

*2022 The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club
Round 1 – Sunday, January 23, 2022*

Dawson Armstrong

City Plays From: Brentwood, Tennessee | Turned Pro: 2018 | College: Lipscomb University

Exempt Status: Top 75 in 2020-21 Regular Season Standings (thru 2022)

On what was working today after a 7-under 65, and what the experience at the club has been like...

“Being here at The Abaco Club is absolutely incredible. The experience here is not just about the golf, but the overall enjoyment of being in such an enjoyable environment. There is everything you need here and more. It takes your mind off golf and gives you a lot of perspective.

“I didn’t hit it as great as someone would think when it comes to striking the ball, or hitting it in positions I wanted to. I just kept it in front of me really well and rolled the rock amazingly. After the first hole of the day, flaring a 5-iron short of the green, having a 10- or 12-footer for par to start the day and making that, it set the tone pretty early. I was glad I was able to get off to a fairly hot start with the putter.”

On whether there were some long birdie makes today...

“A few. Made 15- or 20-footer on No. 12. Made a 35- or 40-footer on No. 2. Good one on No. 4 from off the green. I didn’t miss any putts I should have made. Everything you’re supposed to do, do it. Keep the ball in front of you, don’t short side yourself a significant amount, and get it on the green as quickly as possible and let the putter do its magic.”

On his second full season on the Korn Ferry Tour and what he learned being in contention as a rookie last season...

“Last year, it wasn’t as much the mental side of things. I just couldn’t hit the ball well. It’s really hard to play a lot of good golf when you’re in the rough all day, or worse. Putting for par isn’t fun. Coming out here this week, as well as last week, I’ve done a good job of hitting fairways, just keeping the ball in front of me. I feel like I’m working on the right things now. I’m able to hit the ball and control it how I want to. It’s not as much a mental learning process for me the last year as much as a physical process, learning how to get my game to a manageable state and letting the putter work its magic.”

On skipping the 2018 NCAA Regionals to play a Korn Ferry Tour event...

“I thought about that two or three nights ago, when Turk (Pettit) was being interviewed at the pro-am party. I skipped to get a sponsor exemption for Nashville’s tournament at Nashville Golf and Athletic Club. It was the first tournament, professionally, I played in. If my team had made it, I definitely would have played. Since it was just me and I felt I represented Lipscomb in a fairly good manner, I was able to go out with my head held high.”

On winning the 2015 Western Amateur and where it ranks in his career achievements...

“It feels like it was a lifetime ago. I say that, and I’m only 26 years old. That’s one of the best moments I’ve had in my golf career. My dad on the bag, going off on a walk-off make, looking at some of the guys I

played against... when you're in the moment, you don't appreciate some of the things you're doing. When you look back, you start to have a different perspective. I'm really grateful for that."

On the experience of being in Abaco...

"Every single day I've been in the water at some point. This fits my personality really well. I don't take things way too seriously – to a fault. This is a perfect place for me to kick back, not have as much of a stressful week, and just go out there and enjoy it. This is one of the greatest places in the world."

Corey Shaun

City Plays From: Encinitas, California | Turned Pro: 2018 | College: UCLA

Exempt Status: Finishers 2-3 on 2021 Forme Tour / 2020-21 PGA TOUR Latinoamérica Order of Merit (thru 2022)

On the highlights of today's round...

"Solid all around today. I hit it pretty well, made some putts, didn't make too many mistakes. Only blemish was a bogey on my last hole. The storm ran in for five minutes, and I just got unlucky. Not my best shot. The wind kind of took it. And I couldn't get up and down. Overall, it's hard to be disappointed. I played really well."

On if he surprised himself leading twice in his first two starts...

"A little bit. I'm just trying to play the golf course and see what kind of scores I can shoot. I know what my game usually feels like when I play well, or don't play well. I try to do my own thing and, wherever it ends up, it's cool. It seems like my good golf has been pretty good relative to a lot of the field as well. I'm pretty happy about that."

On if this is one of the more unique places he's been to...

"Both these weeks have been pretty unreal. The views, the sights, the different types of holes you're going to see, they're all really cool. Super enjoyable."

On how anxious he was to get started again after a disappointing final round in Exuma...

"I definitely felt like I wanted to keep playing, get another round in, play a different golf course, and just restart a bit. Even though I had a good week last week, I wish the last day went a little differently. Still can't complain too much. First week on the Korn Ferry Tour, I finished T3. Really happy about that, but I'd love to keep the good mojo going."

Michael Visacki

City Plays From: Sarasota, Florida | Turned Pro: 2014 | College: University of Central Florida
Exempt Status: Additional Qualifying Tournament Finishers (thru 2022)

On what the last several days have been like...

"A little bit of a whirlwind, honestly. From being up to first alternate, coming down (to Exuma) with 12 hours to spare, spending all day not getting in, then losing the passport, that was not fun. I was glad to be able to get back home. Then got the call late Wednesday night, (asking) if I wanted to come back. It's been nice."

On whether there was any hesitation on coming back...

"It was a little easier coming down this time, because we knew what to do. Finding places to stay was a little easier this time."

On what he hopes to achieve the first four international events...

"Just play the best I can. Playing good takes care of itself out here."

On whether he's laughed about the passport situation and everything that's transpired...

"It was crazy. I'd never been outside the country until last week. I was shocked (the passport) came within four weeks. It said, normally, between five and seven. I'm just glad I got it."

On finishing birdie-birdie in the first round...

"Lunch and dinner are going to taste a lot better than finishing at 2-over. Getting back to even par, I'll hold my head up high on that and go shoot a low one tomorrow."

On whether he forgot an umbrella...

"Yes. I asked the caddie this morning, 'What's the forecast?' He said, 'Nothing.' Then the last hole, just drenched in rain. But, hey, it worked out. Made a 15-footer for birdie, so I'll take it. Maybe it should be raining all the time."