

## Pre-Tournament Notes – AstarA Chile Classic

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**Dates:** March 30-April 2, 2023

**Where:** Santiago, Chile

**Course:** Prince of Wales Country Club (Par 72 – 6,904 yards)

**Course Designer:** Alexander McDonald (1930)

**Format:** 72-hole stroke play

**Purse:** \$1,000,000 (\$180,000/winner)

**Defending Champion:** Dawie van der Walt (2015)

### Quick Links

- [Tournament Media Site](#) (for tee times, transcripts, media hub access)
- [2023 Korn Ferry Tour Points List](#) (Top 30 earn PGA TOUR cards at end of season)
- [Five Things to Know: 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Season](#)
- [Five Things We Learned from First Four Korn Ferry Tour Events](#)

### News

- [Argentina’s Abel Gallegos Right at Home on Latin America Swing](#)
- [Recovered from Skiing Accident, Sam Saunders Energized to Chase PGA TOUR Return](#)
- [Kevin Dougherty Unleashing Potential Early in 2023](#)
- [Ben Silverman’s Life-Changing Month Inspires Bigger Dreams](#)
- [Chandler Phillips Hits Bullseye with Opening-Week Win](#)
- [The Coody Twins are Ready to Run](#) (from appearance at The Honda Classic)

### Things to Know

- The Korn Ferry Tour makes its return to Santiago, Chile as it continues the 2023 season with the sixth tournament of the 26-event schedule, as well as the fifth and final international event
- This year marks the fifth playing of the AstarA Chile Classic and the first playing of the event since 2015
- This week’s host venue, Prince of Wales Country Club, hosted the first three iterations of the AstarA Chile Classic from 2012-14
- Reigning champion **Dawie van der Walt**, who won the 2015 AstarA Chile Classic contested at Club de Golf Mapocho, is in the field this week
- The other three past champions of the event – Adam Hadwin (2014), Kevin Kisner (2013), Paul Haley II (2012) – are all PGA TOUR members this season, with Hadwin and Kisner combining for five TOUR wins and 17 FedExCup Playoffs appearances across their respective careers
- This week’s field includes 21 players from seven different Latin American countries or territories, highlighted by **Cristobal Del Solar**, the Korn Ferry Tour’s only Chilean member this season:
  - Chile (6) – Del Solar, Felipe Aguilar, Matias Dominguez, Agustin Errazuriz, Hugo León, Gustavo Silva
  - Argentina (9) – **Tommy Cocha, Martin Contini, Julián Etulain, Jorge Fernández Valdés, Abel Gallegos, Fabián Gómez, Nelson Ledesma, Alejandro Tosti, Alan Wagner**
  - Mexico (2) – **Emilio González, José de Jesús Rodríguez**
  - Brazil (1) – **Alexandre Rocha**
  - Colombia (1) – **Camilo Villegas**
  - Guatemala (1) – **José Toledo**
  - Puerto Rico (1) – **Rafael Campos**
- At the conclusion of this week’s event, the Latin American player who accrued the highest points total across the Korn Ferry Tour’s three Latin American events – The Panama Championship, AstarA Golf Championship presented by Mastercard, AstarA Chile Classic – will earn an exemption into the PGA TOUR’s Mexico Open at Vidanta, which will be contested April 27-30

- Among players in the field this week, Chile’s **Cristobal Del Solar** has the highest points total (68.12) and is 4.48 points (roughly a 2-way T62 this week) behind the No. 1 spot
- The top-five players from the 2021-22 PGA TOUR Latinoamérica Totalplay Cup are all exempt into the field for this week’s event:
  - No. 1 **Mitchell Meissner** (United States) [fully exempt for 2023 Korn Ferry Tour season]
  - No. 2 **Cristobal Del Solar** (Chile)
  - No. 3 **Jorge Fernández Valdés** (Argentina)
  - No. 4 **Kevin Velo** (United States)
  - No. 5 **Alejandro Tosti** (Argentina)
- A number of changes to the Korn Ferry Tour [announced this past June](#) will be implemented for the first time this season, with the most notable changes being:
  - **Increase from 25 to 30 PGA TOUR cards** annually awarded via the Korn Ferry Tour Points List
  - Reimagining of the Korn Ferry Tour Finals
    - *Previous Finals System:* Three-event competition for 25 PGA TOUR cards between the top 75 from the Korn Ferry Tour Points List and Nos. 126-200 on the FedExCup standings
    - **2023 and Beyond Finals System:** Final four events of the season where members will compete for increased purses and points (600 points for winning one of the four Finals events, compared to 500 for winning one of the 22 preceding events) to determine the season-long points race, in addition to a progressive reduction in field sizes
      - Albertsons Boise Open presented by Chevron (August 24-27) – 156 players
      - Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation (September 14-17) – 144 players
      - Nationwide Children’s Hospital Championship (September 21-24) – 120 players
      - Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance (October 5-8) – 75 players [no cut]
  - **One season-long Korn Ferry Tour Points List** as opposed to separate points lists for the regular season and Korn Ferry Tour Finals
  - **Purses increasing** to \$1.5 million for the four Korn Ferry Tour Finals events and \$1 million for the 22 preceding events, with the \$28 million season purse representing the highest single-season total in Korn Ferry Tour history

### Field Notes (as of 3/28/23)

- Field includes 30 Korn Ferry Tour winners with 43 total wins, including 2023 Astara Golf Championship winner **Rhein Gibson**, last week’s Club Car Championship winner **David Skinns**, and four winners from the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour season (**Brandon Harkins**, **David Kocher**, **Andrew Kozan**, **T.J. Vogel**)
- Field includes five PGA TOUR winners with nine total wins, led by Colombia’s **Camilo Villegas** with four
- Field includes two players currently inside top 200 of the Official World Golf Ranking: **Yuto Katsuragawa** (No. 155) and **Chan Kim** (No. 197)

### Past Champions

Year	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total	Margin
2015	Dawie van der Walt	64	66	68	65	263 (-21)	2
2014	Adam Hadwin	67	69	67	69	272 (-16)	1
2013	Kevin Kisner	71	67	61	68	267 (-21)	1
2012	Paul Haley II	67	64	64	71	266 (-22)	3

- Adam Hadwin’s victory at 2014 Astara Chile Classic, along with a second win later in the season, propelled him to his first PGA TOUR card; now in his ninth season on TOUR, he qualified for the FedExCup Playoffs each of his first eight seasons and won the 2017 Valspar Championship
- Kevin Kisner’s victory at the 2013 Astara Chile Classic marked the second Korn Ferry Tour win of his career and first since 2010; the win also propelled him back to the PGA TOUR at season’s end, and in his last nine seasons on TOUR he has qualified for the FedExCup Playoffs each time, including five top-30 finishes, won

four TOUR events (most recently the 2021 Wyndham Championship), and represented the United States in the 2017 and 2022 Presidents Cups

- Paul Haley II's victory at the 2012 Astara Chile Classic came in his third career start and propelled him to his first PGA TOUR card at season's end; he was relegated to the Korn Ferry Tour following the 2013 TOUR season (15 missed cuts in 18 starts) and would not return to the PGA TOUR until a victory last season led to a No. 3 on the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Points List
- Other notables to post top-15s at the Astara Chile Classic include multi-time PGA TOUR winners Justin Thomas (T12/2014) and Daniel Berger (T12/2014), along with TOUR winners Tom Hoge (T12/2014), David Lingmerth (T12/2012), and Brian Stuard (T7/2012)

### Course Information – Prince of Wales Country Club

- Years Hosted: 2012-14
- Scoring Average (2014): 71.087 / -0.913
- Toughest Hole (2014): No. 15, Par 3, 219 yards – 3.271 / +0.271
- Easiest Hole (2014): No. 9, Par 5, 550 yards – 4.544 / -0.456
- Course Record: 61, Kevin Kisner (2013, Round 3)

### Tournament Scoring Records

- Low 18-hole score: 61, Kevin Kisner (2013, Round 3)
- Low 36-hole score: 130, Edward Loar (2013), Brett Drewitt, Wes Roach and **Dawie van der Walt** (2015)
- Low 54-hole score: 195, Paul Haley II (2012)
- Low 72-hole score: 263, **Dawie van der Walt** (2015)

### Last Week on Tour – Club Car Championship at The Landings Golf & Athletic Club

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	David Skinns	67	68	68	68	271 (-17)
T2	Shad Tuten	68	67	70	67	272 (-16)
	Tom Whitney	71	70	63	68	272 (-16)
T4	Brett Drewitt	70	68	67	68	273 (-15)
	Jack Maguire	72	67	71	63	273 (-15)

- David Skinns held off local favorite Shad Tuten and United States Air Force veteran **Tom Whitney** for his third career Korn Ferry Tour win and first since the 2021 Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna
- Skinns became the first Korn Ferry Tour winner aged 40 or older since **Tag Ridings** won the 2021 Ascendant presented by Blue at 46 years, 10 months, 4 days of age
- **Tom Whitney** birdied the 72nd hole (par-5 18th) for a career-high finish in his 99th career Tour start and fifth season on Tour; his previous career-high finishes were a solo-third (2021 Chitimacha Louisiana Open) and T3 (2023 The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club)
- Whitney's birdie moved him from a 3-way T3 to a 2-way T2, earning himself an extra 100 points toward his season-long total on the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Points List
- Shad Tuten recorded his second runner-up finish on the Korn Ferry Tour in his 69th Tour start (T2/2020 Korn Ferry Challenge at TPC Sawgrass)
- Tuten's T2 marked his fourth career top-three finish, his second of the 2023 season (T3/The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club), and his second at the Club Car Championship at The Landings Golf & Athletic Club (T3/2021)
- Tuten and Brett Drewitt are the only players with three finishes of T4 or higher in the first five events of the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour season
- Conditional member and open qualifier **Jack Maguire** tied the low round of the week with 9-under 63 and rises from T30 to tie his career-high finish in his 102nd start on Tour (T4/2016 WinCo Foods Portland Open)
- Rookies **Tim Widing** (T8/-12), **Cristobal Del Solar** (T10/-12), 21-year-old **Abel Gallegos** (T10/-12), the youngest Korn Ferry Tour member this year, and **Bryson Nimmer** (T10/-12) all recorded their first top-10 in a Korn Ferry Tour event