

First-Round Notes – Thursday, June 23, 2022

Course Setup: Falmouth Country Club (Par 71 / 7,299 yards)

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Leaderboard

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Patrick Cover	64 (-7)
T2	John VanDerLaan	65 (-6)
	Quade Cummins	65 (-6)
T4	David Kocher	66 (-5)
	Jacob Bergeron	66 (-5)

Quick Links

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

Patrick Cover takes 18-hole lead at Live and Work in Maine Open

FALMOUTH, Maine – Following a new career-low round of 64, Patrick Cover sits alone atop the leaderboard as the 18-hole leader at the Live and Work in Maine Open. It marks the first lead of any kind for Cover, a Korn Ferry Tour rookie making his 16th start of the season.

Cover played bogey-free golf for the first nine holes at Falmouth Country Club, making the turn at 3-under par with birdies at Nos. 1, 6 and 7. The 26-year-old logged two bogeys at the par-4 10th and par-5 14th, but countered with birdies on Nos. 12 and 13. Cover climbed to the top of the leaderboard late the round as he played final three holes at 4-under par, recording a birdie-eagle-birdie finish.

“I’ve been putting some good finishes together and obviously to go 4-under on the last three was a really nice bonus,” Cover said. “I hit it close on No. 16, still had to make a good putt. Then I hit a really good shot on No. 17, just to the fringe. I probably had a 10-footer from the fringe, then I made a nice putt. I didn’t think it was going in on the last hole, but I hit it really soft and it caught a lot of break at the end and got in the side door.”

Cover’s previous career-high standing at a Korn Ferry Tour event was T4 following the first round at the BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX two weeks ago. Cover opened with a then-career-low 7-under 65 but played the final three rounds at just 2-under and finished T44. Cover, who placed T14 at Final Stage of the 2021 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament, has struggled to find consistency this year, missing 11 cuts in 15 starts. The University of North Carolina-Wilmington alum made a couple changes recently that he says have helped.

“I got a new putter a couple of weeks ago and that’s seemed to totally revamp my putting which is really nice,” Cover said. “I would consider myself a good putter but I really struggled in the beginning of the

year. I've been trying to work on my mentality and attitude a lot too. It's easy to get down out here. I had a lot of rough tournaments in a row and it's easy to get down on yourself, but I just felt confident this week. I did a lot of good things last week despite a missed cut. I made a lot of birdies, so I felt good about my game. I just felt confident today."

Prior to turning professional, Cover played four seasons at UNC-Wilmington from 2014 through 2018, where he was a three-time all-conference selection and won three individual titles. In his first season as a professional in 2019, Cover played PGA TOUR China events. Cover played PGA TOUR Canada last year.

Despite the rocky start this season, Cover has learned from the experiences and drew back to those Thursday, now sitting as the outright leader entering the second round.

"It's easy to get down on yourself when you're not playing well but you're not as far away as you think you are," said Cover. "It's been right there, it's just been a couple rough tournaments. When you don't play well on the front nine or the first 15 holes, the weeks can get pretty short. So it's really nice to start off the tournament strong."

Second-round tee times will from 6:30 a.m. through 1:46 p.m. local time off the first and 10th tees.

First-Round Notes

- Five players carded bogey-free rounds Thursday, including **John VanDerLaan** (T2 / -6) and **Jacob Bergeron** (T4 / -5)
 - **VanDerLaan** sits inside the top three after 18 holes played for the first time of his Korn Ferry Tour career; he carded two birdies (Nos. 7, 10) and two eagles (Nos. 6, 17) in the first round
 - **Bergeron** is making his ninth career start on the Korn Ferry Tour; it marks the second-consecutive week that Bergeron sits T4 following the first round after being in the same position last week at the Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics
- **Quade Cummins** (T2 / -6) carded seven total birdies (six birdies, one eagle) in the first round, tied for the second most by any player in the field; it marks the fourth time this season that Cummins is inside the top-10 following 18 holes played
 - T1 at Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation (finished T27)
 - T6 at AdventHealth Championship (finished T47)
 - T8 at The Panama Championship (finished T15)
- **David Kocher** (T4 / -5) played the final seven holes at 5-under par, birdying Nos. 12, 13, 15, 16 and 18; Kocher is making his 61st career Korn Ferry Tour start this week and in search of his first top-10 finish of the year
- **Cole Anderson** (T6 / -4), a native of Camden, Maine, is playing as a sponsor exemption this week and carded six birdies and two bogeys Thursday
 - Currently a redshirt sophomore at Florida State University, Anderson was a three-time Maine Class A high school champion, 2019 Maine State Golf Association Player of the Year and won the 100th Maine Amateur in 2019
- **Caleb Manuel** (T30 / -1), another sponsor exemption this week, hails from Topsham, Maine and graduated from Mt. Ararat High School; he recently completed his sophomore season at University of Connecticut and played at last week's U.S. Open in Brookline, Massachusetts; he was the 2020 and 2021 Maine State Golf Association Player of the Year
- The Live and Work in Maine Open is the 18th 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