

The Ascendant presented by Blue
(17th of 26 events on 2025 Korn Ferry Tour Schedule)
[Tournament Media Site](#) | [Interview Transcripts](#)

Berthoud, Colorado
 TPC Colorado

July 10-13, 2025
 Par/Yards: 72 / 8,015

Points: 500 (winner)
 Purse: \$1,000,000 / \$180,00 (winner)

Third-Round Notes – Saturday, July 12, 2025

Cut: 66 professionals at 2-under 142 from a field of 154 professionals and two amateurs; the second round resumed at 6:43 a.m., and was completed at 10:20 a.m.

Weather: Partly cloudy. High of 84. Wind SE 5-12 mph, gusts of 16 mph.

[Leaderboard](#)

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	Total
1	Ross Steelman	67	69	63	199 (-17)
2	Kevin Dougherty	69	70	63	202 (-14)
T3	Jorge Fernández Valdés	70	68	65	203 (-13)
	Ian Holt	67	68	68	203 (-13)
5	T.J. Vogel	68	71	65	204 (-12)

Charting the Leader (stats entering week)

Category	Ross Steelman
Age	24
2025 Korn Ferry Tour Points List	No. 28
Starts – Wins – Top-10s on Korn Ferry Tour in 2025	13-0-4
Starts – Wins – Top-10s in Korn Ferry Tour Career	44-0-6
Starts – Wins – Top-10s at The Ascendant	1-0-0

Ross Steelman (1st/-17)

- Ties the 18-hole tournament scoring record and TPC Colorado course record with third-round 9-under 63, highlighted by eagles at the par-5 first and 15th
- Bogeyed the par-4 18th, the toughest hole relative to par through 54 holes, falling one stroke shy of holding the 18-hole tournament scoring record and TPC Colorado course record outright (ties Chase Johnson/2020/R4, Greyson Sigg/2020/R4, Taylor Moore/2021/R1, Richy Werenski/2024/R1, Alistair Docherty/2024/R3, and Kevin Dougherty/2025/R3)
- Seeking first Korn Ferry Tour win, holds his first 54-hole lead/co-lead on Tour (previous career-high 54-hole position: T6/2024 The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club/finished T20)
- Equals the largest 54-hole lead at The Ascendant presented by Blue (Matt McCarty/2024)
- Career-high finish in 44 starts on the Korn Ferry Tour is solo third at the 2024 The Bahamas Golf Classic at Atlantis Paradise Island
- One of nine players with four top-10s this season; he recorded a season-high finish of solo fifth at the Visit Knoxville Open
- Finished No. 56 on the 2024 Korn Ferry Tour Points List in his first full season on Tour, earning fully exempt status for the 2025 season
- Logged a missed cut at the 2024 Ascendant presented by Blue, his only previous appearance at the event
- Finished No. 4 in the 2023 PGA TOUR University Ranking after four and a half seasons of collegiate golf (2019-23); he played two and a half seasons at University of Missouri (2019-21 – redshirted after enrolling in January 2019) and two seasons at Georgia Tech (2021-23)
- Finished T2 individually at the 2023 NCAA Championship in his final season at Georgia Tech

Additional Notes

- Korn Ferry Tour Class of 2023 graduate **Kevin Dougherty** (2nd/-14) joins Steelman in tying the 18-hole tournament scoring record and TPC Colorado course record with third-round 9-under 63; he is seeking his first Korn Ferry Tour win in his 151st career start on Tour
- **Ian Holt** (T3/-13), who earned Korn Ferry Tour membership via a No. 10 finish in the 2024 Fortinet Cup standings on PGA TOUR Americas, equals his career-high 54-hole position in his 35th start on Tour (2025 Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Kansas Wichita Open/finished T13)
- Only three of the eight players who currently stand T6 or higher are Korn Ferry Tour winners: **Jorge Fernández Valdés** (T3/-13), **T.J. Vogel** (5th/-12), and three-time winner **Pierceson Coody** (T6/-11)
- 36-hole co-leaders **Marcus Plunkett** (T14/-9), a United States Military Academy graduate, and **Tom Whitney** (T20/-8), a United States Air Force Academy graduate, both card over-par rounds and fall out of the top 10
- Open qualifier **Blades Brown** (T60/-1), an 18-year-old professional in need of a 2-way T35 finish or higher to earn Special Temporary Membership for the remainder of the 2025 Korn Ferry Tour season, cards bogey-free 5-under 67 in the second round to make the 36-hole cut on the number
- Brown is one of three open qualifiers who made the cut this week, with the others being Colorado State University and University of Denver alum **Connor Jones** (T20/-8) and Colorado Christian University alum **Sangha Park** (T54/-2)