



**Second-Round Transcripts | Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance
Friday, September 2, 2022**

Michael Gligic (-14, Outright Leader)

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

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

On his round...

"Another good day with just lots of fairways and greens. I'm giving myself good looks and kept the ball in play, out here it's pretty treacherous if you get wayward. I've been fortunate to hit good quality shots and to see some putts go in."

On his bogey at No. 2...

"I hit it in the fairway bunker again. It's kind of an awkward tee shot and it might have been the wrong club or the wrong line, or just a badly executed shot. I hit it over the green and then didn't get it up and down. It didn't really bother me, I knew I was still playing good and fortunately made a few birdies coming in."

On holding the lead for a second consecutive day...

"It feels good. Everyone wants to be in this position going into the week and here we are, hopefully we can make the best of it."

On if any shots stood out to him today...

"There was a few. Out here, every shot that is in the fairway or around the green is pretty good. Probably my tee shot on No. 16, the par-3, pretty tough shot. I hit a good one in there and then made the putt, that was probably my best [hole]."

On how important the No. 1 spot is...

"I think it's huge not being subject to the reshuffle, that's pretty important to be on top of the category all year. Like I said yesterday, I have nothing to lose, just going out and trying to win and hopefully we can play well this weekend."

On the advantage of already locking up his TOUR card...

"I was in those shoes last year and it's tough. You have to step up and hit a lot of good quality shots and it's pretty penal if you don't. Being in a spot like I am, on the list, there's nothing really to lose and only a bit to gain, so let's go out and try to win the thing."



Byeong Hun An (-12, T2)

City Plays From: South Korea | Turned Pro: 2011 | College: University of California-Berkeley (one season)
Exempt Status: Tournament Winner (thru 2022)

On his round...

"You can tell by the score that I played decent yesterday and played pretty good today. The greens are a little softer than yesterday, so I think that's why I was able to shoot a little bit lower. Overall, my long game is solid. I hit a lot of fairways. That was my goal this week, to hit a lot of greens and fairways. It gets trickier around the greens here, rough is thick and long, so I handled it pretty good the last two days. I'm quite happy with where I am right now."

On the course setup...

"This is one of the tougher golf courses that we play all year. The rough is long and firm greens, this morning wasn't as firm but yesterday afternoon they got pretty firm. I'm sure this afternoon they'll get firm too. This is a good test for the PGA TOUR."

On securing his PGA TOUR card early in the season...

"It's locked but you still want to finish as high as you can. You see the leaderboard every week. These last three weeks all the graduates have been playing pretty well. I feel like I've played pretty well the last two weeks, I finished 20th then 14th or whatever and then I think I moved down one spot. That tells you how tough it is. I've been playing pretty well these last couple of weeks and I wouldn't say I have high hopes, but I try to tell myself in the mornings that, 'It's going to be a good day,' every day and it seems to be working. I just need to keep doing that for two more days."

On a reflection of his season...

"It was a fast start, I think it was my third event that I won. I played pretty decent in a few events here and there and struggled a little bit in the middle of the season. I had a wrist injury but I was still playing decent golf. I think I missed the cut by one for a few weeks in a row. It was not a good spell but I secured my [PGA TOUR] card for the next year, so that kind of helps. I wasn't in panic mode because I already passed the threshold. I started playing a lot better these last couple of weeks, with some missed cuts here and there but overall I feel like my long game has been great and my putting has been great. I just need to put everything all together with a bit of luck and I'll play well again. The last couple of weeks I definitely have felt like my game is trending. I can feel it on the range as well as this week showing it. I've been hitting it great, driving it great and putting decent so I'm looking forward to the weekend."

On how his wrist feels now...

"It's a lot better, I'd say one out of 10 on the pain, but during the season it was at a six or seven and I had to pull out of one of the events. I don't know what happened. In Savannah it was pretty bad and then it got a little better. I took an MRI and it's nothing urgent [the doctors] said, just the tendons are moving around and it will hurt. All I could do was not play golf for two to three weeks, and I said, 'That's not going to happen.' I just kept playing and then it felt a lot better, so I'm getting treatments on it when I have off weeks and I think that helped."



On what he's learned about himself this season...

"I learned that I can still hit it pretty far. We have a lot of young guys out here that can hit it pretty far and then my driving distance this year has been pretty good. I think I was top 10 or top five, but that tells you that I've been working hard in the offseason, on and off the golf course, and I think that shows the work that I did in the off season, I'm quite happy with it. Then getting through these players is a big achievement, finishing top 25 and giving me confidence going into the new season in two weeks."

On the level of competition on Korn Ferry Tour...

"Last year I struggled a little bit so I finished outside of the 150 [in the FedExCup Standings], but the competition is always there. Yes, I came from the PGA TOUR then to here, but I see a lot of young guys and, like I said, guys who just graduated college or came from college. There are a lot of young guys that can hit it far and play decent golf, so the competition is pretty good. Besides a few missed cuts this year I felt like I played decent golf, but when you don't play well you will never make the cut. I think the competition is there, you get through and see the list of players the last couple of years and they've been doing pretty well, so hopefully can see a few of the new Scottie Schefflers and we'll see what happens. The competition is definitely there, but it's hard to compare because we don't play the same week or golf courses but you have to play good golf to finish top 10, that's for sure."

On expecting a daughter next year...

"We're expecting a daughter next March, so it's the early stages but I'm very excited to have a daughter in the family. I already have a son and we wished we could have a daughter as well. One of each would be great. We're expecting one in March, which is great news for us."

On being a girl dad...

"I shouldn't have but I think I'm going to have a double standard to my son and my daughter, you know? Girl dad is different than a boy dad. I'm ready for the challenge. Just like this year I was ready for the challenge and I did pretty good so I'm ready for another challenge next year. I'm all prepared... I think."



Will Gordon (-12, T2)

City Plays From: Davidson, North Carolina | Turned Pro: 2019 | College: Vanderbilt University
Exempt Status: Tournament Winner (thru 2022)

On four consecutive birdies at Nos. 15-18 to close the round...

“Started with the par 5 (No. 15) there, I hit my 4-wood in the bunker and walked up and hit a good wedge to about 8 or 9 feet, made a good putt. Made about a 25-footer on the next hole, made one from off the green the next hole, and hit two really, really good shots on No. 18 and made a 7-footer that probably broke 2 feet. It was a great way to finish, and I finished strong the last two days. We’ve gotten off to a little bit of sloppy starts the last couple days. I’ve used that energy it’s given me to focus and play a little bit better off the back.”

On what he hit off the tee and into the green on No. 18...

“I hit a 4-wood and then a 9-iron.”

On when he put the 4-wood in his bag...

“It’s a usual thing for me. I switched a couple years ago from a 3-wood to a 4-wood just because it’s got a little bit more loft for me. It’s a little bit more versatile. Through college, I always struggled with a gap in my bag from a 3-wood to a 4-iron and I messed around with different clubs, but Callaway did a really good job with a 2-iron this year and it’s helped me add a lot, so I have a longer 4-iron, 2-iron and, now, a 4-wood.”

On how aware he is of the implications of finishing No. 1 on The Finals 25...

“Very aware. You have to take it head on. That’s what I’ve learned throughout this process after I turned pro. In college, you can kind of insulate yourself from scores because you’re out there by yourself and there’s no leaderboards, no one asks you any questions. Out here, you can’t avoid it.”

On when he started splitting time between Sea Island and Charlotte...

“I’ve always grown up going to Sea Island. I moved there full-time last October. I grew up in Davidson, just north of Charlotte. I worked with some instructors down there over the years. We always had SECs down there for college and Jones Cup. I always ended up going down there two or three times a year, so it was a pretty easy move.”

On what his usual group is when he goes back to Charlotte...

“In Charlotte I play a bunch with David Kocher and Trevor Cone. We were really fortunate we had a ton of guys who played high-level Division I golf and played professionally. It’s pretty crazy, Ben Griffin, playing with him the last two days, we’ve known each other since we were eight years old.”

On staying in the moment this week...

“It loops in with what I’ve been trying to do the whole year, which is work to stay in the moment every time I play golf, and if I have thoughts about the future, using it as motivation to do well in the present. In the past, I’ve tried to ignore my thoughts about the future or pressure, whatever you want to call it, and it’s honestly added more pressure.”



Kiradech Aphibarnrat (-12, T2)

Plays From: Thailand | Turned Pro: 2008

Exempt Status: Nos. 126-200 from 2021-22 FedExCup Eligibility Points List

On his round...

"I would say I got out to a good start, made birdie on the first hole and (shot) 5-under on the front. The last few months my ball striking is much better, and the last two weeks of the Korn Ferry Tour Finals my putts just didn't drop as much as I wanted to. The first two days seem to be much better."

On what changed the last two weeks...

"I don't know. I just try to enjoy the game as much as I can. The first two weeks I forced myself a lot to try to be... because I'm confident with the way I'm striking the ball, hit everything solid, I was trying too hard, to be honest. The first two rounds (this week) I'm just enjoying the game more, and anything that happens, let it happen."

On the gameplan for the weekend...

"I will try to do the same thing. The goal for me this week, I think I have to be top six, top seven, or top five, I don't know. I don't want to focus on that. Even if I can't get the job done, I could go back and play DP World Tour or the Korn Ferry Tour. I've been playing poorly the last few years, from top 30 in the world to 300-something. Korn Ferry Tour might be a tour to pick up the confidence."

On his career and how it's led him to this point...

"I did around the world in Asia, Europe, played many tours in Japan as well, with the goal to be a part of the PGA TOUR. Missed my TOUR card and had to come to the Korn Ferry Tour Finals, but I'm always looking forward and try to do my best to get up there. I've been struggling for quite a while. For me, my back is against the wall, so I don't have anything to lose anymore. The tough and difficult thing for me is to be the only Thai player on TOUR. I don't have any Thai friends, so we keep speaking English, not in my language. To be honest, I feel a little bit lonely and homesick sometimes. My family is not here. Lucky I got my Thai caddie the last three weeks so I can communicate in Thai and feel a little more comfortable. I'm looking forward to seeing some new generations come over and play on the Korn Ferry Tour. One day, I hope to have some friends on tour."

On what keeps him motivated...

"Coming from Thailand, a little country in Asia, to be part of the PGA TOUR is an honor. I think every kid in Asian, when you start playing golf... you saw all the great players in the world playing on the PGA TOUR. You want to be a part of it. I saw Tiger (Woods) play in 1999, dominating events. I dreamt one day to be part of the PGA TOUR. About 12, 13 years later, I made my dream come true. But this road is always difficult. You have to live a life where you stay on the biggest tour in the world, the top tour, and great players. There is a lot of competition, so you can't just stay still. You have to keep working and improving every single day. For me, I'm 33, 34 years old. Outside of golf, I'm a young guy. On the golf course, I'm getting old. It's a totally different golf game now. It's all power games. I'm just trying to keep my game solid and looking forward to work better and better every day."

On the competition this week...

"I feel a little surprised with the way the Korn Ferry Tour players are playing, because the standard is not different from the PGA TOUR. All the players in the field are strong. Improving the standard of the Tour was good, and I see a lot of improvement of the players."



On his top-15 at Wyndham Championship to get into the Finals...

“It was big. To be honest, I had already given up on living in the states. It felt too difficult for me. Twenty-two hour flight home, no family around. I used American caddie for years and he did a great job, and we had to split because I need a Thai guy on the bag, I need to speak some Thai, and I’m not enjoying my work at all the last year. When you’re playing good by yourself, you’re not celebrating with anyone. When you’re playing bad, staying with yourself again, you just can’t explain anything to anyone. It’s not a good time for me the whole year. When I got him at Rocket Mortgage (Classic) and feel I’m enjoying playing more golf, playing good at Wyndham, I still can say I’ve played great golf the last few weeks even though I finished 55th (in Boise) and missed the cut last week, I’m still striking the ball really solid.”