

*2022 The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay
Round 2 – Monday, January 17, 2022*

Chris Baker

City Plays From: Jacksonville Beach, Florida | Turned Pro: 2008 | College: Iowa State University
Exempt Status: Qualifying Tournament Finishers 11-40 and Ties (thru 2022)

On the wind not blowing today...

"The weather was nice. It was a great day. Been here four years now and this is one of the few rounds the wind hasn't been blowing 20 miles per hour, at least. It was fun out there, and nice to take advantage of it a little bit. Pleased with the day."

On what was working so well today...

"Tee to green, hit it great. I actually showed up on the 18th and just punted it down there. Hit it great, hit it well the first two rounds, swinging good, body is healthy, and I'm just playing solid golf."

On the typical wind exposing poorly-struck shots here...

"Any sort of lack of confidence on any tee shot out there, you can find yourself hitting another one, or dropping a ball in a hazard. It's one of those courses where you want to be sharp. It's a difficult golf course, and a good layout."

On the resort...

"It's a great way to start the season. My first year was 2017, and I can even see in five years time the island has grown and gotten better. The Sandals Resort is a very cool place to start the season."

Harry Hall

City Plays From: Cornwall, England | Turned Pro: 2019 | College: University of Nevada-Las Vegas
Korn Ferry Tour Wins (1): 2021 Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics

On the highlights of his round and how he feels about his position...

“Happy to shoot 3-under (par) today and be 7-under (par) total. It looks like I’m still in the lead after two days. Looking forward to the weekend.”

On what he learned from closing out Wichita...

“Just being patient and knowing out here, on this course, you’ve got to keep hitting greens and not making mistakes. If I can keep hitting greens and fairways over the weekend, I should have a good chance.”

On how his outlook on the season might be different this year having full status compared to 2020...

“I’m excited about this year because I’ll have the same amount of starts as everybody else. Over the two-year season, I didn’t play as many tournaments. I think I played 10 or 11 less than everybody else. I don’t have to be behind this year, I can pick my schedule, and this is kind of my first season as a pro I can play in every event. I haven’t really thought about the year, to be honest, other than playing well this week, getting some good rest tonight, and teeing it up tomorrow.”

On the resort and course...

“This island is fantastic. This course is a real good test of golf off the tee. You’ve got to be super straight. The greens are fantastic. They’re rolling good and true. I’ll definitely want to come back again.”

On whether he benefits from growing up playing in windy conditions...

“I grew up in Cornwall, and it’s windy. It’s always blowing 20 miles per hour. (Las) Vegas gets windy, too. I’m used to playing in the wind. I’ve been able to flight the shots and hit drivers.”

On his home club being known as the home of “Long” Jim Barnes, Philip Rowe, and, now, Harry Hall...

“When you walk in the West Cornwall Golf Club, you’ve got all the memorabilia on the wall. Jim Barnes is in there. Phil Rowe, when I was growing up, was the guy who was doing great things and did great things as an amateur. I grew up with his Walker Cup bag in the clubhouse, and his resume from when he was playing golf from 15 to 20 as an amateur, going from England to Stanford. I tried to tick everything off his resume that he achieved. That was my goal growing up and, luckily, he helped me come to America and play. Jim Barnes, hopefully I can reach what he achieved, winning three majors. I’d love to get West Cornwall the green jacket and put a Ryder Cup bag in the clubhouse along with my Walker Cup one.”

Evan Harmeling

City Plays From: Atlantic Beach, Florida | Turned Pro: 2012 | College: Princeton University
Korn Ferry Tour Wins (1): 2020 Club Car Championship at The Landings Club

On how he's feeling after the round...

"It's nice to play well like I did yesterday, and it's fun to feel a little bit of the heat after you have a good round. First tournament of the year, everyone is coming up saying, 'Good playing!' It's easy to get ahead of yourself in that situation. I thought it was a good round. Some things didn't really go my way. Didn't really think a couple decisions through. But I hung in there mentally."

On his squash game...

"I haven't played squash in like 10 years. I played in high school. My crown achievement was my one varsity match – my high school team was pretty good, and I was on JV – I won it, and got demoted after that."

On whether anything he learned from squash carries over to golf...

"I like getting into that mentality against someone. It rarely happens (in golf) when you can play match play against one guy. But, squash, you're in the box and beating the guy right next to you. It's a great competitive sport. I love squash."

On making a hole-in-one in a PGA TOUR Latinoamérica event and giving the car he won away to his caddie...

"We were walking to the tee in the pro-am on Wednesday and there was a car on the tee. I was like, 'I'm going to make an ace here and give you the car.' It started as a joke with this caddie I had a couple years before in the Argentine Open, where he demanded I promise him the car prior to the tournament if I made the ace. I decided to preempt it, tell him I'm going to make the ace and give him the car. I made it on Friday and gave him the car. He caddied for me most of the next year – that was in 2018. He caddied for me in a lot of events in 2019. He's a great guy. He was loving it. He's a gregarious, happy guy. I don't know if he believed I was going to give him the car. That was a cool time. I don't think he took the car. You can take the car or a cash payment. He took the cash."

On if he has played in Ireland or at Bandon Dunes yet...

"No, I haven't. I almost did when we had that tournament at Pumpkin Ridge, but these tournament weeks it's similar to here in The Bahamas when everyone goes, 'Oh, man, that's amazing you're in The Bahamas, what're you going to do?' Well, I'm going to eat, sleep, and go play golf again. I really wanted to go to Bandon that week but didn't do it."

On why The Iliad is his favorite book...

"I remember filling that form out after I'd just finished PGA TOUR Latinoamérica Q School, and I think I wrote it because it was a short name and the first book that came to mind. I don't even think I've read *The Iliad*. I've gone through it a little bit, but haven't read it start to finish. This book I really liked was *With Winning in Mind*, by Lanny Bassham; he's a gold medal rifle shooter, Olympic gold medalist. That book is amazing. It's one I recommend to anyone trying to play golf, or anyone wondering what it takes to be good at golf, thinking about turning pro. I always just say read that book, and then we can talk."

Until you read it, we don't really have anything to talk about. I read that the first time and immediately went back to the beginning of the book and read it a second time. It's that good. I'm a big fan."

On whether he has any new favorite movies, or if they're still Caddyshack and Trading Places...

"We were out there quoting both those movies today on the course. I don't watch movies anymore. I feel like movies have fallen off. I have other things to do now, but when I want to watch a movie, I re-watch an old movie. They don't make them like they used to."

On whether he is still vegetarian...

"No. A lot of my meals are vegetarian, vegan meals. Part-time vegan."

On whether he went vegetarian because of his extensive work at a meat store...

"No. No. The meat shop was about 10 years prior. Initially, my wife – girlfriend at the time – was vegetarian. The same week I made the ace in Argentina, I was like, 'I'll eat vegetarian with you for a week.' Felt amazing. That was my best finish on Latinoamérica at that point. Back nine on Sunday, had the most energy I had all week. That never happened, no matter what I ate. It just didn't happen. I always had a lag. All of a sudden, I ate vegetarian for a week, in Argentina, which is no picnic. Then I started to eat meat again, and she came back for the (Shell) Championship three weeks later, I ate vegetarian with her again and was runner-up. It was hard to ignore. I did it for about a year, almost strictly. There were a couple hiccups."