

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, June 11, 2022

Course Setup: Thornblade Club (Par 71 / 7,062 yards)

Satellite Course Setup: The Carolina Country Club (Par 72 / 6,929 yards)

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Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Robby Shelton	66-65-61—192 (-22)
T2	Ben Griffin	66-68-63—197 (-17)
	Augusto Núñez	65-66-66—197 (-17)
T4	Four Tied	198 (-16)

Quick Links

- [Complete Leaderboard](#)
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- [Tournament Media Site](#) (interviews and other resources available for download)

Robby Shelton fires 61, takes five-stroke lead at BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX

GREER, South Carolina – Matching a career-low round of 10-under 61 in Saturday’s third round, one stroke off the Thornblade Club’s course record, two-time Korn Ferry Tour winner Robby Shelton built a five-stroke lead at the BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX. Shelton reached 22-under par, has yet to make a bogey through 54 holes, and his 20 birdies are tied for the most in the field this week.

The five-stroke lead through 54 holes is the second of the season, as Harrison Endycott carried a five-stroke lead into the final round of the Huntsville Championship and eventually won. It was the largest 54-hole lead since the 2019 Dormie Network Classic at Briggs Ranch.

The only player with as many birdies as Shelton this week is Ben Griffin, who, along with Augusto Núñez, is tied for second at 17-under par.

Shelton, who hails from Wilmer, Alabama, played his first six holes at 5-under par, making birdies on everywhere but the par-3 fourth. After a birdie at the par-3 ninth, Shelton made three pars and rattled off three consecutive birdies at Nos. 13-15. A birdie at the par-3 17th set up a bid to tie the course record on the par-4 18, but Shelton’s birdie run on the final hole lipped out.

“I got off to a hot start, birdied the first three and really just never looked back,” Shelton said. “I kept firing at pins and being smart, but going at pins when I needed to, when I knew I could. I was making the putts as well. Just played smart and had a couple tap-ins here and there, made a few putts and it was a fun round.”

Making his 64th career start on the Korn Ferry Tour, Shelton holds the fifth 54-hole lead or co-lead of his career. Shelton successfully converted two of his previous 54-hole leads into victories in the state of Tennessee across a three-week stretch in 2019, winning the Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation and Visit Knoxville Open.

“My first win out here I had a four-shot lead (at the Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation) in Nashville going into the final round and bogeyed my first four holes, so lost the lead quick,” said Shelton, who eventually defeated Scottie Scheffler to win the event. “Hopefully, this week will be a lot different. Winning in Knoxville as well, I can always look back and draw upon that.”

Shelton, who turned professional in 2016 following his junior season at University of Alabama, has 70 starts on the PGA TOUR.

Shelton burst onto the scene when he finished T3 as an amateur at the 2015 Barbasol Championship, which, at the time, was the highest finish by an amateur in a PGA TOUR event since the 1991 Northern Telecom Open. Shelton had recently concluded his sophomore season at Alabama when he played the event. While at Alabama, Shelton garnered three consecutive All-America First Team honors, helped the Crimson Tide win a second consecutive national title as a freshman in 2014, when he was the National Freshman of the Year and Southeastern Conference Player of the Year, and broke a pair of Justin Thomas’ school records (career wins, seven; single-season stroke average, 70.14 in 2013-14).

Shelton played PGA TOUR Canada in 2017, won his third start, and finished No. 2 on the Order of Merit for Korn Ferry Tour membership. As a Korn Ferry Tour rookie in 2018, Shelton finished No. 51 on the regular season money list, and graduated to the PGA TOUR the following year as he finished No. 2 on the Korn Ferry Tour Regular Season Points List.

In his 56 PGA TOUR starts the last two seasons, Shelton recorded three top-10s, highlighted by a T3 at the 2020 3M Open. Shelton finished No. 66 on the 2019-20 FedExCup Standings in his rookie season on TOUR, guaranteeing another year of status. In 2020-21, Shelton only made 11 cuts in 32 starts and finished No. 167 in the FedExCup Standings, sending him back to the Korn Ferry Tour.

“I think about it a lot,” Shelton said of his time on the PGA TOUR. “You see all your buddies out there on the PGA TOUR playing well. I was there. My first year out there I played really good, made it to BMW (Championship, the second of three FedExCup playoff events). I really want to be there again. It crosses my mind a lot and hopefully I can get back there.”

In his 14 Korn Ferry Tour starts this year, Shelton has three top-25s, highlighted by a T8 at the Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation last month.

“I haven't won in a long time,” said Shelton. “It would be really special. It's going to be a fun day. Even with a five-shot lead, it will be a lot of fun.”

Final-round pairings will run from 7:40 a.m. through 1:40 p.m. local time off the first tee.

Third-Round Notes

- Only four 54-hole leaders / co-leaders went on to win one of the first 15 events this season, though all four occurrences have come in the last six events

- The last Korn Ferry Tour player who led by five or more strokes through 54 holes who did not go on to win the tournament was Kevin Chappell, who held a five-stroke lead at the 2010 Ford Wayne Gretzky Classic presented by Samsung and finished solo-third
- **Robby Shelton** (1st / -22) tied his career-low round of 10-under 61, matching his first round of the 2019 WinCo Foods Portland Open (finished T11)
- Shelton's previous 54-hole leads / co-leads on Tour:
 - T1 at 2018 BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX (finished T2)
 - 1st at 2019 Robert Trent Jones Golf Trail Championship (finished 2nd)
 - 1st at 2019 Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation (WON)
 - 1st at 2019 Visit Knoxville Open (WON)
 - T1 at 2019 Memorial Health Championship presented by LRS (finished T8)
- **Ben Griffin** (T2 / -17), **Anders Albertson** (T4 / -16) and **Brandon Matthews** (T19 / -11) are in position to cross the 875-point threshold the Korn Ferry Tour is currently using as its fail-safe threshold for players to finish among The 25 and earn a PGA TOUR card at regular season's end
 - Matthews needs a solo-36th, 3-way T35 or higher
 - Griffin needs a 2-way T9, 4-way T8 or higher
 - Albertson needs a solo-3rd, 5-way T2 or higher
- **Augusto Núñez** (T4 / -17) sits inside the top 10 for a second time this season (previously T7 at last month's Visit Knoxville Open), eventually finishing T9 for his fourth top-10 of the season
- **Paul Haley II** (T4 / -17) sits inside the top-5 after 54 holes for the sixth time in his Korn Ferry Tour career and second time this season (finished sixth or higher both times)
- **Philip Knowles'** (T4 / -17) highest 54-hole position prior to Saturday was T21 at the 2022 AdventHealth Championship (finished T23)
- **Zack Fischer** (T4 / -17) sits inside the top-5 after 54 holes for a second time this season and the third time in his Korn Ferry Tour career
 - 2022 The Panama Championship (finished T5)
 - 2015 Nationwide Children's (finished T23)
 - 2015 Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard: eventually finished T17
- The BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX Open is the 16th of 23 regular season events on the 26-event 2022 Korn Ferry Tour schedule; the first set of 25 PGA TOUR cards will be awarded at the regular season finale, the Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna (August 11-14), and an additional 25 TOUR cards will be awarded following the three-event Korn Ferry Tour Finals, which conclude with the Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance (September 1-4)
- This week's purse is \$750,000, with \$135,000 going to the champion; the champion will also receive 500 Korn Ferry Tour points
 - All 2022 Korn Ferry Tour regular season events feature a minimum purse of \$750,000, a 25 percent increase from last season, and will boast minimum purses of \$1 million in 2023 for a [total increase of 66.7 percent](#) from 2021 to 2022

Third Round Course Statistics

- Scoring Average (Total - Par 71): 68.662 [-2.388]
- Scoring Average (Front Nine - Par 35): 33.986 [-1.014]
- Scoring Average (Back Nine - Par 36): 34.676 [-1.324]
- Toughest Hole: No. 18, Par 4, 491 yards – 4.230 [+0.230]
- Easiest Hole: No. 5, Par 5, 531 yards – 4.514 [-0.486]