

## Pre-Tournament Notes – BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX

**On-Site PGA TOUR Media Contacts:** Hagan Parkman, 817-983-3251, [haganparkman@pgatourhw.com](mailto:haganparkman@pgatourhw.com)  
Preston Edwards, 904-294-3724, [prestonedwards@pgatourhq.com](mailto:prestonedwards@pgatourhq.com)

**Dates:** June 8-11, 2023

**Where:** Greer, South Carolina

**Host Course:** Thornblade Country Club (Par 71 / 7,065 yards)

**Course Designer:** Tom Fazio (1990)

**Satellite Course:** The Carolina Country Club (Par 72 / 6,929 yards)

**Course Designer:** Tom Jackson

**Format:** 72-hole stroke play

**Field:** 160 players

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

**Defending Champion:** Robby Shelton

### 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)
- [PGA TOUR University Class of 2023](#)
- [Five Things to Know: 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Season](#)

### Things to Know

- The BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX marks the 13th tournament of the Korn Ferry Tour's 26-event schedule
- This will be the 31st playing of BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX and the 15th year that the Thornblade Club will serve as the primary host course; The Carolina Country Club will serve as the satellite course for the second consecutive year, and it was previously a satellite course at the event from 2008-12
- The BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX is a one-of-a-kind event on the Korn Ferry Tour which features celebrities and amateurs playing alongside professionals, with Golf Channel televising the action
  - Thursday (Round 1) – 12-2 p.m. [Live]
  - Friday (Round 2) – 8:30-10:30 p.m. [Tape Delay]
  - Saturday (Round 3) – 10:30p.m.–12:30 a.m. [Tape Delay]
  - Sunday (Round 4) – 5-7 p.m. [Live]
- Notable celebrities in the field include multi-time world champion boxer Canelo Álvarez, actor Brian Baumgartner (known as Kevin Malone from *The Office*), NBA player Seth Curry, NFL All-Pro wide receiver Larry Fitzgerald Jr., National Baseball Hall of Fame inductee Ken Griffey Jr., 2017 NFL Offensive Player of the Year Todd Gurley, country singer Chris Lane, comedian Larry the Cable Guy, and National Baseball Hall of Fame inductee Iván "Pudge" Rodríguez
- Three past champions of the BMW Charity Pro-Am are in the field this week: **Rhein Gibson** (2019), **Michael Arnaud** (2018), and Beaufort, South Carolina resident **Mark Anderson** (2013)
- Gibson earned his second career Korn Ferry Tour win [earlier this season](#) at the Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard, and his first win since the 2019 BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX
- Six of the 11 players who finished T10 or better in last year's event earned a PGA TOUR card at season's end: Robby Shelton (Winner), Ben Griffin (2nd), Augusto Núñez (T3), Nico Echavarria (T5), Paul Haley II (T7), Anders Albertson (T10)
- Five of the top eight finishers from the 2023 PGA TOUR University Ranking will make their professional debuts this week at the BMW Charity Pro-Am:
  - No. 2 **Fred Biondi** (Florida) – won individual and team national titles at 2023 NCAA Championship
  - No. 3 **Adrien Dumont De Chassart** (Illinois)
  - No. 6 **William Mouw** (Pepperdine)
  - No. 7 **Ryan Burnett** (North Carolina)

- No. 8 **Patrick Welch** (Oklahoma)
- The top five finishers from the 2023 PGA TOUR University Ranking earned fully exempt status on the Korn Ferry Tour through the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Finals (which grants entry to its field based off the Korn Ferry Tour Points List), as well as an exemption to Final Stage of 2023 PGA TOUR Q-School presented by Korn Ferry – where the top five finishers and ties earn PGA TOUR cards – and the ability to accept unlimited PGA TOUR sponsor exemptions for the remainder of 2023 and 2024
- Finishers Nos. 6-10 from the 2023 PGA TOUR University Ranking earned conditional status for the remainder of the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour season, as well as fully exempt status for the 2023 PGA TOUR Canada season, and an exemption to Second Stage of 2023 PGA TOUR Q-School presented by Korn Ferry, and exempt status through the Latin America Swing of the 2024 PGA TOUR Americas season
- For all events prior to the Korn Ferry Tour Finals, the PGA TOUR University category on the Korn Ferry Tour Priority Ranking will be filled by five players to a floor of the No. 10 finisher from the 2023 PGA TOUR University Priority Ranking (e.g. – if Nos. 1 and 5 elect not to enter an event, their places in the field will be filled by Nos. 6 and 7)
- Players in the field with ties to the state of South Carolina include **Mark Anderson** (Beaufort resident), **Matt Atkins** (North Augusta resident), **Jacob Bridgeman** (Greenville native, Clemson resident), **Brian Campbell** (Bluffton resident), **Trace Crowe** (Greenville native), **Ian Holt** (Charleston resident), **Mac Meissner** (Charleston native), **Mitchell Meissner** (Charleston native), **Bryson Nimmer** (Clemson resident), **Trent Phillips** (Spartanburg native, Inman resident), **Scott Stevens** (Columbia resident), **Shad Tuten** (plays from Aiken), **Dalton Ward** (Sumter native)
- Six Korn Ferry Tour members in the field played collegiately in the state of South Carolina:
  - Clemson University (2) – Bridgeman, Nimmer
  - University of South Carolina (2) – Anderson, Stevens
  - University of South Carolina-Aiken (2) – Atkins, **Roberto Díaz**
- 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 6/6/2023)

- Seven champions from the first 12 events of the 2023 season, including two-time winner and Korn Ferry Tour Points List leader **Ben Kohles**, are in this week’s field:
  - Kohles (two wins), **Jorge Fernández Valdés**, **Rhein Gibson**, **Scott Gutschewski**, **Rico Hoey**, **Spencer Levin**, **David Skinns**
- Field includes 42 past Korn Ferry Tour winners with 60 total victories, led by **Ben Kohles** with four
- Field includes five past PGA TOUR winners with 14 total victories, led by **Mark Wilson** with five

- Field includes three players currently inside top 200 of the Official World Golf Ranking: **Rico Hoey** (No. 160), **Yuto Katsuragawa** (No. 187), **Ben Kohles** (No. 195)

### 2022 BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX Recap (June 9-12, 2022)

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Robby Shelton	66	65	61	71	263 (-22)
2	Ben Griffin	66	68	63	66	263 (-22)
T3	Ryan McCormick	71	65	64	65	265 (-20)
	Augusto Núñez	65	66	66	68	265 (-20)

- Robby Shelton carried a five-stroke lead into the final round and had not made a bogey through 54 holes, but fell into a playoff with Ben Griffin as he carded an even-par 71 in the final round; Shelton defeated Griffin with consecutive pars in a sudden-death playoff, which was played on the par-4 18th
- Shelton earned his third career win (first since 2019) and later earned his fourth in August 2022 en route to securing a return to the PGA TOUR
- Griffin recorded his third runner-up finish of the 2022 season and went on to earn his first PGA TOUR card at season's end

### Past Champions

Year	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total	Margin
2022	Robby Shelton	66	65	61	71	263 (-22)	Playoff
2021	Mito Pereira	65	63	66	64	258 (-27)	4
2019	Rhein Gibson	66	64	63	--	193 (-21)	3
2018	Michael Arnaud	69	60	65	63	257 (-27)	5
2017	Stephan Jaeger	64	66	65	--	195 (-19)	1
2016	Richy Werenski	68	67	65	65	265 (-21)	2
2015	Rod Pampling	63	63	69	66	261 (-25)	2
2014	Max Homa	68	65	70	63	266 (-20)	1
2013	Mark Anderson	63	67	64	65	259 (-27)	5
2012	Nick Flanagan	67	70	67	67	271 (-15)	Playoff
2011	Garth Mulroy	65	66	70	67	268 (-18)	Playoff
2010	Justin Hicks	66	65	69	66	266 (-20)	2
2009	Michael Sim	68	65	62	69	264 (-22)	Playoff
2008	David Mathis	65	65	68	68	266 (-20)	3
2007	Nick Flanagan	68	72	66	65	271 (-15)	1
2006	Ken Duke	69	68	68	68	273 (-13)	1
2005	Shane Bertsch	69	68	65	--	202 (-12)	1
2004	Ryuji Imada	70	66	65	69	270 (-17)	Playoff
2003	Tripp Isenhour	64	70	66	69	269 (-18)	2
2002	Charles Warren	67	65	64	68	264 (-23)	4
2001	Jonathan Byrd	67	70	66	66	269 (-18)	1
2000	Shane Bertsch	69	68	64	68	269 (-19)	4
1999	Steve Gotsche	71	68	69	--	208 (-8)	2
1998	Tom Scherrer	67	67	66	--	200 (-16)	1
1997	Chris Smith	66	64	67	70	267 (-21)	3
1996	Michael Christie	68	65	69	63	265 (-23)	6
1995	David Toms	67	66	68	66	267 (-21)	Playoff
1994	Scott Gump	71	67	66	68	272 (-16)	1
1993	Sean Murphy	72	65	67	67	271 (-17)	1
1992	Russell Beiersdorf	64	69	--	--	133 (-11)	2

**Course Information – Thornblade Club**

- Years Hosted: 2008-Present (2020 canceled due to COVID-19 pandemic)
- Scoring Average (2022): 69.510 / -1.490
- Toughest Hole (2022): No. 8, Par 4, 433 yards – 4.190 / +0.190
- Easiest Hole (2022): No. 16, Par 5, 542 yards – 4.474 / -0.526
- Course Record: 60, Roland Thatcher (2015, Round 4), Michael Arnaud (2018, Round 2)

**Tournament Scoring Records**

- Low 18-Hole Score: 60, Travis Hampshire (2011, Round 1, The Carolina Country Club), Roland Thatcher (2015, Round 4, Thornblade Club) and Michael Arnaud (2018, Round 2, Thornblade Club)
- Low 36-Hole Score: 126, Rod Pampling (2015)
- Low 54-Hole Score: 191, Justin Lower (2021)
- Low 72-Hole Score: 257, Michael Arnaud (2018)
- Largest Margin of Victory: 6, Michael Christie (1996)
- Playoffs: 6, last in 2022 (Robby Shelton defeated Ben Griffin)

**Last Week on Tour – UNC Health Championship presented by STITCH (June 1-4)**

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Jorge Fernández Valdés	64	66	69	68	267 (-13)
2	Trent Phillips	64	69	68	66	267 (-13)
T3	John Augenstein	67	67	68	66	268 (-12)
	Grayson Murray	66	65	66	71	268 (-12)

- **Jorge Fernández Valdés** sank a 25-foot birdie putt on the first hole of a sudden-death playoff to secure his first Korn Ferry Tour win at the UNC Health Championship in Raleigh, North Carolina
- In his ninth career start on the Korn Ferry Tour, rookie **Trent Phillips** recorded his best finish of the season; he made four consecutive birdies from Nos. 13-16 to reach 13-under par for the tournament
- Phillips was the last man into the 156-player field at the Visit Knoxville Open a week before, and gained entry to last week’s field via his top-25 in Knoxville; he would have been the last player into the field in Raleigh had he not top-25’d in Knoxville
- **John Augenstein** recorded the best finish of his career in what was his 37th Korn Ferry Tour start
- Raleigh native and outright 54-hole leader Grayson Murray, who won last month’s AdventHealth Championship, carded a final-round 1-over 71 to finish one stroke out of the two-man playoff, as he made a double bogey and three bogeys on the back nine of his final round