

# Third-Round Notes – Saturday, May 15, 2021

Course Setup: Par 70 / 7,028 yards

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#### Third-Round Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Stephan Jaeger	64-62-65—191 (-19)
2	Greyson Sigg	61-68-65—194 (-16)
T3	Harrison Endycott	65-65-66—196 (-14)
T3	Kyle Reifers	63-64-69—196 (-14)

#### **Quick Links:**

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

# Jaeger Leads by Three at Visit Knoxville Open, Eyes Third Win of the Season

**KNOXVILLE, Tenn.** – Stephan Jaeger carded a 5-under 65 Saturday and extended his lead to three strokes at the Visit Knoxville Open as he pursues his third win of the season and an immediate promotion to the PGA TOUR. Greyson Sigg matched Jaeger with a third-round 65 and is 16-under entering Sunday's final round at Holston Hills Country Club.

Jaeger has attacked this week's Donald Ross test with accurate iron play (43 of 54 GIR, T9 in the field) and precise work around the greens (1.581 putts per GIR, 2nd in the field). An up-and-down birdie on the par-5 18th added to his lead, but it also served as a reminder about the potential perils on Holston Hills' greens.

"It was a really easy bunker shot and I left it in the worst possible spot above the hole," Jaeger said. "I would rather have 10 feet up the hill than a five-footer down the hill on a green like that. That's a good example of you've got to leave yourself the easier putts, the uphillers, rather than a downhiller that's going to break, even if it's shorter. I got away with that one, but I've got to do a better job on that tomorrow."

Mistakes like that have not showed up on the scorecard, as Jaeger has 28 one-putts and zero three-putts, and he has only made one bogey through 54 holes.

A UT-Chattanooga alum and Chattanooga resident, Jaeger has eight top-10s and two wins during this 2020-21 combined season. With a victory, he would become the 12th player to earn the three-win promotion to the PGA TOUR and first since 2016 (Wesley Bryan), and he would tie Jason Gore for the most wins in Korn Ferry Tour history (7).



"I'm still nervous. I hope that never goes away because it's fun, but I'm comfortable with my game and I'm hitting my driver good and I'm putting well, and that's a good combo on a golf course like this," said Jaeger, who is No. 1 in the Korn Ferry Tour points standings. "I'm really excited to play with Greyson (Sigg) tomorrow, we're good buddies so we're going to have a good time."

Sigg opened with a course-record 61 on Thursday and remains in position for his first victory after rounds of 68-65. The University of Georgia product will play in Sunday's final group for the second time in his career and first since the 2020 Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance, where he was the 54-hole leader before eventually finishing runner-up.

The penultimate group will feature Harrison Endycott and Kyle Reifers, who are tied for third at 14-under. Final-round tee times will run from 7 a.m. to 1:10 p.m. on Sunday off the first tee.

This week marks the 31st edition of the Visit Knoxville Open, one of four tournaments from the original season in 1990 that remain on the Tour's schedule.

## **Saturday Notes**

- Saturday's weather: Sunny with a high of 75 degrees and wind SW at 4-8 mph
- The Visit Knoxville Open is the ninth event of 2021 and the 32nd of the 2020-21 combined season; 17 of 31 third-round leaders have gone on to win the tournament this season
- This marks Jaeger's fourth career 54-hole lead; he has converted each of his previous three into a victory (2016 Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae, 2017 Rust-Oleum Championship, 2020 Albertsons Boise Open presented by Chevron)
- With a victory, Jaeger would tie Jason Gore for most wins in Korn Ferry Tour history (7); Jaeger's seventh win would come in his 110th start, while Gore's came in his 129th start
- Charlie Saxon carded the lowest score Saturday, and he is T5 at 11-under after a 7-under 63; it matches his second-lowest score on Korn Ferry Tour
- Kyle Reifers is T3 at 14-under after a third-round 69; he is seeking his second career win, which
  would occur 14 years, 10 months and 21 days after the first; that would set a new record on the
  Korn Ferry Tour for longest span between victories by almost two years (Eric Axley is the current
  record-holder with a span of 12 years, 11 months and 14 days)
- Two Monday qualifiers made the cut. Scott Stevens is T10 at 9-under after a third-round 68, while Thomas Forster shot 70 on Saturday and is T29 at 6-under.
- Trey Mullinax (back) withdrew during the third round.
- 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

#### **Third-Round Course Statistics**

- Toughest Hole Par-4 17th (4.200)
- Easiest Hole Par-5 18th (4.587)
- Scoring Average (Front 9) 34.267
- Scoring Average (Back 9) 34.387
- Scoring Average (Total) 68.653
- Scoring Average (Cumulative) 69.193