



### Third-Round Leaderboard

**Elk Ridge Saskatchewan Open presented by Brandt**

**Elk Ridge Resort**

**Waskesiu Lake, Saskatchewan, Canada**

**June 24, 2023**

Full [Leaderboard](#)

Contact: Jay Fowler, PGA TOUR Canada Communications, 519-817-7336, [jayfawler@pgatourintl.ca](mailto:jayfawler@pgatourintl.ca)

Pos.	Name	Scores	Fortinet Cup Pos.
T1	Wilson Andress (United States)	67-64-65—196 (14-under)	N/A
T1	John Pak (United States)	66-64-66—196 (14-under)	N/A
T3	Connor Howe (United States)	65-66-66—197 (13-under)	T33
T3	Brandon Hoelzer (United States)	67-66-64—197 (13-under)	T22
T5	Luis Gagne (Costa Rica)	65-65-68—198 (12-under)	T52
T5	Michael Sweeney (United States)	69-63-66—198 (12-under)	N/A
T5	Cameron Sisk (United States)	65-69-64—198 (12-under)	T63
T8	Thomas Longbella (United States)	64-67-68—199 (11-under)	N/A
T8	Chris Korte (United States)	68-65-66—199 (11-under)	T2

### **Andress, Pak set to battle Sunday with big group giving chase**

WASKESIU, Saskatchewan—John Pak, the 36-hole co-leader, and rookie Wilson Andress are tied at 14-under 196, and they will take a one-shot lead into the final round of the Elk Ridge Saskatchewan Open presented by Brandt.

Pak, of Scotch Plains, New Jersey, shot a 4-under 66 Saturday, and Andress, of Charleston, South Carolina, parlayed a stretch of five consecutive birdies into a 5-under 65 at the Elk Ridge Resort with one round remaining in PGA TOUR Canada's second event of the season.

The duo holds a slim advantage over Brandon Hoelzer of Fremont, Ohio, and Connor Howe of Ogden Utah, who are tied for third, at 13-under 197, and a two-shot lead over Cameron Sisk of San Diego, California, and Luis Gagne of Costa Rica in the race for the season-long Fortinet Cup.

The low Canadian is Noah Steele, of Kingston, Ontario. He carded a 6-under 64 and moved up 15 spots, into a tie for 10th, at 10 under. Steele signed for a dazzling 30 on the back nine that included six birdies. Ziggy Nathu of Richmond, British Columbia, shot 66 and is tied for 12th, at 9 under.

Pak is trying to come back from wrist surgery in May. Although he said the injury—and subsequent operation—wasn't serious, it dinged his confidence. Having a new opportunity to earn his first professional win has helped reinforce the notion that Pak is on the right path.

“I was a little down on myself and was wondering if I’m still the player I used to be,” said Pak, who won the 2021 Ben Hogan Award and Fred Haskins Award given to the national college player of the year while at Florida State. “But this definitely reassures a little bit.”

Pak had five birdies and one bogey during his steady round, with three birdies on the back nine.

“That was very important,” Pak said. “The front nine is a lot tougher than the back, and I keep telling myself to stay patient. I think patience is super important out here because you could easily get too aggressive and lose the ball. I just stayed patient and just played my game.”

Andress was going the wrong way early when he made bogeys at No. 2 and No. 5. But he turned things around with back-to-back birdies at No. 6 and No. 7 then reeled off five consecutive birdies from No. 9-13, giving him seven birdies for the day.

“One of the biggest lessons I learned in college from my coach (Carter Collins at Georgia Southern University) is that your run is always going to come, so stick with your game plan,” Andress said. “The first five holes my game plan wasn’t working, and then I just kind of got hot. It was pretty cool. I wasn’t expecting seven, but it happens.”

Hoelzer moved into a tie for third place after a 64, the low round of the day. He finished his round with three birdies, including an ace at the 147-yard par-3 17th hole.

Howe recorded four birdies—including a near-ace on 17 that stopped a foot short of the hole—on the final nine and put up his second straight 66.

“I didn’t really make many putts today, but I made the turn and knew there were a lot of birdies on that back nine,” Howe said. “I just stayed patient and was hitting good shots, so I just thought I’d get rewarded eventually, and I did.”

Gagne, one of three co-leaders after 36 holes, birdied the final hole to shoot 68. Sisk had four birdies on the front side and birdied the 18th hole for a 64.

Tied for seventh, three shots back, at 11 under, are Chris Korte of Littleton, Colorado, who shot 66, and Thomas Longbella of Chippewa Falls, Wisconsin, who shot 68. Korte is tied for second in the early Fortinet Cup standings.

Sixteen players are within five shots of the lead.

**Did you know Wilson Andress’** final college win came at the 2022 Gopher Invitational, where he posted three under-par rounds to defeat Garrett Cooper by a stroke in the 54-hole University of Minnesota-hosted tournament?

## Key Information

### Fortinet Cup Standings

(Through Royal Beach Victoria Open)

Pos.	Player	Points	Current Tournament Pos.
1	Étienne Papineau (Canada)	500	T37
T2	George Kneiser (United States)	245	T31
T2	Chris Korte (United States)	245	T8
T4	Jared du Toit (Canada)	109	T37
T4	Chris Francoeur (United States)	109	T67
T4	Sam Choi (United States)	109	T17
T4	Jason Hong (Australia)	109	T57
T8	Hayden Shieh (United States)	80	T12
T8	Cole Bradley (United States)	80	T17
T8	Chase Sienkiewicz (United States)	80	Cut

Ten Canadian players of the 28 in the field made cut at the Elk Ridge Saskatchewan Open presented by Brandt. Leading the way through 54 holes is Noah Steele, who is tied for 10th. He's at 10-under, four strokes behind the leaders. Here are the other Canadians and their positions with 18 holes remaining.

Pos.	Player	Score
T10	Noah Steele	200 (10-under)
T12	Ziggy Nathu	201 (9-under)
T31	Jimmy Jones	204 (6-under)
T37	Étienne Papineau	205 (5-under)
T37	Jared du Toit	205 (5-under)
T45	Max Sear	206 (4-under)
T45	Marc-Olivier Plasse	206 (4-under)
T61	Thomas Giroux	209 (1-under)
T65	Richard Jung	210 (even)
T67	Lawren Rowe	211 (1-over)

**John Pak** had three birdies on the back nine Saturday and has 11 birdies and no bogeys on the home nine during three rounds this week.

The penultimate group of **Wilson Andress**, **Connor Howe** and **Thomas Longbella** combined to shoot 11-under for the third round. Howe said it's more fun when everyone in the group is playing well. "You get some momentum going, and I saw them rolling some putts early in the round, so I knew if I wanted to stay near the lead, I had to catch them and play good golf," Howe said.

**Cameron Sisk** shot 65 in his final round last week at the Royal Beach Victoria Open. That leaves him 17-under par over his last 72 holes.

Canadian **Étienne Papineau** of Mercier, Quebec, the winner of last week's Royal Beach Victoria Open, shot 69 and is tied for 37th, at 5-under. That group also includes fellow countryman **Jared du Toit**, who shot 68.

**Derek Oland** of Plano, Texas, shot a 65 and moved into contention at 8-under. He moved up 22 places in the standings and is tied for 17th. Oland, who played at Midwestern State, is in his second PGA TOUR

Canada season. His big moment Saturday was an eagle at the par-4 seventh hole. Oland missed the cut last week at the Royal Beach Victoria Open.

**Gunn Yang** had the outright lead after the first round and a share of the 36-hole lead. But the 2014 U.S. Amateur champion dropped 27 spots, into a tie for 28th, after a 3-over 73 left him tied for 28th.

#### **Quotable**

“Over the last couple years, I haven’t really been in contention with anything. I struggled a bit on the Korn Ferry Tour last year (missing eight cuts in 16 starts) and haven’t played much since. It feels really nice. It’s reassuring, you know. It just proves to myself that I can get it done. I’m pretty excited and just got to let my game do the talking.” – **John Pak**

“It does feel like everything is going to go in. You get up to it, and you’re confident it’s going to go in. Sometimes it doesn’t, but today they were, so it’s pretty nice.” **Wilson Andress on his streak of seven birdies over eight holes**

“I’m looking forward to [the final round]. I’ve been in that situation before in college. (I’m) looking forward to a great day; just going to play the way I’ve played all week and see where it puts me. I’m not going to be afraid to fail; just see what happens and have fun.” – **Wilson Andress**

“I’m just going to try and stick to what I’ve been doing. The game plan has been working so far, just trying to take one hole at a time, just play good golf because it looks like we might have a little rain or some weather, so you don’t know what the number is going to be. (I will) just try to hit as many good shots as (I) can and hopefully we end up on top at the end.” – **Connor Howe**

**Third-Round Weather:** Mostly sunny and mild. High of 25. Wind SSW at 9-11 kph.