



## BioSteel Championship

Ambassador Golf Club | Windsor, Ontario, Canada | August 1-4, 2024

### Final-Round Notes – August 4, 2024

**PGA TOUR Americas 2024 Season:** 12th of 16 events

- North America Swing: 6th of 10 events

**Fortinet Cup Points:** 500 (winner)

**Purse:** \$225,000 (\$40,500 winner)

Pos.	Player	Score	Fortinet Cup
1	Barend Botha (South Africa)	64-63-64-63 – 254 (-26)	4th
T2	John Keefer (United States)	65-63-65-62 – 255 (-25)	2nd
T2	Matthew Anderson (Canada)	62-62-67-64 – 255 (-25)	1st
T4	Will Cannon (United States)	65-61-65-65 – 256 (-24)	66th
T4	Joey Savoie (Canada)	65-61-64-66 – 256 (-24)	16th
T4	Mason Williams (United States)	62-64-64-66 – 256 (-24)	32nd

**WINDSOR, Ontario** – Barend Botha claimed his second professional victory in back-to-back weeks at the BioSteel Championship after carding a final round 7-under 63. Botha moves up to No. 4 in the Fortinet Cup points list after the victory, after sitting at T219 prior to the Commissionaires Ottawa Open.

After an eagle on No. 15, Botha took a share of the lead at 25-under heading into his final three holes. Botha made birdie on No. 18 to claim his second consecutive victory, after hitting his approach on No. 18 to a foot. As we walked up to read his putt, Botha knew he had a chance to secure the win.

“Speechless,” Botha said. “I came up 18, looked at the scoreboard, I was like tap in, OK... I was like ‘it’s not done yet,’ but the heart was pumping.”

Botha credited his caddie, Max Hansen, for keeping him grounded during his round. Botha and Hansen grew up in George, South Africa, and have been working together since Botha made his debut at the Bromont Open presented by Desjardins.

“He was keeping me very like, in the moment,” Botha said. “There was a couple of times where I told him... I was thinking ahead, and he was ‘like stop that, focus on this now, focus on this shot...’ I mean, club selection, he helps me a lot. He probably knows my game better than I do. Most of the par 3’s we get up there and he’s already got the club out... Then he’s like ‘just trust it, that’s the right club, and it’s always been the right club.’”

Botha secured exempt status for the North America Swing after earning medalist honors at PGA TOUR Americas Q-School at Soboba Spring Golf Course in San Jacinto, California. Botha earned status after finishing his senior year at the University of Toledo, where he was named the Mid-America Conference (MAC) Golfer of the Year for the second consecutive year.

It didn't take long for the South African to start racking up accolades once he started his collegiate career. Botha was named the 2020-21 MAC Freshman of the Year after leading the Rockets in stroke average (73.5) and rounds at par or better (7). Botha was named to the All-MAC First-Team four consecutive times, and led Toledo in scoring average each year, setting the program record for best stroke average in 2022-23 (70.5).

Botha is expected to be in the field at the Elk Ridge Saskatchewan Open presented by Lake Country Co-Op, where he will make his fourth start as a professional.

### **About Barend Botha (1st/-26)**

**Age:** 22

**Birthplace:** George, South Africa

**Residence:** Toledo, Ohio

**College:** University of Toledo

**Fortinet Cup:** 4th

- Earned his first win at the 2024 Commissionaires Ottawa Open; joins Frederik Kjettrup as the second player to win back-to-back tournaments this season
- Earned medalist honors at the PGA TOUR Americas Q-School in San Jacinto, California to earn membership for the North America Swing
- First-Team All-MAC selection for four consecutive years
- MAC Golfer of the Year in 2022-23 and 2023-24
- Set the Toledo single season stroke average record (70.5) in 2022-23
- Won MAC Freshman of the Year honors in 2020-21 after posting a team-low scoring average
- Claimed the individual MAC Championship in back-to-back years (2022-23, 2023-24)  
Became the second player in Toledo program history to compete as an individual at NCAA Regionals multiple times

### **Competition Notes**

**Course Setup:** Par 70 / 7,033 yards; R4 average: 67.040

**Weather:** Sunny with a high of 88. Wind from the southwest at 1-8 mph with gusts up to 14 mph.

- Three countries are represented in the top five and ties: United States (3), Canada (2) and South Africa (1)
- Barend Botha joins Frederik Kjettrup as the second player to win back-to-back events this season (Commissionaires Ottawa Open, BioSteel Championship)
- With a third win this season, Botha would earn a three win promotion to the Korn Ferry Tour, where he would have exempt status through the 2025 season
- Matthew Anderson finished as the low-Canadian of the 2024 BioSteel Championship (T2/-25)
- Mexico's Luis Gerardo Garza (T11/-19) and Argentina's Andres Gallegos (T11/-19) finished as the low-Latin's at the 2024 BioSteel Championship
- Johnny Keefer finished in the top-10 for the fifth time in six starts and moved to No. 2 in the Fortinet Cup points list; Keefer has finished as the runner-up three times this season, and has not finished worse than T19
- Joey Savoie did not record a bogey during the BioSteel Championship; Savoie's last bogey came on hole No. 13 at Eagle Creek Golf Club in the third round of the Commissionaires Ottawa Open

- Matthew Anderson led the field in birdies made with 33 over the course of four rounds, including 11 in the final round
- Hole No. 16 – the 242-yard par 3 – was the most challenging hole at Ambassador Golf Club on Sunday; averaging a +.300

#### **Quick Links**

- English: [Tee Times](#) | [Leaderboard](#) | [Fortinet Cup](#)
- Spanish: [Tee Times](#) | [Leaderboard](#) | [Fortinet Cup](#)
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#### **About PGA TOUR Americas**

PGA TOUR Americas is an international tour that provides professional golfers with competitive opportunities and prepares them to advance their careers on the Korn Ferry Tour and PGA TOUR. The 2024 schedule consists of 16 events – six in Latin America and 10 in North America – and the inaugural season culminates in September with the Fortinet Cup Championship, where the top-10 players on the season-long points list will earn Korn Ferry Tour membership the following season.

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