

KORN FERRY TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP
presented by Virginia's Richmond Region

ROUND 4 QUOTES
October 11, 2026



AUSTIN HITT (-20)

Q. Austin, unbelievable. What a way to win your first Korn Ferry Tour event at the Tour Championship. Just run through the emotion now that you know you've got your PGA Tour card.

AUSTIN HITT: Yeah, probably hasn't sunk in. I don't know, even all the way to the end I tried to trick myself into I wouldn't make it unless I won. I feel like it was the only way. I was so nervous yesterday, I couldn't sleep last night. Yeah, I just tried to trick myself into winning.

Q. You struggled a little bit yesterday afternoon, you came out today, just flawless golf pretty much. What did you find last night?

AUSTIN HITT: The rain. I felt like -- it was crazy, I've been striping the ball all year but this week it just really didn't feel good. So it was kind of nice to have the rain, just kind of bunt the ball out there, stick to my wedges. My putter was awesome all week so just kind of played in my hands.

Q. To get to this level, people don't understand but it really does take a village, a team. I know your mom just came and surprised you, that was a fantastic moment. But who's the one person you're thinking of right now?

AUSTIN HITT: My dad. Yeah, I wish he could be here.

Q. Austin, Korn Ferry Tour winner, PGA TOUR Bound. Just what are the emotions now, and how are you feeling?

AUSTIN HITT: It's crazy, it's crazy. I don't know, I'm not feeling anything right now. I think, like I said in the interview off the green, that I was so nervous this whole week let alone last night, I had a hard time sleeping. I tried to convince myself that the only way I could make it was if I won today. You start looking at the leaderboard and you can do the game of, OK, I'm 20 under, maybe a top 10 is what I need. No, I have to win, I have to win.

So, I tried to keep that mindset all the way to the end.



Q. You said you're going to lean into it, so last night just how much were you paying attention to where other guys were maybe at, and just how close were you looking maybe throughout the day, or how focused were you then more than winning the tournament?

AUSTIN HITT: Of course I went back last night, and I was really nervous driving to the course on Thursday, just didn't feel great about my game after the way I played last week. Then I was really nervous last night as well.

I talked with a close friend of mine, who's a sponsor as well, and got a really nice text from Ben Griffin. They both weirdly enough said the same thing, they were like, "Just go out and win." They're like, "Someone's going to win tomorrow and whoever wins is going to make it."

It was good advice.

Q. You've been close a couple times. Trying to pull off a win here, how's it feel to get that win and kind of close the Korn Ferry Tour book and going to the PGA TOUR all in one?

AUSTIN HITT: It's awesome, it's awesome. My buddy Myles Creighton would always message me, I always finished second. Down in Latin America I finished second three times, finished second out here a couple times. Yeah, it's awesome to win.

Q. How would you describe your golf journey? Going to Latin America, to the Korn Ferry Tour, just what has been that journey and how do you describe it?

AUSTIN HITT: Toughness. I don't know. I think going to the Canadian Q-School, the Latin American Q-School, the Korn Ferry Q-School and missing, having to make it through in Latin America, making it out here, trying to keep your card, whatever it is, I think toughness. It toughens you up for sure. I think I learned a lot in the last five years since I left college. Yeah, it's crazy to look back on.

Q. This is an individual sport, but how special is it to celebrate with these guys that you're playing with week in and week out?

AUSTIN HITT: It's cool, it's cool. It's cool to celebrate with the guys, some of my close friends as well. I wish there was others that have been around me that were here to celebrate, too. But yeah, it's fun to celebrate with the guys.

Q. And you were talking a ton about nerves last night. Take me back to the first hole. You make bogey on the first hole. Do any of those thoughts start to creep in, the "what if" thoughts?

AUSTIN HITT: Not really, no. Even when I talked with a friend of mine last night, we've been talking about it all year that you're going to have bad shots, you're going to have good



shots, you hope you have more good than bad.

I don't know, I came in with the mindset this week that someone was going to win the tournament, and someone was going to finish 21, too. That's the reality of it, unfortunately. It's like I said on Friday in the interview, if you don't go get it, someone else is, so I just tried to stay with that all week.

Q. And looking a little bit ahead to the fourth hole, talk to me about what happened.

AUSTIN HITT: The fourth hole? The third hole.

Q. The third hole, sorry.

AUSTIN HITT: That was an incredible break. It was a very similar tee shot that I hit on 10. I was kind of struggling with my game a little bit last week, kind of carried over to this week a little bit. The ball-striking's been one of my best categories all year and it kind of left me the last couple weeks. My coach and I were laughing about it.

On the third hole I got an incredible break. Between that and No. 10 were kind of the two that maybe my dad from upstairs was throwing the ball back in the fairway or something, I don't know. That was a great break.

Q. You walk into the fairway and see your ball. What is that emotion, feeling?

AUSTIN HITT: I was happy, I was happy. That thing was going straight out of bounds. It hit the tree and came back. The way it went in, obviously you could say, man, maybe it will kick out, but at the same time, I hit another tee shot. Yeah, I was happy about that one.

Q. And skip to 10, the ball just zips back into the hole, you make eagle, what does that feel like?

AUSTIN HITT: I would even have taken it back to like where I was off the tee. I hit it down near the bunker in the rough again just like how I did yesterday, and the day before I played a little too aggressive and hit it into the hazard.

I joked with my caddie, I hadn't told him all day but my buddy Ben Griffin said, "There'll be a moment where you don't need to play safe, you need to play a little more aggressive." He said, "That's what I've learned, and that's how you're going to win."

I had a pretty good lie. It was a tough shot, but I was like we can cross the creek on this one. I told him that story after I crossed the creek and then I went up there and holed it. I said to my caddie, I was like, "That was the moment."

Q. What club did you hit?



AUSTIN HITT: It was a 50-degree, 50-degree.

Q. Any extra satisfaction winning in a hurricane?

AUSTIN HITT: Yes, yes. Like I said in the interview after, I think it kind of played into my favor. I wasn't 100 percent with my swing. I was able to hit some real chippy shots, kind of some smooth ones off the tee, which really helped. Was able to just kind of bunt it around and try to keep it in play, just tried to get some looks at it.

Q. I know you've got this incredible trophy, but can you describe the emotions of seeing your PGA TOUR card?

AUSTIN HITT: I haven't seen it yet, so I don't know. No, no, it's crazy, it's crazy. I felt like maybe I was nervous this week because with the way I had played in Kansas City, Columbus, it felt like I belong but you still have to go out there and do it. That's kind of what Alex said right there. That's the coolest part, you have to go out and earn it. Even if it feels like you're ready to compete, you still have to go get it.

