



**First-Round Transcripts | Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance  
Thursday, September 1, 2022**

**Michael Gligic (-8, Solo Leader)**

City Plays From: Kitchener, Ontario, Canada | Turned Pro: 2008

Exempt Status: Nos. 126 - 200 FedExCup Eligibility Points List

*On his round...*

"It felt pretty easy there for a while, I was just hitting fairways and greens and giving myself a lot of good looks. I had a little bump there coming in on No. 6 and left myself a really long birdie putt and, unfortunately, three-putted. Besides that, I hit a lot of really good wedges and drove it in the fairway and with the ball in hand it made it a little easier and was able to hit a few in there close."

*On the momentum from last week...*

"I was thinking about that today and how I feel a lot more free this time around out here compared to last year. Last year was pretty stressful and butt clenching, so to be able to walk around here and have nothing to lose, obviously I want to play well and improve my number, but it does make it a lot easier. Hopefully I can keep it going."

*On his 2021-22 PGA TOUR season...*

"I got off to a poor start last year and was behind the 8 ball all year, then I missed a couple events when my daughter was born. Around the April, May timeline I started to play really well and my game has been rolling the past few months and I'm starting to see some results, so hopefully it continues and we can carry it on into this fall."

*On the course...*

"[Victoria National] is great. It's a test for everyone, you can't fake it around here. You have to be aggressive and hit it where you're looking and fortunately today I was able to do that. Three more."

*On his favorite shot from today...*

"My wedge shots that I hit. Last week, although I played really well, my wedges were a little off. I just wasn't close to hitting a lot of my numbers and today I had a few tap-ins with wedges and a few really good looks inside 10 feet and fortunately made a few."

*On if it took him some time to get comfortable on the PGA TOUR...*

"I don't think I was [comfortable]. I think every level that I've gone up it has taken me a little bit to get comfortable. I have a lot of respect for the [Collin] Morikawa's and [Viktor] Hovland's of the world that can jump out of college and win on the PGA TOUR because you have to have the mindset for that. I wouldn't say I was weak mentally, but you're playing for your family, you're playing for your coaches and whole team. There's a lot that goes into it and when you work as hard as we all do, if you start to not see results, you can get down pretty easy. I've started to feel comfortable over the last year and hopefully it continues."

*On his game plan this week...*

"Just go an win, that's it. A good finish might help maybe a few spots, but at the end of the day the No. 1 spot is still up for grabs and I know a win is what it will take to get it done. There's nothing to lose, let's just try to go win and give it our all."



*On dad advice from other professionals...*

"Some of the guys that I'm close with on TOUR, I know Adam Long, his son is two or three now, I should probably know this but you pick up some pointers from everyone and fortunately we're close with the Conner's and their daughter was born 10 days after ours, so we've gone through the whole process together and it's been easier for the wives, too."

*On his prospective now being a dad...*

"I think before (my daughter) I had too much pressure on myself. It was kind of golf, golf, golf, but I've just come to realize there's more outside of golf. I'm looking forward to having the afternoon off. We're probably going to hang out with the dog and our daughter then come back tomorrow and do it again."

*On what it means for him to be a PGA TOUR player...*

"It's why I've been a pro for I don't even know how long now, 12 or 13 years. I've been working towards it for nearly a decade and for it to come true a few years ago has been unbelievable. Once you get out there you realize how good you have it and you keep working harder to make sure no one takes your job."

*On why fans should watch this week...*

"The last time I was here, or two trips ago, Scottie Scheffler was here and now he's No. 1 in the world and just won the Masters. I think that's a pretty good reason."



## **Brent Grant (-6, T2)**

City Plays From: Honolulu, Hawaii | Turned Pro: 2017

Exempt Status: Top 75 from 2022 Regular Season Eligibility Points List

### *On his round...*

"It's a good start. I struggled a little bit from short range with the wedges and stuff like that, but I started game planning a little bit better and setting myself further back and giving myself a lot of pitching wedge, 9-irons, 8-irons and enjoying that yardage this week, which is cool. I struck it beautifully and putted well. It was just a good round. It wasn't like I lit anything on fire or got off to a crazy round, it was just a good solid round."

### *On the course setup...*

"Obviously it's beautiful, all the water and rolling hills, stuff like that. They take really great care of this course. Hopefully we can keep the weather going, that would be great. It seems like all the trouble is where I miss my driver or I can avoid it with an iron or a 3-wood, so it sets up well for me. The sand is really good and the greens roll well, so everything that you would want as a professional golfer at this place is good. I'm just enjoying it and keep it going."

### *On his favorite shot from the day...*

"My favorite shot was on No. 5, I hit it to a foot, which is cool, but the most important shot was I hit it in the hazard on No. 3, chipped out of the hazard and had 270-something [yards], punched a 3-wood up there and had a crazy lie. I hit that to six feet and then made the putt for a five. That was a momentous par, so that was cool, but the shot on No. 5 from 195 [yards] and hitting it to a foot was nice."

### *On if he thought his shot on No. 5 was going to go in...*

"No, not a chance. As soon as I saw it land I thought it was right of the pin, did it look close?"

### *On it lipping out...*

"That's cool. It was 100% a mistake, I was trying to hit it right and didn't think it was going to draw that much. I was trying to hit it 10-15 feet right and hold it there, but the wind was a little more out of the right than we thought. It started right where I was looking then drew back to the hole, it's one of those where if it draws, great, and if not, then you have a perfect uphill put. I just happened to hit it to a foot, so I made it a little bit easier."

### *On if his plan for the week was different compared to last year...*

"Absolutely. Last year I struggled so bad, similar to this morning with my wedges. The turf is really soft out here and you have to be so precise and if you're a little off then you will hit it half the distance that you're looking, and that's never good. Once I figured that out, I think I hit two shots short of where I was looking and at that moment I said 'I'm laying back, I'm not messing with any short shots.' I did and I obviously took care of the par-3s today and made pars where I needed to. I 100% was laying up and that's my least favorite thing to do, but you got to do what you got to do."



*On if he's had to coach himself on dialing it back...*

"It's funny because I'm not hitting it as far as I used to. I think just the last couple of years of constantly playing has allowed me to tone things down and I'm hitting it much, much better. I'm not hitting it as far so I'm not looking at the bunker at 320 [yards] want to cover it. I'm going to hit it short right of it, or

short left of it, whatever gives me the best number in. Especially at a place like this where the greens are so firm and so fast, you have to have a good number otherwise you're just not going to stop the ball."

*On if he enjoyed hitting it far growing up and the adjustment to now...*

"I was always a short, scrawny kid... still am. I didn't hit it very far until around college, around 19-20 [years old]. In 2020 I lead the distance out here which was cool but it didn't gain me anything. It's part of the maturing process and it's something that my coach and my team are constantly telling me. It's just a matter of time before all this experience and all these things kind of click and I can get myself out of the way, which is exactly what you need to do to put yourself in position."

*On his position for The Finals...*

"I'm normally a man of many words, but I have to go out and take it. Period. End of story."

*On if he feels any sense of urgency this week...*

"I told my caddie this week that I want to get off this Tour, as much as I love you guys, I really do, but I belong on the PGA TOUR. With the work that I've put in and all those things. There are so many different philosophies and motivational things that you could endlessly say or write a book about, but it's all a waste of time because at the end of the day you have to go out and execute. The only way you're going to be able to put yourself into position to do that is if you allow it to happen and just go out and take it."

*On the beauty of fighting for your spot...*

"You can ask any of these guys out here, they obviously want to get off on a good start and be on the PGA TOUR and have a great career and all these other things, but if that's not the way it's supposed to be, then so be it, that's completely out of my control. I hit some bad shots today and normally I would, if I was in a different position, I would be more upset about it, but I knew what I needed to do to make birdies out here and hopefully we can keep doing it and put me in a good position come Sunday afternoon."

*On why fans should watch this week...*

"It's tough to say because everyone watches golf for a different reason, but for me personally, and I know my team, we're going to be out here in full force. We're going to be making birdies and fist pumping and doing the whole nine. I know there's other guys that are doing that too. If you want to see what the future of golf looks like, you should come and watch this Tour."