



### **Augusto Núñez (T1/-5)**

- Posts 5-under 65 featuring six birdies (par-4 10, 14, 16, third, par-3 eighth, and par-4 ninth) and one bogey at the par-4 seventh
- Bounces back from only bogey of round with consecutive birdies at Nos. 8 and 9, his final holes of the round
- Entered the week with missed cuts in both season-opening events in The Bahamas
- Playing from Tucuman, Argentina, finished No. 180 on the 2022-23 FedExCup Fall standings as a PGA TOUR rookie; he earned his first PGA TOUR card via a No. 6 finish on the 2022 Korn Ferry Tour Points List
- Turned professional in 2012, playing predominantly on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica for the first five years of his career; he owns three career wins on PGA TOUR Latinoamérica, and notably finished No. 2 on the circuit's 2016 Order of Merit, followed later by a No. 1 finish on the circuit's 2019 Order of Merit

### **Quotables**

**Trey Winstead** on his opening-round 5-under 65... "I played very well. I was fortunate enough to have first tee time off, so kind of played most of my round without any wind or much wind. So it's kind of starting to blow now, so was very fortunate with that. Just did everything very solid."

**Winstead** on gaining experience since turning professional in 2022... "Played the APTs last year, a couple G Pros and they were great, a lot of really good competition out there. And just the formats of them, being able to have like the cut after 36 holes and four rounds of competition... it's a real tournament. Being able to go through that and just being able to compete, learning how to score the ball was really big. Then obviously going through (PGA TOUR) Q-School was a grind, and was just very fortunate that it went my way."

**Augusto Núñez** reflecting on his rookie season on the PGA TOUR last year... "I loved my time on the PGA TOUR. It's an incredible tour, and I was able to fulfill my dream of playing there. It was an incredible year for me, despite losing the card. Now I have to keep working to get back there. It's 2024 and you have to start from scratch and continue playing golf. We are going to do our best to get back there."

### **Additional Player Notes**

- Rookie **Austin Hitt** (3rd/-4), who finished T11 in both of the season-opening events in The Bahamas, ties his low round of the season (6-under 66/R4/The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic)
  - Hitt turned professional in 2021 following five seasons at University of North Carolina (2016-21), where he finished with the fourth-lowest career scoring average in program history (72.20)
  - Gained entry to this week's field via his No. 3 finish on the 2022-23 PGA TOUR Latinoamérica Totalplay Cup standings (top five were guaranteed entry this week); he earned Korn Ferry Tour membership for the first time via his top-five finish in the Totalplay Cup standings
- Chilean **Cristobal Del Solar** (4th/-3), who finished No. 52 on the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Points List as a rookie, follows a 1-over 36 on the front nine with a 4-under 35 on the back nine, highlighted by birdies on four of his last seven holes (par-5 12th, par-4 15th, par-3 17th, par-4 18th)
  - Del Solar finished solo fourth in the season-opening The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic
- **Ross Steelman** (T5/-2), who co-led through 36 holes of last week's The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club, opens in 2-under 68; he has finishes of solo third (The Bahamas Great Exuma Classic) and T20 (The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic) this season
  - Steelman finished No. 4 on the 2023 PGA TOUR University Ranking for Korn Ferry Tour membership last season, and finished T28 at Final Stage of 2023 PGA TOUR Q-School presented by Korn Ferry for guaranteed starts in the first 12 events of the 2024 season
- Argentinian **Jorge Fernández Valdés** (T5/-2), who won the 2023 UNC Health Championship presented by STITCH en route to a No. 31 finish on the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Points List, opens in 2-under 68
- Last year's outright 18-hole leader **Ryan Gerard** (T12/-1), who earned Special Temporary Membership on the PGA TOUR last season, opens in 1-under 69
- Rookie **Charles Porter** (T12/-1), the first-to-last player who gained entry to this week's 144-player field, holds on for 1-under 69 after three consecutive bogeys on Nos. 5-7 (began his round on No. 10)