



# Pre-Tournament Notes

## Memorial Health Championship presented by LRS



June 27-30, 2024 • Springfield, Illinois  
 Panther Creek Country Club • Par 71 • 7,228 yards  
 156 players • Purse: \$1,000,000 (\$180,000/Winner)  
 Reigning Champion: Paul Barjon

### THIS WEEK ON TOUR

- The Korn Ferry Tour returns to Springfield, Illinois for the ninth playing of the Memorial Health Championship presented by LRS at Panther Creek Country Club, the 16th event of the Tour's 26-event season.
- John Pak claimed his first career Korn Ferry Tour victory at last week's Compliance Solutions Championship in Norman, Oklahoma. Pak, who entered last week No. 51 on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List, moves inside the top 10 to No. 9 on the points list after his victory at Jimmie Austin OU Golf Club.
- Two past championships return to Springfield this week: **Paul Haley II** (2022), **Brett Drewitt** (2020) and **Xinjun Zhang** (2019)
  - Haley set the 72-hole tournament scoring record en route to his victory with a 27-under 257
- Reigning champion Paul Barjon claimed his first victory of the 2023 season at last year's Memorial Health Championship presented by LRS. The Dumbea, France native went on to win the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance to finish No. 8 on the 2023 points list and return to the PGA TOUR.
- University of Illinois rising senior **Jackson Buchanan**, who is playing on a sponsor exemption this week, will make his first career start on the Korn Ferry Tour this week. The 22-year-old made his first career start on the PGA TOUR earlier this month at the U.S. Open (MC). Buchanan was named to the 2023 NCAA All-Championship Team with a T2 in the stroke play at the NCAA Championship and was named Big Ten Golfer of the Year this past season.

### 2024 KEY STORYLINES

- With a T4 finish at last week's Compliance Solutions Championship, **Harry Higgs** became the second player on the season to be declared #TOURBound, [securing his return to the PGA TOUR](#). The Dallas native captured back-to-back victories at the 2024 AdventHealth Championship and 2024 Visit Knoxville Open to fuel his return to the TOUR and climb to No. 2 on the points list.
- Tim Widing sits No. 1 on the points list and was the first Korn Ferry Tour member to achieve #TOURBound status and secure PGA TOUR membership for the 2025 season. A 26-year-old from Jonkoping, Sweden, Widing (pronounced VEE-ding) won back-to-back starts in April, earning his first Korn Ferry Tour win via a three-way playoff at the 2024 LECOM Suncoast Classic, and following it with a record-setting victory at the 2024 Veritex Bank Championship a week later.
- 31-year-old Taylor Dickson became the third multi-winner on Tour this season with his win at the 2024 Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics. The Winthrop product earned his first career Korn Ferry Tour victory earlier in the year at the Astra Chile Classic presented by Scotiabank.
- 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 Astarra Golf Championship presented by Mastercard, Potgieter carded a second-round 11-under 59 and became the [youngest player to record a sub-60 round](#) in a PGA TOUR-sanctioned event.
- Also at the Astarra 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 at TPC Stonebrae).

### 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	Astarra 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	Astarra 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	Tim Widing (-20 / 264)
April 25-28	Veritex Bank Championship	Tim Widing (-31 / 253)
May 16-19	AdventHealth Championship	Harry Higgs (-19 / 263)
May 23-26	Visit Knoxville Open	Harry Higgs (-19 / 261)
May 30 - June 2	UNC Health Championship presented by STITCH	Kaito Onishi (-8 / 272)
Jun 6-9	BMW Charity Pro-Am presented by TD SYNEX	Ryan Gerard (-26 / 259)
June 13-16	Blue Cross & Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics	Taylor Dickson (-19 / 261)
June 20-23	Compliance Solutions Championship	John Pak (-23 / 265)
<b>June 27-30</b>	<b>Memorial Health Championship presented by LRS</b>	
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	
<b>Korn Ferry Tour Finals</b>		
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 event, 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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### TOURNAMENT STORYLINES

- Field includes 57 Korn Ferry Tour winners -- including six winners from this season -- with 66 total wins, led by three-time winners **Tommy Gainey** and **Harry Higgs**.
- Eight players in this week's field are in the top 200 in the Official World Golf Rankings: **Harry Higgs** (No. 136), **Frankie Capan III** (No. 152), **Mason Andersen** (No. 153), **Peter Kuest** (No. 179), **Ryan Gerard** (No. 185), **Isaiah Salinda** (No. 192), **Cristobal Del Solar** (No. 197) and **Jackson Suber** (No. 199).
- Field includes 19 PGA TOUR winners with 35 total wins, led by **Sean O'Hair**, **Ryan Palmer**, and **Scott Piercy** with four wins each.
- Rising BYU sophomore **Cooper Jones** earned a second-consecutive start on the Korn Ferry Tour this week after a T16 finish at the Compliance Solutions Championship. Jones earned a sponsor exemption into last week's tournament by winning the 2024 Bridgestone Collegiate Invitational -- the inaugural tournament organized under the Bridgestone Collegiate Development Program and in partnership with PGA TOUR Pathway to Progression.
- Including reigning champion Paul Barjon, six players who finished T11 or better at last year's event earned their PGA TOUR cards at season's end: Tom Whitney (3rd), Ben Silverman (T5), Jacob Bridgeman (T5), Adrien Dumont de Chassart (T8) and Rafael Campos (T11).
- Several players in the field played collegiately in the state of Illinois:
  - » Illinois - **Zach Buchanan**, **Brian Campbell**, **Michael Feagles**, **Dylan Meyer**
  - » Northwestern - **Scott Harrington**

### 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 (i.e. - membership) 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	Tim Widing	1358
2	Harry Higgs	1210
3	Steven Fisk	1136
4	Taylor Dickson	1094
5	Kevin Velo	1053
6	Mason Andersen	921
7	Max McGreevy	858
8	Quade Cummins	809
9	John Pak	762
10	Jeremy Paul	759
11	Brian Campbell	756
12	Frankie Capan III	734
13	Ryan Gerard	729
14	Kevin Roy	684
15	Isaiah Salinda	681
16	Cristobal Del Solar	670
17	Trent Phillips	655
18	Kris Ventura	645
19	Kaito Onishi	633
20	William Mow	615
21	Aldrich Potgieter	598
22	Jackson Suber	584
23	Myles Creighton	557
24	Trey Winstead	550
25	Kyle Westmoreland	543
26	Noah Goodwin	530
27	Dalton Ward	510
28	Ricky Castillo	506
29	Matt McCarty	489
30	Trevor Cone	488

### PAST CHAMPIONS

Year	Player (Score)
2023	Paul Barjon (-26 / 258)
2022	Paul Haley II (-27 / 257)
2021	Taylor Moore (-27 / 257)
2020	Brett Drewitt (-19 / 265)
2019	Xinjun Zhang (-15 / 269)
2018	Anders Albertson (-25 / 259)
2017	Adam Schenk (-14 / 270)
2016	Martin Flores (-22 / 262)

### 2023 LEADERBOARD

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	R4	Total
1	Paul Barjon	65	62	66	65	258 (-26)
2	Jackson Suber	64	67	66	62	259 (-25)
3	Tom Whitney	67	69	63	61	260 (-24)
4	Frankie Capan III	68	62	64	67	261 (-23)
T5	Ben Silverman	69	65	65	63	262 (-22)
T5	Jacob Bridgeman	65	66	66	65	262 (-22)
T5	Fabián Gómez	71	61	65	65	262 (-22)

### TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS

<b>Low 18-Hole Score:</b>	60	Rob Oppenheim (2022/R3)
<b>Low 36-Hole Score:</b>	127	Paul Barjon (2023), Martin Contini (2023), Charlie Saxon (2020)
<b>Low 54-Hole Score:</b>	192	Austin Eckroat (2022), Rob Opoenheim (2022)
<b>Low 72-Hole Score:</b>	257	Paul Haley II (2022)
<b>Largest Margin of Victory:</b>	3	Paul Haley II (2022)
<b>Playoffs:</b>	2	Last in 2019 (Xinjun Zhang defeated Dylan Wu)
<b>Holes-in-One:</b>	6	Most recent: R4/2022, Alex Chiarella (No. 5)

### COURSE INFORMATION

Panther Creek Country Club	
<b>Years Hosted:</b>	2016-present
<b>Scoring Average (2023):</b>	68.003 / -2.997
<b>Toughest Hole (2023):</b>	No. 17, Par 3, 233 yards (3.136 / +0.136)
<b>Easiest Hole (2023):</b>	No. 16, Par 5, 529 yards (4.248 / -0.752)
<b>Front-Nine Average (2023):</b>	33.931 / -1.069
<b>Back-Nine Average (2023):</b>	34.072 / -1.928