



## Pre-Tournament Notes – Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation

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**Dates:** May 6-9, 2021

**Where:** College Grove, Tennessee

**Course:** The Grove (72 / 7,368)

**Course Designer:** Greg Norman (2012)

**Field:** 156 players

**Defending Champion:** Robby Shelton (2019)

**Purse:** \$600,000 (\$108,000/winner)

**Format:** 72-hole stroke play

### Quick Links

- [Tournament Media Site](#)
- [Power Rankings](#)
- [Tee Times](#)

### Things to Know

- This will be the fifth edition of the Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation
- The Grove is hosting the Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation for the first time, as the tournament's previous four installments were played at Nashville Golf & Athletic Club
- Some of the notable PGA TOUR players who enjoyed success at the Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation were:
  - **Scottie Scheffler** (2019 runner-up) – 2019-20 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year, finished fifth in 2020 FedExCup standings, 2019 Korn Ferry Tour Player of the Year
  - **Cameron Davis** (2018 champion) – four top-10s on PGA TOUR last two seasons
  - **Lanto Griffin** (2017 champion, T2 in 2018) – won 2019 Houston Open, finished T18 in 2020 FedExCup standings
  - **Abraham Ancer** (2017 runner-up) – three-time runner-up finisher on PGA TOUR, finished T18 in 2020 FedExCup standings
  - **Joel Dahmen** (T3 in 2016) – won 2021 Corales Puntacana Resort & Club Championship

### Field Notes (as of 5/3/21)

- Field headlined by eight of the top-10, and 22 of the top-25 in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings, led by No. 1 **Stephan Jaeger**
- With their finishes at last week's Huntsville Championship, No. 3 **Davis Riley** (5th) and No. 5 **David Lipsky** (T21) both eclipsed the 1,700-point threshold the Korn Ferry Tour is currently using as its fail-safe number for players to finish inside of the top 25 of the 2020-21 points standings and secure PGA TOUR cards
  - Riley and Lipsky were the fourth and fifth players to secure their PGA TOUR cards this season, joining No. 1 **Stephan Jaeger**, No. 2 **Will Zalatoris**, and No. 4 **Taylor Pendrith**
  - Zalatoris already has Special Temporary Membership status on the PGA TOUR, while Lipsky, Pendrith, and Riley will compete as rookies on TOUR beginning this fall, and Jaeger will begin his third TOUR season this fall
- No. 8 **Brandon Wu** is coming off his first top-10 finish of the calendar year and sixth top-10 of the season; he concluded 2020 with four top-10s in six starts, including a win at the Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance
- No. 17 **Andrew Novak** has top-10 finishes in each of the last four Korn Ferry Tour events (3rd, T9, T5, T7)
- Field includes 61 past Korn Ferry Tour winners with 92 total wins, led by **Stephan Jaeger** and **Martin Piller** (six apiece)

- Field includes nine PGA TOUR winners with 13 total victories, led by **Sangmoon Bae**, **Matt Every**, **Fabián Gómez**, and **Y.E. Yang** (two apiece)
- 23 winners in the field from the current season: **Tyson Alexander**, **Paul Barjon**, **Hayden Buckley**, **Roberto Díaz**, **Brett Drewitt**, **Tommy Gainey**, **Evan Harmeling**, **Lee Hodges**, **Stephan Jaeger** (x2), **David Kocher**, **David Lipsky**, **Curtis Luck**, **Max McGreevy**, **Trey Mullinax**, **Andrew Novak**, **Mito Pereira**, **Seth Reeves**, **Davis Riley** (x2), **Adam Svensson**, **Curtis Thompson**, **Peter Uihlein**, **Jared Wolfe** (x2), **Brandon Wu**

#### 2019 Recap (2020 tournament was cancelled due to COVID-19 pandemic)

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Robby Shelton*	64	73	65	71	273 (-15)
2	Scottie Scheffler	68	67	74	64	273 (-15)
3	Henrik Norlander	71	68	66	69	274 (-14)
T4	Chris Baker	69	67	70	69	275 (-13)
	Chase Seiffert	68	67	70	70	266 (-18)

\*won via a sudden-death playoff

- **Robby Shelton** held the 18- and 54-hole leads, but saw a three-stroke advantage disappear Sunday as he opened the final round with four consecutive bogeys; he eventually rallied and birdied the 72 hole to force a playoff with **Scottie Scheffler**, who matched the lowest round of the week with an 8-under 64
- Shelton won his first career Korn Ferry Tour title with a birdie on the first hole of the sudden-death playoff
- Shelton went on to finish No. 2 in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings and earned his PGA TOUR card, while Scheffler finished No. 3 in the regular season and No. 1 after the Korn Ferry Tour Finals
- **Henrik Norlander** climbed 62 places in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings (94th to 32nd) with a solo-third finish, and eventually regained his PGA TOUR card at the end of the 2019 season

#### Past Champions

Year	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total	Margin
2019	Robby Shelton	64	73	65	71	273 (-15)	Playoff
2018	Cameron Davis	67	71	67	66	270 (-18)	1
2017	Lanto Griffin	72	70	62	68	272 (-16)	Playoff
2016	James Driscoll	65	68	69	67	269 (-19)	3

#### Miscellaneous Notes

- Ten players in the field played collegiately in Tennessee: one at Lipscomb University (**Dawson Armstrong**), one at Austin Peay State (**Erik Barnes**), two at Middle Tennessee State (**Kent Bulle**, **Jason Millard**), two at University of Tennessee (**Rick Lamb**, **David Skinnis**), two at University of Tennessee-Chattanooga (**Stephan Jaeger**, **Brooks Thomas**), two at Vanderbilt University (**Theo Humphrey**, **Carson Jacobs**)
- Nine players in the field have additional ties to Tennessee: **Dawson Armstrong** (Franklin resident), **Hayden Buckley** (born in Chattanooga), **Kent Bulle** (Murfreesboro resident), **Grant Hirschman** (Memphis native and resident), **Stephan Jaeger** (Chattanooga resident), **Jason Millard** (Murfreesboro native and resident), **Cameron Tankersley** (Dickson County resident), **Brooks Thomas** (Chattanooga native), **Braden Thornberry** (born in Germantown)
- No. 1 **Stephan Jaeger**, No. 3 **Davis Riley**, and No. 11 **Jared Wolfe** are all seeking a third win for immediate promotion to the PGA TOUR
- Eight qualifiers gained entry into the field at two sites Monday, led by co-medalists **Cameron Tankersley** and **Nick Dunlap** (62/Old Fort Golf Course) and **Matt Nagy** (64/GreyStone Golf Club)
  - Tankersley and Dunlap are both 17-year-old amateurs and played on Brandt Snedeker's statewide junior tour
- The Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation is the eighth Korn Ferry Tour tournament of 2021 and 31st of the season

#### Last week on Tour – Huntsville Championship (April 29-May 2)

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Paul Barjon*	65	67	64	69	265 (-15)
T2	Mito Pereira	69	65	65	66	265 (-15)
	Billy Kennerly	68	67	67	63	265 (-15)
4	Stephen Franken	67	67	68	64	266 (-14)
5	Davis Riley	68	66	66	67	267 (-13)

\*won with an eagle on the third hole of a sudden-death playoff

- The Ledges in Huntsville, Alabama hosted the inaugural Huntsville Championship last week
- **Paul Barjon** defeated **Billy Kennerly** and **Mito Pereira** in a sudden-death playoff with an eagle on the third playoff hole, the par-5 10th
- Barjon's win was the first of his Korn Ferry Tour career, and came after three T2 finishes and a T3 finish during the 2020-21 season; he previously won three times in two stints on the Mackenzie Tour
- With the win, Barjon moved from 15th to sixth in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings
- Barjon began the final round with a three-stroke lead, but opened his round with a double bogey, shot 2-over par on the front nine, and walked off the 10th green four strokes behind Pereira
- Barjon rallied with tap-in birdies at Nos. 11 and 12, bounced back from a bogey at No. 13 with a birdie at No. 14, and tied Pereira and Kennerly for the lead with a birdie at the par-4 17th
- Pereira played bogey-free golf through 12 holes, carding an eagle and four birdies to build a three-stroke lead on the field; he bogeyed Nos. 13 and 14 and missed quality birdies looks on the 71st and 72nd holes
- Pereira's T2 was his first top-five finish since opening 2020 with three in his first four starts, including a win at the Country Club de Bogota Championship
- Kennerly, who tied the lowest round of the week with a 7-under 63 Sunday, was eliminated after the second playoff hole, as he made bogey the second time the threesome played the par-4 18th
- Kennerly's T2 marked his third top-five finish in six starts this calendar year

#### Korn Ferry Tour 2020-21 Season

With the Korn Ferry Tour forming a combined 2020-21 season due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the 2021 Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation will be the 31st tournament (of 43) 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 regular season at the Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna (Aug. 12-15). Additionally, 25 PGA TOUR cards will be awarded through the three-event Korn Ferry Tour Finals at the conclusion of the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance (Sept. 2-5).

With 13 events remaining in the regular season, the Korn Ferry Tour is currently using the 1,700-point threshold as its fail-safe number for players to finish inside the top 25.

#### Current Korn Ferry Tour Standings

Position	Player	Points	Wins	Top-10s	Points Behind	Starts
1	Stephan Jaeger	1,889	2	7	--	25
2	Will Zalatoris	1,876	1	10	13	16
3	Davis Riley	1,781	2	6	108	26
4	Taylor Pendrith	1,751	--	6	138	27
5	David Lipsky	1,710	1	6	179	24
6	Paul Barjon	1,688	1	6	201	25
7	Lee Hodges	1,644	1	7	245	26
8	Brandon Wu	1,570	1	6	319	14
9	Chad Ramey	1,517	--	8	372	29
10	Greyson Sigg	1,428	--	7	461	24