



2023 Korn Ferry Tour Championsip presented by United Leasing & Finance (26th of 26 events on 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Schedule)

Tournament Media Site | Interview Transcripts

Newburgh, Indiana October 5-8, 2023 Points: 600 (winner)

Victoria National Golf Club Par / Yards: 72 / 7,265 Purse: \$1,500,000 / \$270,000 (winner)

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, October 7, 2023

Third-Round Leaderboard

 Paul Barjon
 72-70-64—206 (-10)

 Josh Teater
 71-71-64—206 (-10)

 David Kocher
 67-71-70—208 (-8)

 Wilson Furr
 71-68-70—209 (-7)

 Mason Andersen
 64-71-74—209 (-7)

Five Players Tied 210 (-6)

Things to Know

- Two-time Korn Ferry Tour winner **Paul Barjon**, who entered the week No. 45 on the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Points List, and 44-year-old Korn Ferry Tour winner **Josh Teater**, who entered the week No. 34 on the Points List, share the 54-hole lead at 10-under 206 after matching 8-under 64s, the low round of the day by two strokes
- Barjon and Teater both currently project to move into the top 10 of the Korn Ferry Tour Points List with a win
- Two-time Korn Ferry Tour winner **David Kocher**, who entered the week at No. 51 on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List, stands solo third at 8-under 208 following 2-under 70 Saturday; he currently projects to move to No. 38 on the Points List, but would project to move into the top 30 with a win
- Four-time Korn Ferry Tour winner and 36-hole co-leader **Ben Kohles**, who stands No. 1 on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List, cards 3-over 75 and falls to T6 at 6-under 210; he still projects to finish No. 1 on the Points List, a position which grants exemptions to the 2024 PLAYERS Championship and 2024 U.S. Open
- Rookie and 36-hole co-leader **Mason Andersen**, who entered the week at No. 42 on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List, makes triple bogey at par-4 14th and closes with back-to-back bogeys at the par-4 17th and 18th to post 2-over 74, fall to T4 at 7-under 209; he currently projects to move to No. 29 on the Points List
- Andersen, Barjon, Teater, and Wilson Furr (T4/--7) are the only players currently projected to move into the top 30 on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List; the four players currently projected to fall out of the top 30 are No. 24 Jorge Fernández-Valdés (T59/+8), No. 26 Carter Jenkins (T50/+5), No. 28 Chase Seiffert (T24/-1), and No. 30 Jackson Suber (T53/+6)
- Second-year member Matt McCarty closes with quadruple bogey at par-4 18th, the toughest hole of the third round, falls from co-leading at 10-under par to T6 at 6-under 210
- Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance is the 26th and final event of the 2023 season, and the top 30 players on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List upon conclusion of Sunday's final round will earn PGA TOUR membership for the 2024 season
- Upon conclusion of Sunday's final round, players ranked Nos. 31-60 on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List will earn an
 exemption to Final Stage of PGA TOUR Q-School presented by Korn Ferry, where 2024 PGA TOUR membership will
 be awarded to the top five finishers and ties
- Final-round tee times will run from 7:13 a.m. through 9:25 a.m. local time off the first and 10th tees

Third-Round Lead Notes

- 20 Third-round leaders/co-leaders to win Korn Ferry Tour Championship (Last: 2022/Justin Suh)
- 7 Third-round leaders/co-leaders to win on Tour in 2023 (Last: Norman Xiong/Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship)

Charting the Co-Leaders (stats entering the week)

Category	Paul Barjon	Josh Teater
Age	31 (September 19, 1992)	44 (April 6, 1979)
2023 Korn Ferry Tour Points List	No. 45	No. 34
Korn Ferry Tour Starts – Wins – Top-10s (2023)	21-1-2	22-0-3
Korn Ferry Tour Starts – Wins – Top-10s (Career)	80-2-11	174-1-17
Starts – Wins – Top-10s at Korn Ferry Tour Champ.	2-0-0	7-0-1

Paul Barjon (T1/-10)

- Makes eight birdies and posts one of Saturday's three bogey-free rounds with 8-under 64, sharing the low round of the day with fellow 54-hole co-leader Josh Teater
- Holds fourth 54-hole lead/co-lead in 81st career start on Tour, has converted two of three previous 54-hole leads/co-leads into wins including this season's victory at the 2023 Memorial Health Championship presented by LRS and has not finished worse than T2 when leading/co-leading through 54 holes on Tour
- Previous 54-hole lead/co-lead results: T1/2020 WinCo Foods Portland Open/finished T2; 1st/2021 HomeTown Lenders Championship/Won; 1st/2023 Memorial Health Championship/Won
- Entered the week at No. 45 on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List with a win and an additional top-10; he projects to rise to No. 9 with a win
- Relegated to the Korn Ferry Tour for 2023 following a No. 171 finish in the 2021-22 FedExCup standings
- Previously won the 2021 HomeTown Lenders Championship in Huntsville, Alabama en route to finishing No. 15 on the 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour Points List and earning his first PGA TOUR card
- Won twice in 2019 on PGA TOUR Canada after consecutive seasons in the circuit, winning the 2019 Order of Merit
 for fully exempt status on the Korn Ferry Tour for the 2020-21 season
- Relegated to PGA TOUR Canada for the 2018 season after finishing outside the top 100 of the 2017 Korn Ferry Tour standings as a rookie
- Turned professional in 2016 and played PGA TOUR Canada, winning in his debut season to finish No. 6 on the 2016
 Order of Merit to earn Korn Ferry Tour membership
- Played four seasons at Texas Christian University (2012-16), winning three times individually and garnering a 2016
 All-America Third Team honor

Josh Teater (T1/-10)

- Bounces back from opening bogey with seven birdies and an eagle at the par-4 12th, carding an 8-under 64 to tie fellow 54-hole co-leader **Paul Barjon** for Saturday's low round
- Holds fourth 54-hole lead/co-lead in 175th career start on Tour, as well as his second 54-hole lead/co-lead of 2023
- Converted one of three previous 54-hole leads/co-leads into his only Korn Ferry Tour win (2009 Utah
 Championship presented by Zions Bank), has not finished worse than T2 when leading/co-leading through 54 holes
 (1st/2016 Rust-Oleum Championship/finished T2; 1st/2023 BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD
 SYNNEX/finished 2nd [lost playoff to Adrien Dumont de Chassart])
- Entered the week at No. 34 on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List; he projects to rise to No. 7 with a win
- Boasts three top-10s this season, including a runner-up finish at the BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNNEX, and a T7 in the most recent Korn Ferry Tour event (Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship)
- Tied his career-low round earlier this season with a 10-under 62 in the first round of the BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNNEX (previously carded 8-under 62s at the 2016 and 2018 Ellie Mae Classics)
- Has one top-10 in seven previous starts at the Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance/T3/2009
- Finished No. 7 in the 2009 Korn Ferry Tour standings off the strength of his only career win en route to earning PGA TOUR membership, and played five consecutive seasons on TOUR from 2010 through 2014, qualifying for four consecutive FedExCup Playoffs from 2010 through 2013
- Finished T2 at the 2013 Farmers Insurance Open on TOUR, only trailing Tiger Woods
- Split time between Korn Ferry Tour and PGA TOUR for the 2014-15 season, but returned to the Korn Ferry Tour full time in 2016; he finished top 40 in the 2016 and 2017 Korn Ferry Tour standings, then earned a return to the PGA TOUR with two runner-up finishes in 2018
- Finished No. 146 in the 2018-19 FedExCup standings and split time between the PGA TOUR and Korn Ferry Tour the next two seasons before a No. 69 finish on the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Points List for fully exempt status this year

Quotables

Josh Teater on the driving force of his career at age 44... "I feel like my game is still good enough to compete even though I'm almost twice as old as some of these guys. All that experience could pay off. It has this year, and looking forward to one more."

Teater on what tomorrow means to him... "I'm not going to make it any more than what it is. It's just a round of golf and that's how I'm going to approach it. I came here kind of knowing that I need to have a really good week, and I've put myself in a spot to be able do that. Just one more good day of having fun and trying to win the victory.

Paul Barjon on what tomorrow means to him... "It's the most important round of whatever, the year, your life, but as I told my caddie, we've got another chance. We could play really good and finish sixth, or fifth. I don't know exactly what the breakdown of points is. I think if we play good and, obviously, if we play like today, that would be good. Yeah, tomorrow is a big round, but I'm going to go with the same mindset of trying to do my best and hit as many fairways as possible, and just give myself looks. Feel like some putts fell, but they've been burning edges, so that will be nice to see them fall in."

Notes

- **Ben Kohles** (T6/-6), a 36-hole co-leader, makes three bogeys and a double bogey at the par-4 14 en route to 3-over 75; he did not make a bogey in either of the first two rounds and was the only player in the field with fewer than three bogeys through 36 holes
- Roger Sloan (T11/-5) cards one of Saturday's three bogey-free rounds, posting 6-under 66 to rise from T33 to T11; he entered the week at No. 31 on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List and currently projects to finish No. 31
- Based on current projections, these are the last five players in the top 30 (point totals are current projections):
 - o No. 26 **Ryan McCormick** (T38/+3) 879.075 [began week No. 22]
 - o No. 27 Scott Gutschewski (T53/+6) 875.968 [began week No. 21]
 - No. 28 Rafael Campos (T38/+3) 872.078 [began week No. 23]
 - o No. 29 Mason Andersen (T4/-7) 871.217 [began week No. 42]
 - o No. 30 **Joe Highsmith** (T14/-4) 870.750 [began week No. 27]
- Based on current projections, these are the first five players out of the top 30 (point totals are current projections):
 - o No. 31 **Roger Sloan** (T11/-5) 865.227 [began week No. 31]
 - No. 32 Jorge Fernández-Valdés (T59/+8) 857.451 [began week No. 24]
 - o No. 33 Chase Seiffert (T68/+10) 851.080 [began week No. 28]
 - o No. 34 **Mac Meissner** (T6/-4) 850.209 [began week No. 35]
 - No. 35 Matt McCarty (T6/-6) 849.875 [began week No. 37]