



Pre-Tournament Notes – Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard

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Dates: February 8-11, 2024

Where: Bogotá, Columbia

Host Course: Country Club de Bogotá – Lagos (Par 71 – 7,237 yards)

Course Designer: John Van Kleek (1946)

Satellite Course: Country Club de Bogotá – Pacos (Par 70 – 6,249 yards)

Course Designer: John Van Kleek (1948)

Field: 156 players

Purse: \$1,000,000 (\$152,272/winner)

Defending Champion: Rhein Gibson

Format: 72-hole stroke play

Quick Links

- [Tournament Media Site](#)
- [2024 Korn Ferry Tour Points List](#) (Top 30 earn PGA TOUR cards at end of season)
- [Burning Questions for 2024 Korn Ferry Tour Season](#) (by Kevin Prise, PGATOUR.com)
- [Korn Ferry Tour Players to Watch in 2024](#) (by Adam Stanley for PGATOUR.com)
- [Isaiah Salinda pulls away for eight-stroke win at The Panama Championship](#) (PGATOUR.com)
- [Aldrich Potgieter, 19, becomes youngest Korn Ferry Tour winner](#) (PGATOUR.com)

Things to Know

- The Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard, hosted by Country Club de Bogotá and being played for the 14th time, is the fourth tournament of the 26-event 2024 Korn Ferry Tour schedule
- Five of the top-10 finishers from the 2023 Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard earned PGA TOUR cards at season's end – Kevin Dougherty (2nd), Ryan McCormick (T3), Ben Kohles (T7), Rico Hoey (T7) and Jake Knapp (T7)
- Last week, 26-year-old **Isaiah Salinda** won by eight strokes at The Panamá Championship for his first career Korn Ferry Tour victory, tying the fourth-largest margin of victory in the history of the Tour
- South African **Aldrich Potgieter**, at 19 years, 4 months, and 11 days, became the youngest winner in Korn Ferry Tour history at this season's second event, The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club
- Germany's **Jeremy Paul** won the season-opening The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay, earning a one-stroke victory over **Kevin Roy** for his first win on the Tour
- The Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard is one of just two Korn Ferry Tour events played on two courses – Lagos and Pacos – with the other tournament having a two-course format being the BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX
 - The Lagos Course was ranked the fourth most difficult course on Tour last season with a scoring average of 71.403 / +0.403; while the Pacos Course ranked 17th with a scoring average of 68.526 / -1.474
 - Four holes on the Lagos Course, Nos. 2 (par 4, 525 yards), 5 (par 3, 235 yards), 9 (par 4, 447 yards) and 13 (par 4, 439 yards), and one on the Pacos Course, No. 2 (par 3, 191 yards) ranked inside the top-50 most difficult holes on Tour in 2023
- This week's field includes 19 players from six different Latin American countries or territories:
 - Argentina (7) - **Martin Contini, Julián Etulain, Mateo Fernandez de Oliveira, Jorge Fernández Valdés, Tano Gayo, Nelson Ledesma, Augusto Núñez**
 - Colombia (5) – **Felipe Alvarez, Ricardo Celía, Daniel Faccini, Santiago Leal, Marcelo Rozo**
 - Mexico (4) – **Isidro Benitez, Roberto Díaz, Emilio González, Alvaro Ortiz**

- Brazil (1) – **Fred Biondi**
- Chile (1) - **Cristobal Del Solar**
- Puerto Rico (1) – **Rafael Campos**

Field Notes (as of 2/6/23)

- Two past winners return to the Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard: **Rhein Gibson** (2023) and **Mark Anderson** (2019)
- Field includes 52 past Korn Ferry Tour winners with 73 total wins, including four winners from the 2023 season: **Ricky Castillo, Rhein Gibson, Spencer Levin, Jorge Fernández Valdés**
- Field includes all three winners of the 2024 season: **Jeremy Paul, Aldrich Potgieter, Isaiah Salinda**
- Field includes 17 past PGA TOUR winners with 34 total victories, led by **Jonathan Byrd** and **Mark Wilson** with five apiece
- The highest-ranked player in the field is **Ryan Gerard** (OWGR, No. 199)

2023 Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard (February 9-12)

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Rhein Gibson	68	69	66	64	267 (-16)
2	Kevin Dougherty	63	68	72	68	271 (-12)
T3	Brandon Harkins	70	68	67	67	272 (-11)
	Ryan McCormick	66	70	68	68	272 (-11)
	Brett Drewitt	69	69	66	68	272 (-11)
	Ryan Gerard	67	68	68	69	272 (-11)

- **Rhein Gibson** secured his second career Korn Ferry Tour win with a final round bogey-free 7-under 64 to win by four strokes at the 2023 Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard
 - Gibson’s four-stroke victory was tied for the second-largest margin of victory in the event’s history with Patrick Cantlay (2013) and Mark Anderson (2019)
- Kevin Dougherty recorded his fourth runner-up finish in his 114th career Korn Ferry Tour start and his second top-10 in the event; he went on to finish No. 22 on the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Points List to earn his first career PGA TOUR card
- **Brett Drewitt** recorded his third consecutive top-10 finish to start the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour season
- **Brandon Harkins** recorded his second top-three finish in his third career start at the Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard (T3 in 2017)
- Outright 54-hole leader **Kris Ventura** (T7) settled for his first top-10 since the 2022 HomeTown Lenders Championship
- **Ryan Gerard** recorded his first career top-10 in his fifth career start on the Korn Ferry Tour

Past Champions

Year	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total	Margin
2023	Rhein Gibson	68	69	66	64	267 (-16)	4
2022	Brandon Matthews	67	65	66	66	264 (-19)	1
2020	Mito Pereira	65	66	68	64	263 (-20)	2
2019	Mark Anderson	62	71	66	67	266 (-17)	4
2018	Ben Taylor	67	66	68	68	269 (-15)	6
2017	Ethan Tracy	69	69	68	65	271 (-13)	Playoff
2016	Sebastián Muñoz	69	66	66	71	272 (-12)	1
2015	Patrick Rodgers	69	67	66	65	267 (-17)	Playoff
2014	Alex Cejka	68	68	63	--	199 (-14)	3
2013	Patrick Cantlay	67	68	65	66	266 (-18)	4
2012	Skip Kendall	70	67	66	71	274 (-10)	1

2011	Brenden Pappas	67	66	---	--	133 (-9)	1
2010	Steve Pate	70	66	66	71	273 (-11)	Playoff

Host Course Information – Country Club de Bogota (Lagos)

- Scoring Average (2023) Par - 71: 71.403 / +0.403
- Toughest Hole (2023): No. 13, Par 4, 439 yards – 4.282 / +0.282
- Easiest Hole (2023): No. 10, Par 5, 585 yards – 4.613 / -0.387

Satellite Course Information – Country Club de Bogota (Pacos)

- Scoring Average (2023) Par - 70: 68.526 / -1.474
- Toughest Hole (2023): No. 2, Par 3, 191 yards – 3.299 / +0.299
- Easiest Hole (2023): No. 9, Par 4, 330 yards – 3.377 / -0.623

Tournament Scoring Records

- Low 18-Hole Score: 61, Ryan McCormick (2022, Round 1, Pacos), Trevor Werbylo (2022, Round 1, Pacos), Ben Griffin (2022, Round 2, Pacos), Doug Ghim (2019, Round 2, Pacos) and Xinjun Zhang (2019, Round 1, Pacos)
- Low 36-Hole Score: 129, Ben Griffin (2022), John VanDerLaan (2020) and Camilo Villegas (2020)
- Low 54-Hole Score: 195, John VanDerLaan (2020)
- Low 72-Hole Score: 263, Mito Pereira (2020)
- Largest Margin of Victory: 6, Ben Taylor (2018)

Last week on Tour – The Panama Championship

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Isaiah Salinda	70	65	68	65	268 (-12)
T2	Keenan Huskey	73	67	72	64	276 (-4)
	Trent Phillips	72	69	69	66	276 (-4)
	Will Bateman	69	70	64	73	276 (-4)
T5	<i>Six Players Tied</i>					277 (-3)

- **Isaiah Salinda** recorded his first career Korn Ferry Tour victory with an eight-stroke margin of victory, tying the fourth-largest margin of victory in tour history
- After holding a share of the 54-hole lead, **Wil Bateman** (T2/-4), who finished No. 68 on the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Points List as a rookie, made 17 pars and a triple bogey at the par-4 11th for 3-over 73; Bateman posted a career-high finish, as well as his first top-10 of the season
- First-time member **Keenan Huskey** (T2/-4), the third-to-last player in the field (No. 141 on the Priority Ranking for the 144-player field), finished with a final-round bogey-free 6-under 64 – tying the low round of the week – to convert his first career made cut into a runner-up finish
- **Trent Phillips** (T2/-4), who finished No. 58 on the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Points List as a rookie, birdied his final three holes to card a final-round 4-under 66 and record his second top-10 in his 24th career start
- Rookie **Austin Hitt** (T11/-2) finishes T11 for the third consecutive event to begin the season
- Sponsor exemption **Isidro Benitez** (T11/-2) records his first top-25 in his fourth career start on the Korn Ferry Tour to earn a spot in this week's Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard
 - Benitez turned professional in 2017 and played the last five seasons on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica (2018-23) with one victory, and had one made cut in three previous Korn Ferry Tour starts (T29/2020 El Bosque Mexico Championship by INNOVA)