

Second-Round Notes – Friday, June 18, 2021

Course Setup: Par 70 / 6,910 yards

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Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Harry Hall	64-63—127 (-13)
2	Erik Barnes	64-65—129 (-11)
T3	Austin Eckroat	64-66—130 (-10)
	Kevin Yu	64-66—130 (-10)
T5	11 Tied	131 (-9)

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- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Tee Times](#)
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Harry Hall snags first 36-hole lead at the Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics

WICHITA, Kan. – Harry Hall’s used to the scorching heat players are experiencing at the Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics. The University of Nevada-Las Vegas alum can deal with temperatures in excess of 100 degrees; he could do without the brutal humidity, though. Neither has bothered Hall too much through two days at Crestview Country Club, as the Englishman followed a first-round 6-under 64 with a 7-under 63 Friday and took a two-stroke lead on the field.

“I’ve been at UNLV for the last six years, so I know what 115 (degrees) feels like,” said Hall, who helped UNLV win three consecutive Mountain West Conference titles from 2016-18, earned the 2019 Mountain West Conference Player of the Year award, captured medalist honors at two events, and departed with the fourth-lowest career scoring average in program history. “It’s probably a little bit better than 95 (degrees) and 80 percent humidity.”

Hall’s bogey-free 63 featured seven birdies, two of which came amid the course’s most difficult stretch – Nos. 5-9, four the eight hardest holes Friday.

Hall began the stretch with a three at the par-3 fifth, the No. 3 toughest hole. He followed up with back-to-back birdies at the par-4 sixth and seventh, the No. 2 and T7 toughest holes, respectively. Hall knocked a 5-iron to eight feet for the first birdie, and drained a 30-footer for the second.

“To get a birdie on No. 6 and No. 7, that’s gaining a shot on the field,” Hall said. “That was nice.”

Pars at Nos. 8 and 9 capped Hall’s fourth round of 63 or in his Korn Ferry Tour career.

Hall, who represented Great Britain & Ireland in the 2019 Walker Cup, is a Korn Ferry Tour rookie making his 22nd start this week. The 23-year-old entered the week ranked 83rd in the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour points standings. A win projects to vault Hall to 37th.

“I’m just a little bit out of the (Korn Ferry Tour) Finals. I’ve been pretty steady all year, but hopefully I can light some fireworks in the next few weeks. I played good at this point at the end of last year,” said Hall, who logged three top-10s in his final five starts of the 2020 calendar year. “Patience is pretty important. Everybody is in a similar spot. Everybody is fighting for a card. You’ve just got to play your game, and it might happen at the right time.”

Friday’s low rounds came from Nicolas Echavarria and Patrick Fishburn, who both tied the course record and tournament scoring record with matching 9-under 61s. The duo each had seven birdies and an eagle in their respective 61s.

Third-round tee times will be in groups of three and run from 7:23 a.m. through 11:55 a.m. local time off the first tee.

Friday Notes

- The 36-hole cut was made at 3-under par, with 74 professionals advancing to the weekend
- Only 10 of this season’s 36-hole leaders / co-leaders went on to win the tournament
- **Harry Hall** holds a 36-hole lead for the first time in his Korn Ferry Tour career; his previous career-high position after 36 holes was T2 at last month’s Huntsville Championship
- Hall came within a stroke of his career-low score, a 9-under 62 in the second round of the 2020 Memorial Health Championship presented by LRS
- **Nicolas Echavarria’s** and **Patrick Fishburn’s** 61s tied the tournament’s 18-hole scoring record previously set by six players:
 - **Curtis Thompson** (2017), 9-under 61, Crestview Country Club
 - **Ollie Schniederjans** (2016), 9-under 61, Crestview Country Club
 - Gavin Coles (2006), 10-under 61, Crestview Country Club
 - Emlyn Aubrey (1998), 11-under 61, Willowbend Golf Club
 - Greg Fleischer (1991), 11-under 61, Reflection Ridge Golf Club
 - Eric Hoos (1991), 11-under 61, Reflection Ridge Golf Club
- Fishburn’s 61 also marked his lowest score in 34 career starts on the Korn Ferry Tour; his previous career-low round was an 8-under 62 at the 2020 Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics
- Fishburn began the day in T106 position and ended it at T16
- Echavarria’s previous career-low round was a 9-under 63 at the 2019 Evans Scholars Invitational presented by First Midwest Bank
- Echavarria played the first 10 holes of the tournament at 4-over par, but has played the last 26 holes at 13-under par
- Three of the top-five finishers from the inaugural PGA TOUR University Ranking List are in the field this week, and all of them are positioned in the top five through 36 holes
 - No. 3 **Austin Eckroat** (T3 / -10)
 - No. 4 **Kevin Yu** (T3 / -10)
 - No. 5 **Garett Reband** (T5 / -9)
- Defending champion **Jared Wolfe** (T45 / -4) shot an even-par 70 to survive the 36-hole cut; he is bidding to become the first player in the 32-year history of the Korn Ferry Tour to win the same event in consecutive years
- After only four bogey-free rounds were recorded Thursday, 13 were carded Friday
- **Gregor Main** (T45 / -4) and **Quade Cummins** (T45 / -4) were the only two (of eight) Monday qualifiers to survive the 36-hole cut

- Cummins finished No. 6 in the inaugural PGA TOUR University Ranking List and has Former Tour status
- Weather: Sunny, hot and breezy, high of 100 degrees, wind SSW at 10-18 mph (gusts up between 20-25 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 Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics is one of the four original tournaments from 1990 still on the Korn Ferry Tour schedule, and this year marks the 32nd playing of the event, with Crestview Country Club hosting annually since 2001
- The Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics is the 14th event of 2021 and the 37th 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

Second-Round Course Statistics

- **Toughest Hole** – No. 18, Par 4, 487 yards (4.303 – 14 birdies, 41 bogeys, nine double bogeys or worse)
- **Easiest Hole** – No. 2, Par 5, 563 yards (4.490 – six eagles, 81 birdies, 12 bogeys or worse)
- **Scoring Average (Front 9)** – 34.742
- **Scoring Average (Back 9)** – 34.135
- **Scoring Average (Total)** – 68.877

Cumulative Course Statistics

- **Toughest Hole** – No. 6, Par 4, 495 yards (4.312 – 23 birdies, 81 bogeys, 18 double bogeys or worse)
- **Easiest Hole** – No. 2, Par 5, 563 yards (4.479 – 14 eagles, 161 birdies, 22 bogeys or worse)
- **Scoring Average (Front 9)** – 34.717
- **Scoring Average (Back 9)** – 34.289
- **Scoring Average (Total)** – 69.006