

Pre-Tournament Notes – Magnit Championship

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Dates: August 17-20, 2023

Where: Jackson, New Jersey

Host Course: Metedeconk National Golf Club (Par 72 / 7,402 yards)

Course Designer: Robert Trent Jones Sr., Roger Rulewich (1987)

Format: 72-hole stroke play

Field: 156 players

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

Quick Links

- [Video-game course design? Part of Ryan McCormick's process](#)
- [#TOURBound: Pierceson Coody relishes heritage while forging own path](#)
- [#TOURBound: From humble beginnings, Alejandro Tosti earns first PGA TOUR card](#)
- [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](#)
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Things to Know

- The inaugural Magnit Championship is the 22nd tournament of the Korn Ferry Tour's 26-event 2023 schedule, and the final event prior to the Korn Ferry Tour Finals
- Following the conclusion of the Magnit Championship, the top 156 players on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List will qualify for the Albertsons Boise Open presented by Chevron, the first of four Korn Ferry Tour Finals events
- The reimagined Korn Ferry Tour Finals system in place for the first time this season will see a progressive reduction in field sizes (156 players for first event, 144 for second event, 120 for third event, 75 for season-ending Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance), and see qualifiers compete for increased purses and points allocations
 - Upon the conclusion of the season-ending Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance, PGA TOUR cards will be awarded to the top 30 players on the final Korn Ferry Tour Points List
- There are 13 players ranked 156th or lower on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List (and another 13 who have not earned any points this season) in the field this week and attempting to earn a spot in the Korn Ferry Tour Finals
- Players in this week's Magnit Championship field with ties to the state of New Jersey include **Chris Gotterup** (plays from Little Silver, played four seasons at Rutgers University), **Max Greyserman** (plays from Short Hills), **David Kocher** (Morristown native), **Ryan McCormick** (Middletown native, plays from West Long Branch)
- Two players with New Jersey ties currently sit inside the top 30 on the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Points List: Greyserman (No. 9) and McCormick (No. 24)
- Three-time winner **Pierceson Coody**, who earned his second victory of the 2023 season last month at the Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Dr Pepper, and four-time winner **Ben Kohles** are bidding to become the 13th player in history to earn the Three-Victory Promotion, which grants an immediate promotion to the PGA TOUR; they would [become eligible for the 2023 FedExCup Fall](#)
- With a win at last week's Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna, **Alejandro Tosti** became the fifth player declared #TOURBound, meaning he is assured of finishing in the top 30 and earning PGA TOUR membership for the 2024 season; he joined Korn Ferry Tour Points List leader Ben Silverman, No. 2 **Ben Kohles**, No. 3 **Rico Hoey**, and No. 5 **Pierceson Coody**

Field Notes (as of 8/15/2023)

- 16 of the 19 champions from the first 21 events of the 2023 season are in this week's field:
 - **Pierceson Coody** (two wins), **Ben Kohles** (two wins), **Paul Barjon**, **Ricky Castillo**, **Trace Crowe**, **Adrien Dumont de Chassart**, **Jorge Fernández Valdés**, **Rhein Gibson**, **Rico Hoey**, **Spencer Levin**, **Nicholas Lindheim**, **Grayson Murray**, **Chandler Phillips**, **David Skinns**, **Roger Sloan**, **Alejandro Tosti**
- Field includes season-high 51 Korn Ferry Tour winners with 75 total victories, led by **Ben Kohles** with four
- Field includes 10 PGA TOUR winners with 22 total victories, led by **Chad Campbell**, **Sean O'Hair**, and **Camilo Villegas** with four apiece
- Field includes six players currently inside top 200 of the Official World Golf Ranking: **Alejandro Tosti** (No. 99), **Pierceson Coody** (No. 106), **Rico Hoey** (No. 132), **Grayson Murray** (No. 162), **Nicholas Lindheim** (No. 164) and **Ben Kohles** (No. 182)

PGA TOUR University Class of 2023

- Seven of the top 10 finishers from the 2023 PGA TOUR University Ranking are in the field this week:
 - No. 2 **Fred Biondi** (Florida) – won individual and team national titles at 2023 NCAA Championship
 - No. 3 **Adrien Dumont de Chassart** (Illinois) – *won professional and Korn Ferry Tour debut in June, recorded top-10s in each of first six Korn Ferry Tour starts (tied Korn Ferry Tour record for consecutive top-10s)*
 - No. 4 **Ross Steelman** (Georgia Tech) – *recorded first top-25 two weeks ago*
 - No. 6 **William Mouw** (Pepperdine) – *four top-25s in first five starts on Tour, also finished T13 at John Deere Classic*
 - No. 7 **Ryan Burnett** (North Carolina) – *recorded first top-10 last month*
 - No. 8 **Patrick Welch** (Oklahoma) – *recorded second top-25 two weeks ago*
 - No. 9 **Ricky Castillo** (Florida) – *won professional and Korn Ferry Tour debut in June*
- 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, 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
 - *Example:* No. 3 Adrien Dumont de Chassart and No. 9 Ricky Castillo now play out of the Tournament Winners category, meaning their places in the PGA TOUR University category will be filled by No. 6 William Mouw and No. 7 Ryan Burnett, respectively
 - *Additional Example:* If No. 2 Fred Biondi records a top-25, he plays the next tournament out of the “Top-25 Previous Event” category, meaning his place in the PGA TOUR University category would be filled by No. 8 Patrick Welch (since Nos. 6 and 7 will already be in field via previous example)
- **Adrien Dumont de Chassart** and **Ricky Castillo**, who finished No. 3 and No. 9 in the PGA TOUR University Class of 2023, respectively, both [won their professional and Korn Ferry Tour debuts in back-to-back events](#) to earn fully exempt status for the remainder of the 2023 season
 - Dumont de Chassart won the BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX (Sunday, June 11), followed by Castillo's win a week later at the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics (Sunday, June 18), as Castillo defeated Dumont de Chassart and Kyle Jones in a playoff
 - Castillo's win upended Dumont de Chassart's bid to become the second player in Korn Ferry Tour history to win their first two starts on Tour (Ben Kohles/2012)

2023 Korn Ferry Tour Season

- 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

[Last Week on Tour](#) – Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Aetna

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Alejandro Tosti	63	71	69	62	265 (-19)
T2	John VanDerLaan	64	66	67	71	268 (-16)
	Max Greyserman	66	66	67	69	268 (-16)
4	Jacob Bridgeman	66	63	70	70	269 (-15)

- **Alejandro Tosti** entered the final round six strokes behind 54-hole leader **John VanDerLaan** but carded a bogey-free 9-under 62, tying the 18-hole tournament course record for his first Korn Ferry Tour victory; Tosti led the field with 26 total birdies (25 birdies, one eagle)
- Tosti’s final-round 62 was four strokes better than the next-best score carded in the final round
- The win was Tosti’s Tour-leading ninth top-10 of the season, a total only four players reached all of last season, led by Justin Suh, who recorded 10 top-10s en route to finishing No. 1 on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List
- Outright 54-hole leader **John VanDerLaan** recorded a career-high finish, eclipsing his T4 from the 2021 Memorial Health Championship presented by LRS
- **Max Greyserman** posted his second runner-up finish in his last four starts; his career-high finish in 82 career starts prior to his first runner-up finish was T4 at the 2021 Visit Knoxville Open
- **Jacob Bridgeman** birdied three of his final found holes and carded 1-under 70, rising from a five-way T9 to solo-fourth, a career-high finish and a difference of 34 points on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List
- With a top-15 finish, Ben Silverman overtook **Ben Kohles** for the No. 1 ranking on the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Points List; Kohles held the No. 1 ranking following the last 15 events prior to Silverman supplanting him
- Open qualifier and conditional member **Chris Naegel** (T16/-10) snapped a streak of 10 consecutive missed cuts with his first top-25 since May 2021; the top-25 earned him a spot in this week’s Magnit Championship and moved him from No. 205 to No. 165 on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List