

Pre-Tournament Notes

Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics

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Dates: June 15-18, 2023

Where: Wichita, Kansas

Course: Crestview Country Club (Par 70 / 6,910 yards)

Designer: Robert Trent Jones Sr. (1969)

Format: 72-hole stroke play

Field: 156 players

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

Defending Champion: Norman Xiong

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 Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics is one of four tournaments played every season since the Korn Ferry Tour's inaugural 1990 season, with this year marking the 34th playing of the event
 - The other three events with such distinction are the Visit Knoxville Open, Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Dr Pepper, and Albertsons Boise Open presented by Chevron
 - Only the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open, Price Cutter Charity Championship, and Albertsons Boise Open are set to enter their 34th playing, as the Visit Knoxville Open was only contested once (2021) amid the 2020-21 combined season
- This will be the event's 23rd consecutive year at Crestview Country Club
- Notable past champions of the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics include Tom Lehman (1990) and David Duval (1993), who were both World No. 1s during their careers and won the 1996 and 2001 Open Championship, respectively
- Major championship winners David Toms (1995) and Jason Dufner (2001) also won in Wichita; Toms went on to win the 2001 PGA Championship, while Dufner won the 2013 PGA Championship
- Four past champions of the event are in the field this week: reigning champion **Norman Xiong** (2022), **Jared Wolfe** (2020), **Ollie Schniederjans** (2016), and **Rob Oppenheim** (2015)
- Xiong is bidding to join Brad Elder (1999, 2007) as the only other two-time champion of the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics
- Xiong won last year's Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open as a Monday qualifier, becoming the 25th open qualifier in Korn Ferry Tour history to win the tournament for which they open qualified
- Even with a double bogey on the 72nd hole, Xiong won by five strokes at 26-under 254, the second-lowest 72-hole score in Korn Ferry Tour history, only behind Stephan Jaeger's 30-under 250 from the 2016 Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae
- Xiong's five-stroke margin of victory tied Aaron Wise's tournament record from 2017; Wise went on to earn 2017-18 PGA TOUR Rookie of the Year honors
- Six of the 10 players who finished T8 or higher in last year's event earned a PGA TOUR card at season's end: Kevin Roy (2nd), Kevin Yu (3rd), Tyson Alexander (T4), Augusto Núñez (6th), Kyle Westmoreland (7th), and Vincent Norrman (T8)
- **Adrien Dumont de Chassart**, who finished No. 3 in the 2023 PGA TOUR University Ranking to earn Korn Ferry Tour membership for the remainder of the season, won his Korn Ferry Tour and professional debut at last week's BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX

Field Notes (as of 6/13/2023)

- Eight champions from the first 13 events of the 2023 season are in this week's field:
 - **Pierceson Coody, Adrien Dumont de Chassart, Jorge Fernández Valdés, Rhein Gibson, Scott Gutschewski, Rico Hoey, Spencer Levin, Chandler Phillips**
- Field includes 37 Korn Ferry Tour winners with 51 total victories, led by **Daniel Chopra, Tommy Gainey,** and **Scott Gutschewski** with three apiece
- Field includes six PGA TOUR winners with nine total victories
- Field includes two players currently inside top 200 of the Official World Golf Ranking: **Pierceson Coody** (No. 154) and **Rico Hoey** (No. 158)
- Korn Ferry Tour members in the field with ties to the state of Kansas include **Wade Binfield** (plays from Overland Park), sponsor exemption **Jeremy Gandon** (played collegiately at Kansas State), **Michael Gellerman** (plays from Sterling), and **Joseph Winslow** (Overland Park native and resident)
- Open qualifier Cooper Schultz recently completed his third season at Kansas State and will compete as an amateur this week

PGA TOUR University Class of 2023

- Seven of the top nine 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 Korn Ferry Tour and professional debut**
 - No. 4 **Ross Steelman** (Georgia Tech) – individual and team runner-up at 2023 NCAA Championship
 - No. 6 **William Mouw** (Pepperdine)
 - No. 7 **Ryan Burnett** (North Carolina)
 - No. 8 **Patrick Welch** (Oklahoma)
 - No. 9 **Ricky Castillo** (Florida)
- Five of those seven made their professional and Korn Ferry Tour debuts last week at the BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX: Dumont de Chassart (Win), Burnett (T11), Biondi (T31), Mouw (T41), Welch (missed cut)
- Steelman and Castillo are making their professional and Korn Ferry Tour debuts this week
- 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 now plays out of the Tournament Winners category, meaning his place in the PGA TOUR University category will be filled by No. 6 William Mouw
 - *Additional Example:* If No. 2 Fred Biondi records a top-25, he would play 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. 7 Ryan Burnett (since No. 6 will already be in field via previous example)

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

2022 Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics Recap (June 16-19, 2022)

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Norman Xiong	66	61	64	63	254 (-26)
2	Kevin Roy	62	66	67	64	259 (-21)
3	Kevin Yu	67	63	62	68	260 (-20)
T4	Tyson Alexander	62	66	69	64	261 (-19)
	Pierceson Coody	66	67	65	63	261 (-19)

- **Norman Xiong** finished five strokes clear of runner-up Kevin Roy, who tied the previous 72-hole tournament scoring record of 21-under 259 set by Aaron Wise in 2017
- Roy recorded a career-high finish and earned his first PGA TOUR card at season’s end
- Kevin Yu recorded his second consecutive top-five finish at the Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open and went on to earn a PGA TOUR card at season’s end
- **Pierceson Coody**, who became a Korn Ferry Tour member after finishing No. 1 in the PGA TOUR University Class of 2022, logged a top-five finish in his second career start; he won in Maine the following week
- Justin Suh broke the course record and 18-hole tournament scoring record with a final-round 10-under 60; he went on to finish No. 1 on the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Points List, which notably earned him an exemption for this week’s U.S. Open at The Los Angeles Country Club

Past Champions

Year	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total	Margin
2022	Norman Xiong	66	61	64	63	254 (-26)	5
2021	Harry Hall	64	63	66	67	260 (-20)	1
2020	Jared Wolfe	63	65	65	71	264 (-16)	1
2019	Henrik Norlander	67	64	68	66	265 (-15)	Playoff
2018	Brady Schnell	72	64	64	66	266 (-14)	Playoff
2017	Aaron Wise	62	62	67	68	259 (-21)	5
2016	Ollie Schniederjans	68	67	61	67	263 (-17)	Playoff
2015	Rob Oppenheim	67	67	69	64	267 (-13)	1
2014	Sebastian Cappelén	66	65	65	66	262 (-18)	1
2013	Scott Parel	69	66	67	64	266 (-18)	3
2012	Casey Wittenberg	63	70	67	66	266 (-18)	2
2011	Matthew Goggin	66	65	66	69	266 (-18)	1
2010	Jhonattan Vegas	65	68	67	64	264 (-20)	1

2009	Chris Tidland	67	68	68	65	268 (-16)	1
2008	Scott Piercy	64	62	65	71	262 (-22)	2
2007	Brad Elder	65	64	71	65	265 (-19)	4
2006	Kevin Johnson	65	68	67	66	266 (-18)	1
2005	Joe Daley	71	67	65	65	268 (-16)	Playoff
2004	Bradley Hughes	71	65	69	65	270 (-14)	Playoff
2003	Jeff Klauk	66	69	64	66	265 (-19)	1
2002	Tyler Williamson	68	67	71	66	272 (-8)	1
2001	Jason Dufner	67	67	64	68	266 (-22)	3
2000	Ben Crane	67	63	66	67	263 (-25)	3
1999	Brad Elder	66	65	66	71	268 (-20)	2
1998	Emlyn Aubrey	66	61	71	67	265 (-23)	1
1997	Ben Bates	67	72	64	66	269 (-19)	Playoff
1996	Rick Cramer	68	68	66	67	269 (-19)	1
1995	David Toms	67	67	68	67	269 (-19)	1
1994	Dennis Postelwait	66	66	69	70	271 (-17)	1
1993	David Duval	62	70	69	70	271 (-17)	1
1992	Jeff Woodland	70	65	69	--	204 (-12)	Playoff
1991	Eric Hoos	61	66	72	--	199 (-17)	1
1990	Tom Lehman	66	69	67	--	202 (-14)	1

Course Information – Crestview Country Club

- Years Hosted: 2001-Present
- Scoring Average (2022): 68.451 / -1.549
- Toughest Hole (2022): No. 6, Par 4, 495 yards – 4.284 / +0.284
- Easiest Hole (2022): No. 14, Par 5, 501 yards – 4.369 / -0.631
- Course Record: 60, Justin Suh (2022/Round 4)

Tournament Scoring Records

- Low 18-Hole Score: 60, Justin Suh (2022/Round 4)
- Low 36-Hole Score: 124, Aaron Wise (2017)
- Low 54-Hole Score: 191, Scott Piercy (2008), Aaron Wise (2017), Kevin Yu (2021), **Norman Xiong** (2022)
- Low 72-Hole Score: 254, **Norman Xiong** (2022)
- Largest Margin of Victory: 5, Aaron Wise (2017), **Norman Xiong** (2022)
- Playoffs: 7 (last in 2019, Henrik Norlander defeated Bryan Bigley, Sebastian Cappelen, Erik Compton, **Kevin Dougherty**)

Last Week on Tour – BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX (June 8-11)

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Adrien Dumont de Chassart	66	67	66	65	264 (-21)
2	Josh Teater	62	65	70	67	264 (-21)
T3	Brandon Crick	68	66	64	68	266 (-19)
	David Skinnis	61	71	69	65	266 (-19)

- **Adrien Dumont de Chassart** saved par on the first hole of a sudden-death playoff and defeated 44-year-old Josh Teater to win his professional and Korn Ferry Tour debut
- Dumont de Chassart's final-round 65 included a birdie-birdie-birdie-eagle stretch on the back nine (Nos. 13-16); he bogeyed the 72nd hole to fall into a playoff with Teater
- Dumont de Chassart became the fourth PGA TOUR University alum to win on the Korn Ferry Tour, joining **Pierceson Coody** (two wins), Davis Thompson, and Trevor Werbylo
- Off the strength of a season-low 7-under 64 in the third round, Brandon Crick logged his first top-25 since June 2022 and the third top-10 of his career (2nd/2019 Ellie Mae Classic at TPC Stonebrae; T10/2020 Korn Ferry Challenge at TPC Sawgrass)