

## First-Round Notes – Thursday, September 1, 2022

**Course Setup:** Victoria National Golf Club (Par 72 / 7,265 yards)

**Media Contacts:** : Zach Dirlam, 517-262-5109, [ZachDirlam@pgatourhq.com](mailto:ZachDirlam@pgatourhq.com); Hagan Parkman, 817-983-3251, [HaganParkman@pgatourhq.com](mailto:HaganParkman@pgatourhq.com);

### Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Michael Gligic	64 (-8)
T2	Brent Grant	66 (-6)
	Justin Suh	66 (-6)
	Carl Yuan	66 (-6)
	Tano Goya	66 (-6)
	Eric Cole	66 (-6)
	Will Gordon	66 (-6)

### Quick Links

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

### Michael Gligic stands atop bunched leaderboard at Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance

**NEWBURGH, Indiana** – Canadian Michael Gligic posted an 8-under 64 Thursday morning at Victoria National Golf Club, but only finished the day with a two-stroke lead over six players at 6-under par and a three-stroke lead over another six players at 5-under par after the first round of the Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance.

Facing one of the most demanding courses on the Korn Ferry Tour schedule, Gligic birdied four of the final six holes of the back nine (his front nine), making threes at the par-4 13th, 17th and 18th, and a four at the par-5 15th. Gligic made a third consecutive birdie at the par-4 first, and followed it with two more at the par-5 third and par-4 fourth. The only bogey on Gligic’s card came at the par-4 sixth, but he rebounded with back-to-back birdies at the par-4 eighth and par-5 ninth for his 64.

“It felt pretty easy there for a while,” Gligic said. “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.”

Gligic turned professional in 2008 and played predominantly on PGA TOUR Canada, winning in 2012 and continuing to play on his home country’s circuit until 2019, when he earned Korn Ferry Tour membership. In his first full season on the Korn Ferry Tour in 2019, Gligic won The Panama Championship and ended the regular season as a member of The 25 for his first PGA TOUR card.

Gligic finished outside the FedExCup Playoffs each of the last three seasons on the PGA TOUR. The 32-year-old Canadian was No. 135 on the 2021-22 FedExCup Eligibility Points List, sending him to Korn Ferry Tour Finals for a second consecutive year. Last year, Gligic closed the three-event Finals with back-to-back top-20s, including a T20 at the Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance, to secure a place in The Finals 25.

"I got off to a poor start last year (fall 2021) and was behind the 8-ball all year," Gligic said. "Then I missed a couple events when my daughter was born. Around April, (or) May, I started to play really well and my game has been rolling the past few months. I'm starting to see some results, so hopefully it continues and we can carry it on into this fall.

"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. We're probably going to hang out with the dog and our daughter then come back tomorrow and do it again."

Gligic finished solo-fourth at last week's Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship, ensuring himself a spot in The Finals 25 for a second consecutive year.

"I was thinking about that today and how I feel a lot more free this time around out here compared to last year," Gligic said. "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."

Second-round tee times will from 6:50 a.m. through 2:06 p.m. local time off the first and 10th tees.

#### First-Round Notes

- **Carl Yuan** (T2 / -6) projects to pass **Paul Haley II** (T26 / -3) for the No. 1 spot in the season-long points race, which awards fully exempt status for the 2022-23 PGA TOUR season, an exemption into the 2023 PLAYERS Championship and, for the first time in history, an exemption into the 2023 U.S. Open
- Making his 42nd career Korn Ferry Tour start, **Michael Gligic** (1st / -8) holds his first 18-hole lead in a Korn Ferry Tour event; his previous career-high standing through 18 holes in a Korn Ferry Tour event was T2 at the 2017 AdventHealth Championship
- This season on the PGA TOUR, Gligic's highest 18-hole position was solo-second at the John Deere Classic, where he eventually finished T10 for his only top-10 of the season
- Gligic led the field with nine birdies in the first round
- **Tano Goya** (T2 / -6) holds his highest 18-hole position on the Korn Ferry Tour; previously best 18-hole position being T7 at the season opener The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic, eventually finishing T19
- Three of the six players sitting T2 are 2022 champions: **Brent Grant** (T2 / -6), Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation; **Carl Yuan** (T2 / -6), Chitimacha Louisiana Open presented by MISTRAS; and **Will Gordon** (T2 / -6), Albertson Boise Open presented by Chevron
- Two players carded bogey-free rounds: **Tom Whitney** (T8 / -5) and **Vaughn Taylor** (T8 / -5)
- The Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance is the third and final tournament of the three-event Korn Ferry Tour Finals, in addition to being the 26th and final event of the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour season

- The Finals 25 will be determined following the conclusion of Sunday's final round, with PGA TOUR cards being awarded to each member of The Finals 25
- This week's purse is \$1,000,000, with \$180,000 going to the champion; the champion will also receive 1,000 Korn Ferry Tour points
  - Next season's Korn Ferry Tour Finals events [will feature minimum purses](#) of \$1,500,000

#### **First-Round Course Statistics**

- Scoring Average (Total - Par 72): 71.543 [-0.457]
- Scoring Average (Front Nine): 35.565 [-0.435]
- Scoring Average (Back Nine): 35.978 [-0.022]
- Toughest Hole: No. 14, Par 4, 471 yards – 4.312 [+0.312]
- Easiest Hole: No. 9, Par 5, 558 yards – 4.536 [-0.464]