



Pre-Tournament Notes Visit Knoxville Open

May 23-26, 2024 • Knoxville, Tennessee
 Holston Hills Country Club • Par 70 • 7,222 yards
 157 players • Purse: \$1,000,000 • Winner: \$180,000
 Reigning Champion: Rico Hoey



THIS WEEK ON TOUR

- The Korn Ferry Tour returns to Knoxville, Tennessee for the 34th edition of the Visit Knoxville Open.
- The Visit Knoxville Open is one of four tournaments on the 2024 Korn Ferry Tour schedule to be held every season since the Tour's establishment in 1990.
 - The other three tournaments with such a distinction are the Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open Benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics, Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Dr Pepper, and the Albertsons Boise Open presented by Chevron.
- Holston Hills Country Club will play host to the tournament for the fourth year in a row.
- Tim Widing**, who is No. 1 on the 2024 Korn Ferry Tour Points List, returns to action on the Korn Ferry Tour this week after earning an invite into last week's PGA Championship at Valhalla Golf Club. With back-to-back wins at the LECOM Suncoast Classic and the Veritex Bank Championship, Widing is bidding for the Three-Victory Promotion to earn an immediate promotion to the PGA TOUR.
- Last week **Harry Higgs** defeated **Tanner Gore** on the first hole of a sudden-death playoff at the AdventHealth Championship to earn his second career Korn Ferry Tour victory (2019 Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Dr Pepper) and move inside the top-10 on the 2024 Korn Ferry Tour Points List.
- Reigning champion Rico Hoey went on to finish No. 4 on the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Points List to earn his PGA TOUR card. Hoey owns five made cuts in 13 starts on TOUR this season. Hoey's best finish on the season comes in the form of a T14 at the Valero Texas Open.

2024 KEY STORYLINES

- Each winner in the first eight events of the season were first-time winners on the Korn Ferry Tour, tying the second-longest streak of first-time winners to open a season in Korn Ferry Tour history. The 2022 season also opened with eight consecutive first-time winners, while the 2002 season opened with 10 consecutive first-time winners.
- Tim Widing** recorded his second consecutive victory of the season at the Veritex Bank Championship with [the lowest 72-hole score relative to par in Tour history \(31-under 253\)](#)
- 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 Astar 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 Astar 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).
- Mason Andersen's** victory at the 117th Visa Argentina Open presented by Macro earned him an exemption for the 2024 Open Championship at Royal Troon. The Visa Argentina Open, which became a Korn Ferry Tour event this season, annually awards an exemption for The Open Championship via its partnership with the R&A.

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	Astar 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	Astar 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		
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 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.



Pre-Tournament Notes Visit Knoxville Open

May 23-26, 2024 • Knoxville, Tennessee
 Holston Hills Country Club • Par 70 • 7,222 yards
 157 players • Purse: \$1,000,000 • Winner: \$180,000
 Reigning Champion: Rico Hoey



TOURNAMENT STORYLINES

- Field includes 51 Korn Ferry Tour winners -- including all nine winners from this season -- with 71 total wins, led by four-time winner **Kevin Stadler**.
- Field includes 14 PGA TOUR winners with 20 total wins, led by four-time winner **Sean O'Hair**.
- Three past champions have won on the PGA TOUR this season: 2018 winner Stephan Jaeger (Texas Children's Houston Open), 2013 champion Peter Malnati (Valspar Championship), and 2010 winner Chris Kirk (The Sentry).
- Seven players in this week's field have ties to the state of Tennessee: **Spencer Cross** (Sevierville native), **Casey Flenniken** (Knoxville resident), **Rick Lamb** (Nashville native), **Nolan Ray** (Spring Hill resident), **Davis Shore** (Knoxville native), **Scott Stevens** (Chattanooga native) and **Braden Thornberry** (Germantown native).
- Five players in this week's field played collegiately in Tennessee:
 - » Tennessee - **Spencer Cross, Rick Lamb, Nolan Ray**
 - » Tennessee Wesleyan - **Casey Flenniken**
 - » Vanderbilt - **John Augenstein**

PAST CHAMPIONS

<u>Year</u>	<u>Player (Score)</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Player (Score)</u>
2023.....	Rico Hoey (-14/266)	2005.....	Kim Felton (-11/277)
2022.....	Anders Albertson (-20/260)	2004.....	Hunter Haas (-13/275)
2020.....	Greyson Sigg (-20/260)	2003.....	Vaughn Taylor (-20/268)
2019.....	Robby Shelton (-15/269)	2002.....	Darron Stiles (-16/272)
2018.....	Stephan Jaeger (-16/268)	2001.....	Heath Slocum (-23/265)
2017.....	Taylor Gooch (-18/266)	2000.....	J.J. Henry (-15/273)
2016.....	J.J. Spaun (-26/258)	1999.....	Jeff Gove (-11/277)
2015.....	Patton Kizzire (-20/264)	1998.....	Robin Freeman (-18/270)
2014.....	Martin Piller (-22/262)	1997.....	Dave Rummells (-17/271)
2013.....	Peter Malnati (-16/268)	1996.....	Eric Johnson (-16/272)
2012.....	Darron Stiles (-18/266)	1995.....	Tom Scherrer (-13/275)
2011.....	Kirk Triplett (-21/267)	1994.....	Vic Wilk (-9/275)
2010.....	Chris Kirk (-20/268)	1993.....	Tim Conley (-23/261)
2009.....	Kevin Johnson (-20/268)	1992.....	Brian Henninger (-13/200)
2008.....	Jarrold Lyle (-19/169)	1991.....	Frank Conner (-15/198)
2007.....	Chez Reavie (-17/271)	1990.....	Jeff Maggert (-11/202)
2006.....	Hunter Haas (-19/269)		

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](#)

<u>Rank</u>	<u>Player</u>	<u>Points</u>
1	Tim Widing.....	1261
2	Mason Andersen.....	813
3	Steven Fisk.....	795
4	Kevin Velo.....	675
5	Quade Cummins.....	647
6	Trent Phillips.....	627
7	Harry Higgs.....	601
8	Aldrich Potgieter.....	594
9	Isaiah Salinda.....	593
10	Brian Campbell.....	584
11	Jeremy Paul.....	582
12	Taylor Dickson.....	567
13	Kyle Westmoreland.....	538
14	Myles Creighton.....	538
15	Kris Ventura.....	522
16	Kevin Roy.....	499
17	Noah Goodwin.....	470
18	Ricky Castillo.....	468
19	Trey Winstead.....	445
20	Max McGreevy.....	410
21	Will Bateman.....	405
22	Cristobal Del Solar.....	386
23	Dalton Ward.....	385
24	Matt McCarty.....	374
25	Frankie Capan III.....	365
26	Rob Oppenheim.....	352
27	Ross Steelman.....	330
28	Tanner Gore.....	315
29	Brandon Harkins.....	310
30	Thomas Walsh.....	296

TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS

Low 18-Hole Score:	61	Five times (Last: Josh Creel/2023/Round 2)
Low 36-Hole Score:	126	Stephen Jaeger (2020)
Low 54-Hole Score:	191	Sam Ryder (2016), Stephen Jaeger (2020)
Low 72-Hole Score:	258	J.J. Spaun (2016)
Largest Margin of Victory:	7	Tim Conley (1993)
Playoffs:	6	2009, 2008, 2004, 2003, 1998, 1995
Holes-in-One:	24	Most recent: R1/2023, Ben Kholes (No. 4) and José de Jesús Rodríguez (R2, No. 11)

COURSE INFORMATION

Holston Hills Country Club

Years Hosted:	2021-present
Scoring Average (2023):	69.434 / -0.566
Toughest Hole (2023):	No. 7, Par 4, 517 yards (4.292 / +0.292)
Easiest Hole (2023):	No. 18, Par 5, 541 yards (4.580 / -0.420)
Front-Nine Average (2023):	34.772 / -0.228
Back-Nine Average (2023):	34.662 / -0.338