

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: August 11, 2019 CONTACT: Preston Smith, <u>prestonsmith@pgatourhq.com</u>, 706-844-2100

## **Final-Round Leaderboard**

Pos.	Name	Scores
1	Bo Hoag	66-68-63-65-262 (-22)
2	Scott Harrington	67-63-65-69—264 (-20)
3	Kristoffer Ventura	68-63-65-69—265 (-19)
4	Chris Naegel	65-67-70-64—266 (-18)
5	Vince India	64-65-68-70-267 (-17)

# Twenty-five players earn 2019-20 PGA TOUR membership at WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz Bo Hoag claims first title at Pumpkin Ridge Golf Club

**NORTH PLAINS, Ore.** — Annually one of the most pressure-packed days in golf, the final round of the WinCo Foods Portland Open presented by KraftHeinz didn't disappoint with Bo Hoag shooting a final-round 65 to take home his first title. With the win, Hoag earns a spot in The 25, joining 24 other graduates on Sunday evening in securing 2019-20 PGA TOUR membership.

Hoag was one of two players to move into The 25 this week, joining local favorite Scott Harrington who finished in solo-second place. Hoag moved from  $31^{st}$  to seventh in the points standings, while Harrington rose from  $38^{th}$  to  $19^{th}$ .

"Life-changer; You know what's at stake on a day like today and your mind drifts to it a little bit," said Hoag, who set the tournament record at 22-under. "You picture what you're going to be doing after your round....either back here getting a card on this green or packing your car up to go home. I just told myself I wasn't going to leave here this evening without getting a card on this green. Great day."

Hoag, a 31-year-old Ohio State University alum, carded a bogey-free round on Sunday to clinch the victory. While as many as five players were tied for the lead on the back nine, Hoag birdied three of his last five to claim the two-stroke win. The former Buckeye has competed on the Korn Ferry Tour each of the past three years and was a member of the Mackenzie Tour – PGA TOUR Canada from 2013-15. The veteran tied for the lead in bogey avoidance, tallying only three over 72 holes. He had a dramatic escape at the par-3 12<sup>th</sup> when his ball came to rest about a foot outside the pond.

The Columbus, Ohio, native is especially looking forward to advancing to the Korn Ferry Tour Finals with his TOUR card already in hand. The first event, the Nationwide Children's Hospital Championship, is next week in Columbus. Fellow Ohio State alum Jack Nicklaus called Hoag to congratulate him following the win.

"For me, going to the Memorial Tournament in Columbus [next year] will be special," said Hoag. "I've got some roots there. That's what got me started thinking this was what I wanted to do. It wasn't going to be easy, but I was inspired by all that going on out there with my grandpa and dad and watching. Next week will almost be like a victory lap."



Harrington, the 54-hole leader, entered the day needing at least a solo-third finish to earn his first PGA TOUR card. A closing birdie at the 18<sup>th</sup> allowed the hometown hero to secure solo-second and ascension to the TOUR. The win in a familiar place was even more for Harrington with his wife, Jenn, in attendance. Jenn has twice battled Hodgkin's lymphoma and is now cancer-free. She flew in on Saturday night and watched Harrington earn his card.

"A lot of focus gets put on us, and what we've been through, but what she's been through has been hell," said Harrington. "It was rough for me, but it pales in comparison to what she's actually had to go through. To see her so happy on 18, it's just everything. Family is everything, family trumps golf. To be able to do it for her and have her in attendance makes it that much more meaningful."

Vincent Whaley, a rookie from Atlanta, earned the 25<sup>th</sup> and final PGA TOUR card despite missing the weekend. The Georgia Tech alum waited for 48 hours to see if his 761 points would ultimately be enough.

"Honestly, I probably had the worst two days of my life trying to figure it out, doing the math and being a complete psychopath," said Whaley. "It was a horrible two days, but it worked out...I'm just really happy right now. This is a dream since I started playing golf, to make it onto the PGA TOUR."

Chris Baker, who also missed the cut this week, finished as the odd man out at 26<sup>th</sup> in the points standings. Baker, along with the rest of the top 75 players in the standings, will advance to the Korn Ferry Tour Finals where he will attempt to earn one of 25 additional TOUR cards. Two out of the past three players to finish 26<sup>th</sup> in the standings have gone on to earn their cards in the Finals. Those players (Keith Mitchell and Xander Schauffele) have already combined for five PGA TOUR victories.

China's Xinjun Zhang, who finished T43 this week, retained the top spot in The 25, though Robby Shelton, No. 2 in the standings, gained ground with a T11 finish. The top points-earner after the Korn Ferry Tour Championship presented by United Leasing & Finance will earn fully exempt status and an exemption into the 2020 PLAYERS Championship.

The 25	Hometown	Stats	College
1. Xinjun Zhang	Guangdong, China	Two wins	N/A
2. Robby Shelton	Birmingham, Ala.	Two wins	Alabama
3. Scottie Scheffler*	Dallas, Tx.	One win, eight top-10s	Texas
4. Kristoffer Ventura*	Oslo, Norway	Two wins	Oklahoma State
5. Harry Higgs*	Dallas, Tx.	One win, five top-10s	Southern Methodist
6. Lanto Griffin	Blacksburg, Va.	One win, four top-10s	Virginia Commonwealth
7. Bo Hoag*	Columbus, Ohio	Nine top-25s	Ohio State
8. Nelson Ledesma*	Tucuman, Argentina	One win, five top-10s	N/A

The top 25 who secured their 2019-20 PGA TOUR membership are:



9. Mark Hubbard	Denver, Colo.	One win, three top-10s	San Jose State
10. Rhein Gibson	Edmond, Okla.	One win, four top-10s	Oklahoma Christian
11. Henrik Norlander	Stockholm, Sweden	One win, three top-10s	Augusta State
12. Zac Blair	Saint George, Utah	One win, six top- 10s	Brigham Young
13. Ryan Brehm	Mt. Pleasant, Mich.	One win, five top-10s	Michigan State
14. Mark Anderson	Beaufort, S.C.	One win, one runner-up	South Carolina
15. Chase Seiffert*	Panama City, Fla.	One win, five top-10s	Florida State
16. Sebastian Cappelen*	Odense, Denmark	One win, six top- 25s	Arkansas
17. Michael Gligic*	Kitchener, Ontario, Canada	One win, seven top-25s	N/A
18. Rafael Campos*	Guaynabo, Puerto Rico	One win, five top-25s	Virginia Commonwealth
19. Scott Harrington*	Portland, Ore.	Three top-10s, five top-25s	Northwestern
20. Vince Covello*	Atlantic Beach, Fla.	One win, three top-10s	North Florida
21. Michael Gellerman*	Edmond, Okla.	One win, three top-25s	Oklahoma
22. Tyler McCumber*	Ponte Vedra Beach, Fla.	Four top-10s, seven top-25s	Florida
23. Maverick McNealy*	Stanford, Calif.	Three top-10s, six top-25s	Stanford
24. Tim Wilkinson	Palmerston North, New Zealand	Five top-10s, seven top-25s	St. Peters
25. Vincent Whaley*	Atlanta, Ga.	Three top-10s, five top-25s	Georgia Tech

\*=PGA TOUR rookie in 2019-20

The top 75 in the Korn Ferry Tour standings will be joined at the Finals by those PGA TOUR players who finished 126-200 in the FedExCup standings, plus non-members who earned enough equivalent FedExCup points to finish within the 126-200 range as well as players competing on PGA TOUR medical extensions.

The 50 graduates will join the PGA TOUR for the 2019-20 season, which opens the week of September 9-15 with the A Military Tribute at The Greenbrier in White Sulphur Springs, West Virginia.

Fifteen of Sunday's 25 card earners will be rookies on the PGA TOUR in 2019-20.



For more information on the Korn Ferry Tour or the Korn Ferry Tour Finals, please visit PGATOUR.com.

### **SUNDAY NOTES:**

\* Sunday's weather: Cloudy with a high of 75. Winds mostly light and variable with slight winds NW later in the day.

\* Entering Sunday, each champion in the tournament's five-year history had carried over a 54-hole lead or co-lead into the final round before going on to win. Hoag broke that streak by overcoming a two-shot deficit to begin the round.

\* Chris Naegel (-18, 4th), a non-member who was one of the last players in the field at 153<sup>rd</sup> in the points standings, made a run on Sunday but ultimately fell short of earning enough points to jump inside the top 75 and gain entry into the Korn Ferry Tour Finals. Naegel went eagle-ace on Nos. 11 and 12 en route to a final-round 64. The ace was the seventh in tournament history and the 17<sup>th</sup> of the year on Tour.

\* Since the movement to have all 50 PGA TOUR cards come from the Korn Ferry Tour in 2013, the most players to move in and out of The 25 in Portland stands at four (in 2013). Last year, only one player moved into The 25, and in 2017, The 25 remained unchanged after the event for the first time. In 2019, two players moved into The 25 after the WinCo Foods Portland Open.

\* This week's purse was \$800,000, with \$144,000 going to the champion, Bo Hoag. Hoag also received 600 Korn Ferry Tour points.

\* The par-4 third hole (475 yards) ranked as the toughest hole on the course over the week with a scoring average of 4.292.

\* The par-5 fourth (533 yards) ranked as the easiest hole over the week with an average of 4.412.

## \* Pumpkin Ridge – Witch Hollow Course Scoring Average:

	Front (36)	Back (35)	Total (71)	Cumulative
R1	35.684	33.600	69.284	
R2	36.036	33.947	69.984	69.634
R3	35.788	33.773	69.561	69.617
R4	35.348	33.788	69.136	69.497

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