

First-Round Notes – Thursday, July 8, 2021

Course Setup: Par 72 / 7,991 yards

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Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Taylor Moore	63 (-9)
T2	Wade Binfield	65 (-7)
	Tyson Alexander	65 (-7)
4	Jonathan Randolph	66 (-6)
T5	Seven Tied	67 (-5)

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Taylor Moore ties course record for two-stroke lead at TPC Colorado Championship at Heron Lakes

BERTHOUD, Colo. – Taylor Moore tied the course and tournament scoring records with a bogey-free 9-under 63 in the opening round of the TPC Colorado Championship at Heron Lakes Thursday morning. Moore, who was in the first group off the 10th tee at 6:50 a.m. local time, closed his round with a 7-under 29 on the front nine, making an eagle and five birdies.

The TPC Colorado course record was established by Greyson Sigg and Chase Johnson in the final round of this event last year.

Moore's 9-under round marked his career-low score relative to par on the Korn Ferry Tour. Making his 93rd career start on Tour this week, Moore previously shot 63 seven times, with the most recent occurrence being a 7-under 63 in the opening round of last month's Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics, which earned him a share of the first-round lead for the third time in his career.

This is the first time Moore holds an outright first-round lead at a Korn Ferry Tour event.

"Chipped in for eagle on No. 1 from about 30 yards. That really jump-started me," said Moore, who birdied four of his last five holes. "Drove it almost on No. 3, (got) up and down for birdie there. Tap-in (birdie) at No. 6. And No. 8 and No. 9, those aren't easy holes, especially with the way the wind switched. I hit two quality shots coming in there.

"I hit a lot of quality shots on my front nine and just didn't get anything to go. I missed a couple birdie putts on the par-5s, Nos. 13 and 15, that were makeable and slid by. I was trying to be patient and get into the flow of the round, in the flow of the tournament."

Moore nearly played the 773-yard, par-5 13th – which is the longest hole in PGA TOUR-sanctioned golf and will be one of the featured holes on this weekend's [PGA TOUR LIVE broadcast](#) – to perfection. The

University of Arkansas alum hit driver, 3-wood, and pitching wedge as he reached the green in regulation and had a makeable birdie attempt.

“It played long with that 6:50 (a.m.) start time I had,” Moore said. “It’s a long golf hole and you’ve got to hit three quality shots to have a birdie chance.”

Currently sitting at 21st in the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour points standings with five regular season events remaining, Moore’s recent tear of top-notch golf has him in position to earn a PGA TOUR card come August. In his last 12 starts, Moore has 10 top-25s and seven top-10s, including a T5 two weeks ago at the Live and Work in Maine Open.

A win this week would take Moore over the 1,700-point threshold the Korn Ferry Tour is currently using as its fail-safe number for players to finish inside the top 25 and earn a PGA TOUR card for this fall.

“I’m in a good position,” said Moore, whose career-high finish in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings was 37th in 2018. “I’m playing quality golf. I like where I’m at. I like it better on the inside, versus being on the outside of the top 25. I’d like to win a golf tournament. That would take care of a lot. I’m trying to do that each week I tee it up and not really watch the list. That’s where my head is at.

“I’m not thinking about much, honestly. I’m just doing all the little stuff I need to do in order to get myself ready to play, and just trying to be where my feet are, be calm, not try to force anything, do anything crazy. I’m just trying to play solid golf, execute what’s in front of me.”

Play was suspended due to darkness at 8:35 p.m., with six players playing their final hole.

Second-round tee times will run from 6:50 a.m. through 2:27 p.m. local time off the first and 10th tees.

Thursday Notes

- **Taylor Moore** projects to jump from 21st to seventh in the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour points standings with a win
- While this is Moore’s first outright first-round lead, he previously shared the 18-hole lead at the 2019 and 2021 Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics, as well as the 2018 BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by SYNEX Corporation
 - Moore finished T26 in Wichita last month, T10 in Wichita in 2019, and T9 at the 2018 BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by SYNEX Corporation
- Moore’s highest finish of the 2020-21 season is a T3 at both the 2021 Veritex Bank Championship and 2021 REX Hospital Open; his career-high finish on the Korn Ferry Tour is a solo second at the 2018 Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by MISTRAS
- Although Moore does not have a Korn Ferry Tour victory, he won the 2016 Staal Foundation Open presented by Tbaytel, a Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada event
- **Wade Binfield** opened with a 7-under 65 and sits T2; he is coming off his first top-25 of the 2020-21 season (T25 at the Live and Work in Maine Open), which marked his highest finish on Tour since a T18 at the 2019 WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz
- Binfield’s 7-under 65 was his lowest score to par since a 7-under 65 in the final round of the 2020 Club Car Championship at The Landings Club

- **Tyson Alexander's** 7-under 65 puts him T2, tying his highest first-round position in his 56th career start on the Korn Ferry Tour; he previously stood T2 at the 2019 The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at Baha Mar
- In six starts since winning the Veritex Bank Championship this past April, Alexander has just one top-25 and three missed cuts
- **Chandler Eaton** paced the eight Monday qualifiers with a 5-under 67 and sits T5; he is making his sixth Korn Ferry Tour start following a standout collegiate career at Duke from 2016-20
 - Following his junior season at Duke, Eaton finished T41 at the 2019 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament's Final Stage, missing guaranteed starts on the Korn Ferry Tour by a single stroke; he then returned to Duke for his senior season
- Six of the top 11 players on the first-round leaderboard are currently ranked 96th or lower in the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour points standings
- Three bogey-free rounds were carded – Moore (63), **David Kocher** (68), **John Chin** (70)
- Weather: Partly cloudy, high of 98 degrees, wind WNW at 10-15 mph (gusts up to 20 mph)
- 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 TPC Colorado Championship at Heron Lakes is the 16th event of 2021 and the 39th 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

Partial First-Round Course Statistics

- **Toughest Hole** – No. 4, Par 4, 518 yards (4.374 – 14 birdies, 61 bogeys, five double bogeys or worse)
- **Easiest Hole** – No. 6, Par 4, 370 yards (3.606 – two eagles, 69 birdies, 11 bogeys or worse)
- **Scoring Average (Front 9)** – 35.355
- **Scoring Average (Back 9)** – 36.568
- **Scoring Average (Total)** – 71.923