinns** is in the field and ranks 46th in the points standings
- The Club at Indian Creek has hosted every edition of the Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna
- The Korn Ferry Tour previously hosted the Cox Classic presented by Lexus of Omaha from 1996-2013

Field Notes (as of 8/10/21)

- Field headlined by eight of the top 10, and 22 of the top 25 in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings, including points standings leader **Stephan Jaeger**
- Field includes 60 past Korn Ferry Tour winners with 90 total wins, led by **Stephan Jaeger** and **Martin Piller** with six apiece
- Field includes two PGA TOUR winners **Derek Ernst** and **Tommy Gainey**
- 30 winners in the field from the current season: **Tyson Alexander, Paul Barjon, Hayden Buckley, Joshua Creel, Roberto Díaz, Brett Drewitt, Tommy Gainey, Harry Hall, Evan Harmeling, Lee Hodges, Stephan Jaeger (x2), David Kocher, David Lipsky, Curtis Luck, Max McGreevy, Taylor Moore, Trey Mullinax, Andrew Novak, Chad Ramey, Davis Riley (x2), Tag Ridings, Greyson Sigg, Austin Smotherman, Adam Svensson, Curtis Thompson, Peter Uihlein, Jared Wolfe (x2), Brandon Wu, Dylan Wu, Cameron Young (x2)**
- **Brandon Crick** (McCook native and resident), **Scott Gutschewski** (Omaha native), and **Brady Schnell** (plays from Omaha) have ties to the state of Nebraska; they all played collegiately at the University of Nebraska

Bubble Watch

With the Korn Ferry Tour forming a combined 2020-21 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna will be the 43rd and final tournament of the 2020-21 regular season. Twenty-five PGA TOUR cards will be awarded to the top-25 players in the Korn Ferry Tour standings following the conclusion of the final round.

Additionally, the top-75 players in the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour points standings at the conclusion of this week's final round will earn spots in the three-event Korn Ferry Tour Finals, where another 25 PGA TOUR cards will be awarded at the conclusion of the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance (Sept. 2-5).

The 25 Bubble

Position	Player	Points	Wins	Top-10s
21	Ben Kohles	1,497	--	6
22	Brett Drewitt	1,482	1	7
23	Curtis Thompson	1,452	1	4
24	Taylor Montgomery	1,422	--	5
25	Peter Uihlein	1,412	1	5
TOP 25 EARN PGA TOUR CARD				
26	Austin Smotherman	1,405	1	5
27	Roberto Díaz	1,404	1	5
28	Paul Haley II	1,357	--	6

Korn Ferry Tour Finals Bubble

Position	Player	Points	Top-10s	Top-25s
70	Shad Tuten	716	3	6
71	Joey Garber	711	3	10
72	Tag Ridings	707	1 (win)	3
73	Augusto Núñez	689	1	8
74	Kyle Reifers	681	3	10
75	Taylor Dickson	648	3	4
TOP 75 EARN KORN FERRY TOUR FINALS BERTH				
76	Jose de Jesus Rodriguez	632	2	4
77	Grant Hirschman	630	2	8
78	Kevin Dougherty	619	2	4
79	Nicolas Echavarria	602	3	6
80	Harrison Endycott	592	3	6

81	Patrick Fishburn	587	2	7
82	J.T. Griffin	570	4	9
83	Whee Kim	566	2	10
84	Austen Truslow	563	3	4
85	Brett Coletta	548	2	7

2020 Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna Recap (July 30-August 2)

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Seth Reeves	74	67	68	64	273 (-11)
T2	Tyson Alexander	69	65	71	69	274 (-10)
	Taylor Pendrith	71	70	67	66	274 (-10)
	Ryan Ruffels	66	70	65	73	274 (-10)
	Nick Voke	70	66	71	67	274 (-10)
	Carl Yuan	70	69	67	68	274 (-10)

- Seth Reeves carded a final-round 7-under 64 more than two hours before the final groups concluded play for his first Korn Ferry Tour victory
- After the third round, Reeves stood eight strokes off the lead and in T27 position
 - Reeves' eight-stroke come-from-behind victory was the largest deficit overcome in a win since Peter Tomasulo's win from eight strokes back at the 2010 Ford Wayne Gretzky Classic presented by Samsung
 - Reeves remains the only winner this season who stood lower than T10 after the third round
- Reeves played his final 15 holes at 8-under par and shot a 5-under 30 on the back nine, highlighted by an eagle at the par-5 15th and a birdie at the par-4 18th
- Rookie **Ryan Ruffels** held the 54-hole lead but settled for a T2, which remains his only top-10 this season
- Tyson Alexander's** T2 marked the highest Korn Ferry Tour finish of his career until he won the 2021 Veritex Bank Championship in April
- Taylor Pendrith's** T2 marked his third consecutive runner-up finish, and he added a fourth runner-up finish a month later with a solo second at the 2020 Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics
- Nick Voke's** T2 remains the only top-five of his Korn Ferry Tour career

Past Champions

Year	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total	Margin
2020	Seth Reeves	74	67	68	64	273 (-11)	1
2019	Kristoffer Ventura	67	64	67	70	268 (-16)	2
2018	David Skinnis	68	66	69	65	268 (-16)	2
2017	Sam Ryder	67	67	62	67	263 (-21)	8

Course Information – The Club at Indian Creek

- Years Hosted: 2017-present
- Scoring Average (2020): 71.496 / +0.496 (No. 5 toughest course on Tour this season)
- Toughest Hole (2020): No. 3, Par 3, 218 yards – 3.244 / +0.244
- Easiest Hole (2020): No. 15, Par 5, 573 yards – 4.466 / -0.534

Last time on Tour – Utah Championship presented by Zions Bank (August 5-8)

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Joshua Creel	63	68	65	64	260 (-24)
T2	Hayden Buckley	68	69	64	61	262 (-22)
	Taylor Montgomery	67	66	62	67	262 (-22)
	Peter Uihlein	65	65	65	67	262 (-22)

- Oakridge Country Club hosted the Utah Championship presented by Zions Bank in Farmington, Utah last week
- **Joshua Creel** earned his first career Korn Ferry Tour victory, clinching the win with a 30-foot birdie putt on the 72nd hole
- Creel moved from 64th to 32nd in the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour points standings
- **Taylor Montgomery** and **Peter Uihlein** both climbed five spots and into the top 25 of the Korn Ferry Tour points standings, moving to 24th and 25th, respectively
- Montgomery logged his fourth top-three finish of the 2020-21 season, while Uihlein posted his third top-two finish of the season – which includes a win at the 2021 MGM Resorts Championship at Paiute
- **Hayden Buckley** tied the course record with a final-round 10-under 61 and moved onto The 25 bubble with his first top-five since winning the 2021 LECOM Suncoast Classic
 - Buckley tied the course record shared by Cameron Champ, Andres Gonzales, Jacques Blaauw, and Christian Brand
- Seth Reeves (T5 / -20) and **Andrew Novak** (T8 / -19) both eclipsed the 1,650-point threshold the Korn Ferry Tour used through last week as its fail-safe number for players to finish inside the top 25 if the 2020-21 points standings and earn a PGA TOUR card for this fall
 - Novak earned his TOUR card for the first time, while Reeves previously earned his TOUR card for the 2019 season with a 14th-place finish in the 2018 Korn Ferry Tour Finals