



Pre-Tournament Notes LECOM Suncoast Classic

April 18-21, 2024 • Lakewood Ranch, Florida
Lakewood Ranch National Golf Club (Commander Course) • Par 71 • 7,133 yards
156 players • Purse: \$1,000,000 • Winner: \$180,000
Reigning Champion: Scott Gutschewski



WHAT TO KNOW THIS WEEK

- The Korn Ferry Tour heads to Lakewood Ranch, Florida for the sixth playing of the LECOM Suncoast Classic.
- Thirteen players in the field played collegiately in the state of Florida:
 - Florida (**Fred Biondi, Ricky Castillo, T.J. Vogel**)
 - Florida State (**Cristobal Del Solar, Jack Maguire, Hank Lebioda, Jon Pak, Chase Seiffert**)
 - Florida Gulf Coast (**Frankie Capan III, Van Holmgren**)
 - Florida Southern College (**John VanDerLaan**)
 - Lynn University (**Marcelo Rozo**)
 - West Florida (**Chandler Blanchet**)
- Additional players with local ties to the area include: **Kevin Roy** (Lakewood Ranch resident), **Jackson Suber** (Tampa native), **Davis Shore** (Sarasota resident), **Stephen Stallings Jr.** (Bradenton resident) and **Danny Walker** (Bradenton native).
- 15-year-old **Miles Russell** makes his Korn Ferry Tour debut as a sponsor exemption this week at the LECOM Suncoast Classic. Russell, who is No. 1 ranked player in the Rolex AJGA Ranking, is the third-youngest player to tee it up in a Korn Ferry Tour event and will be the fifth player under the age of 16 to compete on the Korn Ferry Tour, joining Michelle Wie West, Esteban Jaramillo, Greg Lavoie, and current Korn Ferry Tour member Carter Jenkins.
- Five of the seven players who finished T5 or better in this event last year went on to earn PGA TOUR cards at season's end: Scott Gutschewski (Winner), Ben Silverman (T3), Jake Knapp (T5), Chris Gotterup (T5) and Kevin Dougherty (T5).
- Mason Andersen** sits atop the points list through seven events of the season after logging three top-10 finishes, highlighted by his first career title at the 117 Visa Argentina Open presented by Macro. With the win in Argentina, Andersen earned an exemption for the 2024 Open Championship at Royal Troon.

2024 KEY STORYLINES

- All seven players to win an event this season are first-time winners on the Korn Ferry Tour: **Jeremy Paul, Aldrich Potgieter, Isaiah Salinda, Kevin Velo, Mason Andersen, Taylor Dickson** and **Steven Fisk**.
- South African **Aldrich Potgieter**, the youngest Korn Ferry Tour member this season, won The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club in January and became the [youngest winner on either the Korn Ferry Tour or PGA TOUR since 1931](#) (19 years, 4 months, and 11 days). Two weeks later at the Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard, Potgieter recorded a second-round 11-under 59 to become the [youngest player to record a sub-60 round](#) in a PGA TOUR-sanctioned event.
- Also at the Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard, 30-year-old Chilean **Cristobal Del Solar** carded the [lowest 18-hole score ever recorded in a PGA TOUR-sanctioned event](#) with a 13-under 57. Del Solar topped the previous record of 58, previously achieved by Jim Furyk (PGA TOUR's 2016 Travelers Championship) and Stephen Jaeger (Korn Ferry Tour's 2016 Ellie Mae Classic).
- Steven Fisk's** playoff victory over **Rob Oppenheim** at the Club Car Championship at The Landings Golf & Athletic Club marked the fourth consecutive Korn Ferry Tour event to end in a playoff, matching the record for the most consecutive events with a playoff in a season (2004, 2019).

2024 SCHEDULE

Dates	Tournament	Winner (Score)
Jan. 14-17	The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic at Sandals Emerald Bay	Jeremy Paul (-17 / 271)
Jan. 21-24	The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club	Aldrich Potgieter (-10 / 278)
Feb. 1-4	The Panama Championship	Isaiah Salinda (-12 / 268)
Feb. 8-11	Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard	Kevin Velo (-22 / 261)
Feb. 29 - March 1	117th Visa Argentina Open presented by Macro	Mason Andersen (-17 / 263)
March 7-10	Astara Chile Classic presented by Scotiabank	Taylor Dickson (-17 / 271)
April 4-7	Club Car Championship at The Landings Golf & Athletic Club	Steven Fisk (-14 / 274)
April 18-21	LECOM Suncoast Classic	
April 25-28	Veritex Bank Championship	
May 16-19	AdventHealth Championship	
May 23-26	Visit Knoxville Open	
May 30 - June 2	UNC Health Championship presented by STITCH	
Jun 6-9	BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX	
June 13-16	Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics	
June 20-23	Compliance Solutions Championship	
June 27-30	Memorial Health Championship presented by LRS	
July 11-14	The Ascendant presented by Blue	
July 18-21	Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Dr Pepper	
July 25-28	NV5 Invitational presented by Old National Bank	
Aug. 1-4	Utah Championship presented by Zions Bank and InterMountain Health	
Aug. 8-11	Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Woodhouse	
Aug. 15-18	Magnit Championship	

Korn Ferry Tour Finals

Aug. 22-25	Albertsons Boise Open presented by Chevron
Sept. 12-15	Simmons Bank Open for the Snedeker Foundation
Sept. 19-22	Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship
Oct. 3-6	Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance

Korn Ferry Tour Finals refers to the final four events of the 26-event season where players will compete for increased purses and points (600 points for winning a Finals events, compared to 500 for winning one of the 22 preceding events) to determine the season-long points race. The total purse for each of the first 22 events is \$1 million (\$180,000 to the winner) and increases to \$1.5 million for each of the four Korn Ferry Tour Finals events.



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ADDITIONAL STORYLINES

- 45 of the top 50 ranked players ranked on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List are in the field this week.
- Byeong Hun An, who won the event in 2022, has made the cut in eight of his 10 starts this season on the PGA TOUR with three top-10s and six top-25 finishes, including a T16 last week at The Masters Tournament.
- Following his win in this event last year, Scott Gutschewski went on to finish the 2023 season ranked No. 28 on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List, earning his return to the PGA TOUR. Gutschewski will be making his eighth start of the TOUR season this week at the Corales Puntacan Championship.
- Field includes four players who finished T8 or better at last year: **Logan McAllister** (2nd), **Chase Seiffert** (T3), **John VanDerLaan** (T8) and **Rhein Gibson** (T8).
- Field includes 46 past Korn Ferry Tour winners with 64 total wins, led by **Kevin Stadler** with four.
- Field includes seven past PGA TOUR winners with 19 total victories, led by **Ben Crane** and **Mark Wilson** with five apiece.
- Field includes all seven winners from this season: **Jeremy Paul**, **Aldrich Potgieter**, **Isaiah Salinda**, **Kevin Velo**, **Mason Andersen**, **Taylor Dickson** and **Steven Fisk**.
- Two players are ranked inside the OWGR Top 200: **Mason Andersen** (No. 159) and **Taylor Dickson** (No. 199)

KORN FERRY TOUR POINTS LIST

At the end of the 26-event Korn Ferry Tour season, the top 30 players on the season-long points list will be awarded PGA TOUR Cards for the 2025 season. Below is a look at the top 30 players on the Points List entering this week.

Click here to view the full points list:
[2024 Korn Ferry Tour Points List](#)

Rank	Player	Points
1	Mason Andersen	679
2	Kevin Velo	642
3	Jeremy Paul	573
4	Aldrich Potgieter	562
5	Brian Campbell	549
6	Taylor Dickson	521
7	Isaiah Salinda	511
8	Steven Fisk	510
9	Kevin Roy	448
10	Trey Winstead	441
11	Kyle Westmoreland	435
12	Ricky Castillo	421
13	Quade Cummins	413
14	Wil Bateman	384
15	Max McGreevy	375
16	Cristobal Del Solar	363
17	Kris Ventura	352
18	Rob Oppenheim	349
19	Trent Phillips	343
20	Thomas Walsh	296
21	Ross Steelman	278
22	Noah Goodwin	265
23	Tim Widing	261
24	Matt McCarty	241
25	Cole Hammer	231
26	Keenan Huskey	224
27	Austin Hitt	219
28	Sam Bennett	212
29	Trevor Cone	212
30	John VanDerLaan	209

PAST CHAMPIONS

Year	Player (Score)
2023	Scott Gutschewski (-21/263)
2022	Byeong Hun An (-17/267)
2021	Hayden Buckley (-13/271)
2020	Andrew Novak (-23/267)
2019	Mark Hubbard (-26/262)

2023 LEADERBOARD

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Scott Gutschewski	67	66	62	68	263 (-21)*
2	Logan McAllister	63	65	69	66	263 (-21)
T3	Chase Seiffert	65	65	65	69	264 (-20)
T3	Ben Silverman	64	66	66	68	264 (-20)
T5	Jake Knapp	67	69	67	62	265 (-19)
T5	Chris Gotterup	65	65	68	67	265 (-19)
T5	Kevin Dougherty	64	62	68	71	265 (-19)
T8	Four players tied					266 (-18)

* - Won in sudden-death playoff

TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS

Low 18-Hole Score:	59	Mac Meissner (2023, Round 2)
Low 36-Hole Score:	126	Kevin Dougherty (2023)
Low 54-Hole Score:	194	Kevin Dougherty (2023)
Low 72-Hole Score:	262	Mark Hubbard (2019)
Largest Margin of Victory:	2	Mark Hubbard (2019)
Playoffs:	2	2023 (Scott Gutschewski defeated Logan McAllister) and 2021 (Hayden Buckley defeated Dawson Armstrong and Taylor Montgomery)
Wire-to-Wire Winners:	0	---
Holes-in-One:	0	---

COURSE INFORMATION

Lakewood Ranch National Golf Club (Commander Course)	
Ranked 21st most difficult in 2023	
Years Hosted:	2019-present
Scoring Average (2023):	69.008 / -1.992
Toughest Hole (2023):	No. 2, Par 4, 491 yards (4.365 / +0.365)
Easiest Hole (2023):	No. 4, Par 4, 298 yards (3.378 / -0.622)
Front-Nine Average (2023):	35.177 / -0.823
Back-Nine Average (2023):	33.831 / -1.169