



# 2025 The Bahamas Golf Classic at Atlantis Paradise Island (1st of 26 events on 2025 Korn Ferry Tour Schedule)

**Tournament Media Site | Interview Transcripts** 

Paradise Island, The Bahamas January 12-15, 2025 Points: 500 (winner)

Ocean Club Golf Course at Atlantis Par/Yards: 70 (34-36) / 7,118 Purse: \$1,000,000 / \$180,00 (winner)

## Third-Round Notes – Tuesday, January 14, 2025

Weather: Partly cloudy. High of 77. Wind W/SW → N/NW at 8-15 mph, gusts up to 18 mph.

## **Leaderboard**

Pos.	Player	R1	R2	R3	Total
1	John VanDerLaan	60	64	68	192 (-18)
T2	Pierceson Coody	62	68	66	196 (-14)
	Hank Lebioda	67	62	67	196 (-14)
T4	Sandy Scott	66	68	63	197 (-13)
	Davis Shore	65	66	66	197 (-13)
6	Austin Smotherman	66	69	63	198 (-12)

# **Charting the Leader**

Category (Stats entering week)	John VanDerLaan		
Age	28		
2024 Korn Ferry Tour Points List	No. 63		
Starts – Wins – Top-10s on Korn Ferry Tour in 2024	25-0-1		
Starts – Wins – Top-10s in Korn Ferry Tour Career	119-0-10		
Starts – Wins – Top-10s at The Bahamas Golf	4-0-0		
Classic at Atlantis Paradise Island			

# John VanDerLaan (1st/-18)

- Seeking first career Korn Ferry Tour victory in his 120th career start on Tour
- Carries a four-stroke lead into Wednesday's final round, marking the largest 54-hole lead in a Korn Ferry Tour event since John Pak carried a seven-stroke lead into the final round of the 2024 Compliance Solutions Championship, in addition to breaking the tournament record for the largest 54-hole lead (previous: 3 -- 2019/Zecheng Dou, 2023/Shad Tuten)
- Holds his third 54-hole lead/co-lead on the Korn Ferry Tour (previous: 1st/2020 Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard/finished T6; 1st/2023 Pinnacle Bank Championship presented by Woodhouse/finished T2)
- At 18-under 192, breaks the 54-hole tournament scoring record and his previous career-low 54-hole score on Tour by three strokes (195/2020 Astara Golf Championship presented by Mastercard); recorded his career-low on Tour with a first-round 10-under 60 followed by 6-under 64 in the second round
- Tied the third-lowest 36-hole score in Korn Ferry Tour history and tied the second-lowest opening 36-hole score in Korn Ferry Tour history, totaling 16-under 124 through the first two rounds
- Leads the field with 21 birdies through 54 holes
- Best finish in four previous starts at The Bahamas Golf Classic at Atlantis Paradise Island is T11/2020
- Previously finished No. 63 on the 2024 Korn Ferry Tour Points List, maintaining fully exempt status for the 2025 Korn Ferry Tour season with his fourth consecutive top 75 finish on the Points List (No. 53/2020-21, No. 47/2022, No. 42/2023, No. 63/2024)
- Finished T7 at Final Stage of the 2019 Korn Ferry Tour Qualifying Tournament (now PGA TOUR Q-School presented by Korn Ferry) to earn guaranteed starts on the Korn Ferry Tour and secure membership for what became the 2020-21 season

Played four seasons collegiately at Florida Southern College (2014-18) where he was a four-time All-American
and named the 2018 Jack Nicklaus Award winner for NCAA Division II; he earned seven individual wins as a
senior, with the crown jewel being the individual national title at the 2018 NCAA Division II Championship

#### Hank Lebioda (T2/-14)

- Establishes a new career-high 54-hole position on Tour (previous: T4, four times; last: 2024 Memorial Health Championship presented by LRS/finished T13)
- Matched his career-low round on Tour with an 8-under 62 in the second round (previous: 2018 UNC Health Championship presented by STITCH/Round 2)
- Seeking his first Korn Ferry Tour victory in his 62nd start on Tour
- Finished No. 75 on the 2024 Korn Ferry Tour Points List to earn fully exempt membership for the 2025 season; he played the 2024 Korn Ferry Tour season with conditional status from his Nos. 151-200 finish (No. 182) in the 2023 FedExCup Fall standings
- Previously maintained PGA TOUR membership from the 2018-19 season through the end of the 2022-23 season, and qualified for the 2021 FedExCup Playoffs
- Secured his PGA TOUR card for the 2018-19 season via the 2018 Korn Ferry Tour standings
- Winner of the 2017 Quebec Open powered by Videotron Business on PGA TOUR Canada
- Played collegiately at Florida State University (2012-16), where he was a four-time All-Atlantic Coast Conference selection, 2013 ACC Freshman of the Year, and 2016 ACC Player of the Year

# Pierceson Coody (T2/-14)

- Stands inside the top five of the leaderboard in his first Korn Ferry Tour start since earning PGA TOUR membership at the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance
- Seeking his fourth Korn Ferry Tour victory in his 34th start on Tour, which would make him the third player in Korn Ferry Tour history to earn four wins in their first 34 starts, joining Kevin Stadler (26 starts) and Mike Springer (27 starts)
- Bidding to become the second-youngest player in Korn Ferry Tour history to win four times (will be 25 years, 8 days of age Wednesday), with the current record belonging to Michael Sim (24 years, 10 months)
- Previously became the fifth player in Korn Ferry Tour history to win three times prior to turning 24 years old, joining Stewart Cink, Russell Henley, Nick Flanagan, and Carlos Ortiz
  - Previous wins: 2022 Live and Work Maine Open, 2023 Panama Championship, 2023 Price Cutter Charity Championship presented by Hiland Dairy Foods
- One of two players (S.H. Kim) in the field ranked inside the top 200 of the Official World Golf Ranking (start of week: No. 195)
- Posted a bogey-free 8-under 62 in the first round, tying his career-low round on Tour (previous: 2022 Live and Work Maine Open/Round 2)
- Finished No. 131 in the 2024 FedExCup Fall standings in his first season as a PGA TOUR member; holds conditional status for the 2025 PGA TOUR season and fully exempt status for the 2025 Korn Ferry Tour season
- Recorded two victories in the 2023 Korn Ferry Tour season to finish No. 6 on the Korn Ferry Tour Points List and earn PGA TOUR membership for the 2024 season
- Turned professional in June 2022, earning Korn Ferry Tour membership as the No. 1 player in the 2022 PGA TOUR University Ranking
- Played four seasons at University of Texas (2018-22); named the 2021 Big 12 Conference Player of the Year, led Texas to victory at the 2022 NCAA Championship for the program's first team national title since the Jordan Spieth-led Longhorns won in 2012

## **Additional Player Notes**

- Korn Ferry Tour rookie and debutant **Sandy Scott** (T4/-13) ties the low round of Round 3 in 7-under 63, stands T4 at 13-under in his first Korn Ferry Tour start
- Davis Shore (T4/-13) stands inside the top five through 54 holes of a Korn Ferry Tour event for the second time in his career (previous: T3/2024 Astara Chile Classic presented by Scotiabank/finished T11)

- Class of 2020-21 Korn Ferry Tour graduate and Korn Ferry Tour winner **Austin Smotherman** (6th/-12) moves into the top 10 after a third-round 7-under 63, tying the low round of the day
- The 36-hole cut was made at 3-under 137, with a Korn Ferry Tour-record 87 players advancing to the final two rounds (previous record: 86 players, twice, 2015 Price Cutter Charity Championship, 2024 LECOM Suncoast Classic)