

# First-Round Notes - Thursday, May 13, 2021

Course Setup: Par 70 / 7,028 yards

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### First-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Greyson Sigg	61 (-9)
2	Kyle Reifers	63 (-7)
Т3	Trey Mullinax	64 (-6)
Т3	Stephan Jaeger	64 (-6)
Т3	Max Greyserman	64 (-6)

### **Quick Links:**

- Leaderboard
- <u>Tee Times</u>
- <u>Tournament Media Site</u> (interviews and other resources available for download)

## Greyson Sigg takes first-round lead at Visit Knoxville Open

**KNOXVILLE, Tenn.** – University of Georgia alum Greyson Sigg fired a 9-under 61 on Thursday to take a two-stroke lead after the first round of the Visit Knoxville Open. Sigg leads North Carolinian Kyle Reifers by two at Holston Hills Country Club.

"First hole I hit it over the green, not my best shot, and then I chipped it in," laughed Sigg. "That was some way to get my day started. And then I had one of the best putting days I've had in a while. It was nice to see some putts go in."

Sigg birdied half of his 18 holes on Thursday, including an up-and-down from the bunker at the par-5 18th to finish his round. With the 61, Sigg matches the course record at Holston Hills originally set by Walt Chapman (1993) and Andrew Pratt (2004).

The round also sets a new career-low round on the Korn Ferry Tour, besting a 63 in the final round of the 2020 TPC Colorado Championship at Heron Lakes, while his nine birdies is also a career-best.

"Anytime you see your name at the top of the leaderboard you're doing something right," said Sigg. "I grew up on a pretty similar course like this [Augusta Country Club] with Bentgrass greens, so I'm very familiar with them...

Sigg competed in the same group as Reifers all day as the duo went back and forth. Each player was 6-under through 12 before Sigg birdied three of his last four to reach 9-under.

"We were kind of going back and forth, we were tied there the majority of the day," said Sigg. "It was good to have someone to push you and it almost felt like match play."



The 26-year-old has been one of the most consistent players on the Korn Ferry Tour this season with seven top-10s and 15 top-25s in 25 starts. And as a former Georgia Bulldog, Sigg denied having played the course prior to this week, joking that he had never made it behind enemy lines to Holston Hills nearby the University of Tennessee's campus.

Meanwhile at solo-second with a first-round 63, Reifers earned his highest position through the first round since the 2014 Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by MISTRAS (co-leader). Trey Mullinax, Max Greyserman and Korn Ferry Tour points leader Stephan Jaeger sit three strokes back at 6-under 64.

Second-round tee times will run from 7:15 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. on Friday off of the first and 10th tees.

# **Thursday Notes**

- Thursday's weather: Sunny with a high of 68 degrees and wind NE at 6-10 mph
- The Visit Knoxville Open is the ninth event of 2021 and the 32nd of the 2020-21 combined season; Sigg projects to move to second in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings with a win; just five of 31 first-round leaders/co-leaders have gone on to win this season
- Max Greyserman sits inside the top-five after the first round for the fifth time in his last nine starts on the Korn Ferry Tour
- The 64 by Trey Mullinax is his lowest round since a 62 in the third round at the 2020 Orange County National Championship presented by Knight 39, a tournament Mullinax went on to win
- University of Tennessee alum Rick Lamb (-5, T6) sits inside the top-10 after the first round; Lamb has a top finish of T3 (2016) in four previous starts at the Visit Knoxville Open
- As Stephan Jaeger seeks his third victory for immediate promotion to the PGA TOUR, he is looking to become the first player to accomplish the feat since Wesley Bryan won his third event of the season in 2016 at the AdventHealth Championship; 11 players have earned the threevictory promotion in the Tour's history
- James Driscoll (-3, T17) got into the event after a T19 at last week's Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation; the start was Driscoll's first in any PGA TOUR-sanctioned event since 2019
- 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

### **First-Round Course Statistics**

- Toughest Hole Par-4 seventh (4.277)
- Easiest Hole Par-5 fifth (4.658)
- Scoring Average (Front 9) 34.355
- Scoring Average (Back 9) 34.877
- Scoring Average (Total) 69.232