



Pre-Tournament Notes – The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club

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Dates: January 22-25, 2022

Where: Great Abaco, The Bahamas

Course: The Abaco Club on Winding Bay (Par 72 / 7,141 yards)

Course Designer: Donald Steel (2004)

Field: 132 players

Defending Champion: Brandon Harkins

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

Format: 72-hole stroke play

Quick Links

- [Tournament Media Site](#)
- [Chandler Phillips Wins Season-Opening Event in Great Exuma](#)
- [Five Things to Know: 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Season](#)
- [Insider: 'Sky is the limit' for Akshay Bhatia in Sophomore Korn Ferry Tour Season](#)
- [Insider: Narrow Miss of TOUR Card Fuels Joey Garber into 2023](#)
- [Insider: Pierceson Coody Returns from Injury at Great Exuma](#)
- [Tee Times](#)

Things to Know

- The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club, hosted by The Abaco Club on Winding Bay, is the second tournament of the 26-event 2023 Korn Ferry Tour season
- This is the event's sixth appearance on the Korn Ferry Tour schedule, with 2017 being the inaugural playing
 - During the 2020-21 season, the tournament was held at Baha Mar's Royal Blue Golf Club in Nassau as a result of Hurricane Dorian's impact on Great Abaco
- Four of the five past champions of the event earned their PGA TOUR card at season's end via the Korn Ferry Tour Points List – **Jared Wolfe** (2020), **Rafael Campos** (2019), Adam Svensson (2018), and Andrew Landry (2017)
- Nine of the top 17 finishers (and six of the top 11) from the 2022 The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club earned PGA TOUR cards at season's end – Zecheng Dou (2nd), S.H. Kim (3rd), Erik Barnes (T4), Kevin Roy (T4), Eric Cole (T7), Trevor Werbylo (T7), Ben Griffin (T12), Vincent Norrman (T12), and Davis Thompson (T12)
- Defending champion **Brandon Harkins** opened his 2023 season with a T21 at The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay; he finished No. 26 on last year's Korn Ferry Tour Points List, missing the final available PGA TOUR card by just nine points (roughly equivalent to a top-50 finish this week)
- Third-year Korn Ferry Tour member **Chandler Phillips** earned his first PGA TOUR-sanctioned victory at The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay in what was his 16th career start
 - Phillips had conditional status for the 2020-21 and 2022 seasons, but finished T10 at Final Stage of the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament for guaranteed starts in the first 12 events of this season; his victory secured fully exempt status for the rest of the 2023 season
 - Phillips played collegiately at Texas A&M (2015-19), where he was a three-time Arnold Palmer Cup selection (2017-19), making him one of seven players in history and one of two Americans in history (Bryce Molder) to play the international competition three times
 - At the 2019 Arnold Palmer Cup, Phillips notably defeated Keita Nakajima, formerly the No. 1 player in the World Amateur Golf Ranking
- 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 1/20/23)

- Field includes 44 past Korn Ferry Tour winners with 56 total wins, including six winners from the 2022 season: **Akshay Bhatia, Pierceson Coody, Brandon Harkins, David Kocher, Andrew Kozen, Norman Xiong**
- Field includes 11 past PGA TOUR winners with 22 total victories, led by **Sean O’Hair** and **Camilo Villegas** with four apiece
- Field includes two players currently inside OWGR top 200: **Chan Kim** (No. 145) and **Kaito Onishi** (No. 148)

2022 The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club Recap (January 23-26)

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Brandon Harkins	69	65	68	68	270 (-18)
2	Zecheng Dou	69	66	66	69	270 (-18)
3	S.H. Kim	71	65	70	66	272 (-16)
T4	Three Players Tied					275 (-13)

- **Brandon Harkins**, who defeated Zecheng Dou with a par on the second playoff hole, earned his first win in a PGA TOUR-sanctioned event in his 179th career start
- Harkins trailed 54-hole leader Zecheng Dou by two strokes with three holes remaining in regulation, but made three consecutive pars as Dou bogeyed two of the final three holes and fell into a playoff
- Dou, who converted his two previous outright 54-hole leads into victories, settled for solo second but won later in the season at The Ascendant presented by Blue, which secured a return to the PGA TOUR
- S.H. Kim followed a T19 in his debut Korn Ferry Tour start with the lowest final-round score (6-under 66), which took him from T11 after the third round to a solo third finish; he earned a PGA TOUR card at season’s end
- **Tain Lee** (T4) turned in a career-high finish, usurping his T30 from the 2015 Chile Classic in his only previous season as a Korn Ferry Tour member; he eventually finished No. 75 on the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Points List and earned fully exempt status for the 2023 season
- Erik Barnes (T4) logged his first top-25 since a solo second at the 2021 Memorial Health Championship presented by LRS; he earned his first PGA TOUR card at season’s end
- Kevin Roy (T4) posted a career-high finish, which he later topped with a solo second at the 2022 Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics; the two top-fives propelled him to his first PGA TOUR card at season’s end

Past Champions

Year	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total	Margin
2022	Brandon Harkins	69	65	68	68	270 (-18)	Playoff
2020	Jared Wolfe	67	69	65	69	270 (-18)	4
2019	Rafael Campos	70	69	72	70	281 (-7)	1
2018	Adam Svensson	68	67	68	68	271 (-17)	1
2017	Andrew Landry	71	68	66	67	272 (-16)	3

- Andrew Landry earned a PGA TOUR card at the conclusion of the 2017 Korn Ferry Tour season, won the 2018 Valero Texas Open and 2020 The American Express, and made three consecutive FedExCup Playoffs appearances (2018, 2019, 2020)
- Adam Svensson earned PGA TOUR membership at the conclusion of the 2018 and 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour seasons; he won the 2022 RSM Classic this past November for his first TOUR victory
- **Rafael Campos** earned his first PGA TOUR card at the conclusion of the 2019 season and played two consecutive seasons (2019-20, 2020-21) on TOUR
- **Jared Wolfe's** victory, along with a win at the 2020 Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics, propelled him to his first PGA TOUR card at the end of the 2020-21 season; he is back in the field this week after he played the 2021-22 season on the PGA TOUR

Course Information – The Abaco Club on Winding Bay

- Years Hosted: 2017-19, 2022-present
- Scoring Average (2022): 71.470 / -0.530
- Toughest Hole (2022): No. 11, Par 4, 460 yards – 4.314 / +0.314
- Easiest Hole (2022): No. 8, Par 5, 495 yards – 4.367 / -0.633

Tournament Scoring Records

- Low 18-Hole Score: 63, Greg Yates (2020, Round 3)
- Low 36-Hole Score: 132, Alvaro Ortiz (2022)
- Low 54-Hole Score: 201, **Jared Wolfe** (2020) and Zecheng Dou (2022)
- Low 72-Hole Score: 270, **Jared Wolfe** (2020), **Brandon Harkins** and Zecheng Dou (2022)
- Largest Margin of Victory: 4, **Jared Wolfe** (2020)

Last Time on Tour – The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay (January 15-18)

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Chandler Phillips	69	68	69	68	274 (-14)
T2	Cody Blick	68	70	70	68	276 (-12)
	Peter Knade	75	66	64	71	276 (-12)
T4	Five Players Tied					277 (-11)

- Sandals Emerald Bay Golf Course hosted The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay in Great Exuma, The Bahamas last week
- **Chandler Phillips** and **Daniel Miernicki** (T4) were the only players in the top 10 who did not record a double bogey in the season-opening event
- **Peter Knade** recorded a runner-up finish in his first start as a Korn Ferry Tour member and second of his career; his only previous Korn Ferry Tour start was a missed cut as an open qualifier at the 2021 Club Car Championship at The Landings Golf & Athletic Club
 - Knade earned Korn Ferry Tour membership for the first time (and guaranteed starts for the first eight events of 2023) with a T29 at Final Stage of the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament back in November
- Making his 27th career Korn Ferry Tour start since turning pro in 2016, **Cody Blick** recorded a career-high finish, topping a T27 from the 2022 Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation

- Blick, a conditional member last season, earned guaranteed starts for the first eight events in 2023 with a T17 at Final Stage of the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament
- Defending champion **Akshay Bhatia** (T4) closed with an even-par 72 and saw his title defense aspirations dissipate with a double bogey on the par-5 15th – his second double bogey of the week
- **Shad Tuten** (T4) carried a three-stroke lead into the final round but settled for his highest Korn Ferry Tour finish since a T3 at the 2021 Club Car Championship at The Landings Golf & Athletic Club
- Tuten became the first player since Justin Lower (2021 BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX) who carried a lead of three-plus strokes into the final round but did not win the tournament
- **Wil Bateman** (T4), the 2022 PGA TOUR Canada Fortinet Cup winner, recorded his first top-10 in just his fourth career Korn Ferry Tour start; his previous career-high finish was T18 as an open qualifier at the 2022 Veritex Bank Championship
- **Daniel Miernicki** (T4) recorded a career-high finish in his 46th Korn Ferry Tour start; his previous career-high finish was T16 at the 2020 The King & Bear Classic at World Golf Village