

Tyler Terry takes second-round lead



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Tyler Terry of Hurst traded in his baseball glove and ball for golf heading into his junior year at L.D. Bell High School and in a short time has gone from playing select baseball to playing impressive golf. Tyler, who graduated from Bell this year, shot his second consecutive 69 to move into a three-shot lead after 36 holes of the Fort Worth Boys City Junior Golf Championship. His two-under-par at Ridglea Country Club's North Course from the Blue Tees (6,467 yards) gave him a 138 and pushed him three shots in front of Colby Webb (68-73--141) and Andy Ariens (70-71--141) heading into Wednesday's third round of the 72-hole tournament at Mira Vista Country Club.

Division I and Division II were split into flights after the second round and only the Championship Flight will play at Mira Vista, going off in a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. on the back nine. The First and Second flights will play at Shady Oaks C.C. and the Third will play at Diamond Oaks C.C. After Wednesday's rounds, the Championship through Third flights will be cut and those who make the cut will finish at Colonial Country Club. The boys who played at Woodhaven and Glen Garden will go to Pecan Valley Hills, and the 13 and younger boys will continue play at Sycamore Creek.

Tyler was three behind after the first round at Rockwood Golf Course, but leader Turner MacLean, 14, had trouble with the fast Ridglea greens and carded an 82 to fall to 148. Sean Walsh, 17, and Javier Manrique had tied for second after the first round with 67s. Sean shot a 75 at Ridglea and is at 142 with Luke Neeley, who carded a 73. Javier shot a 77 and is at 144.

Tyler said he missed only one green in regulation at Ridglea. This missed green led to his lone bogey on the 355-yard par-4 eighth when he failed to get up and down after driving into the trees. He had birdied the 440-yard second hole so made the turn at even-par 36. He lopped two shots off par on the back with birdies on the 430-yard par-4 13th and the 495-yard par-5 18th.

Even though he was putting for birdies on the other 17 holes, he said he still had to make several four-to-five-foot putts for par.

So, maybe golf is his game. He said he burned out in baseball after playing pitcher, first base and outfield in select from ages 9 to 17. He also ran cross country as a sophomore and played football and basketball his freshman year. When he decided to start playing golf, he had played only a few rounds each year before 2010. And mostly, he said, he has taught himself after a friend taught him some basics.

Turner MacLean, 14, was coming off his best-ever round so was disappointed somewhat about following the 66 with an 82. "It was exciting," he said of his 66, but couldn't solve the fast greens at Ridglea ("Fastest greens I've seen.") as he carded 41-41. "Yeah, its a little disappointing, but you know what, I'm only a freshman. I've got four more years of this."

Colby Webb was somewhat disappointed with his finish. He had dipped to two under par through 11 holes, but had four bogeys coming in, including the 18th when he three-putted. The par-5 is reachable in two and there were at least three eagles carded. "My ball striking wasn't too good at first, but I warmed up and started hitting some good shots and making some putts." Even though he ended on a disappointing note, he said his confidence level remains high.

Andy Ariens, another Mansfield graduate who helped his team to the 5A state championship last season, finished with his second even-par round and feel as if his putter is holding him back. "I started off good both days, dropped a few shots in the middle but held it together in the end. I felt a lot better today. I was getting it a lot closer, but couldn't get hold of the greens. I had about three three-putt greens. If I could get my putter going...."

Sean Walsh had a cruel wake-up moment on the first hole as his drive went out of bounds and he walked off the green with a double-bogey 7 on the 535-yard par-5. He also had a double-bogey on the 160-yard par-3 fourth hole, thanks to a four-putt, and was four-over before he had hardly started. "Last year I probably would have shot in the 80s because I would have been so mad," the senior-to-be at Keller said. He got a shot back with a birdie on the eighth hole and made the turn at 39. He birdied 11, but followed with three consecutive bogeys. He birdied the 18th for a 36.

Luke Neeley, 16, of Mansfield and who finished third last year, is making another run after rounds of 68-73.

After the Division I was split at 151 to form the Championship and First flights, that left six players tied for first in the First Flight at 152. and seven players just a shot behind. Division II was split into the Second and Third flights. Leading the Second at 153 was Kyle Middleton, 18, of Mansfield and Riley Shryoc, 15, of Aledo. Zach Lawless, 18, of Mansfield was a shot behind. In the Third Flight, four were tied at 165 and three at 166.