



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 2, 2024

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Oklahoma, North Florida, LSU and Indiana lead Kā'anapali Classic

OU's Jaxson Dowell leads individual field at -8

MAUI, Hawai'i – One year after the state's most devastating natural disaster, 21 teams from 17 states rallied together to travel and compete in the 2024 Kā'anapali Classic while [raising money for Maui's wildfire victims](#).

Motived by a worthy cause, the No. 2-ranked Oklahoma Sooners (-22) had four players finish in the top 10 of the 123-player field. They lead by two shots over North Florida (-18), LSU (-16), Indiana (-16), Kansas (-15), Colorado (-14) and East Tennessee State (-13).



Royal Kā'anapali's fifth green overlooks the Pacific Ocean.

"With the trade winds down, we understood the importance of a strong start," said Oklahoma head golf coach, Ryan Hybl, the fourth winningest active coach in NCAA Division I. "Today's performance was really good. We also know that anything can happen across 54 holes. To continue this momentum, we can't get over our skis. Smart course management and executing each shot are needed to fuel future success."



The Oklahoma Sooners pose for a team photo behind the fifth green on Royal Kā'anapali.

The Sooners are back-to-back Kā'anapali Classic champions and have won four titles on Maui since 2015. Oklahoma's transition this fall to the SEC has been seamless. They have already captured wins at the Valero Texas Collegiate and Ben Hogan Collegiate.

"Finishing our fall season in Hawai'i is something that our players, parents and fans really enjoy," added Hybl. "We feel blessed to be at Kā'anapali with so many quality programs and people."

North Florida, who qualified for the 2024 NCAA DI Men's Golf Championship and finished T4 in 2023 on Maui, is two shots back. Three Ospreys finished the first round in the top ten.

No. 5 LSU, Indiana, Kansas and Colorado are close behind.

In a stacked Individual leaderboard, 17 players are within three shots of the lead.

Oklahoma redshirt senior Jaxson Dowell carded Saturday's low round of 63 (-8) as an Individual. Last season, the Academic All-Big 12 First Team selection secured three straight top-20 finishes. Dowell is joined by teammates Matthew Troutman (-7) in second and Jase Summy (-6) in fifth.



Oklahoma's Matthew Troutman eyes his tee shot on the drivable par-4 seventh hole.

Nipping at Dowell's heels is the No. 9-ranked player, LSU's Gunnlaugur Arni Sveinsson. This fall, he won The Blessings Collegiate Invitational, two strokes ahead of Tiger teammate Algot Kleen. Prior to the Kā'anapali Classic, Sveinsson tied for second in the Fallen Oak Collegiate Invitational.



LSU's Gunnlaugur Arni Sveinsson watches his drive on hole 14 on Royal Kā'anapali.

Also tied for second is Colorado senior Justin Biwer (-6).



Colorado's Justin Biwer observes his tee shot on hole 14 on Royal Kā'anapali.

Notably, UC Irvine's Jason Tang carded a hole-in-one on his second hole of the day (hole eight) which plays 185 yards.

The second round begins on Sunday at 8:30 a.m. HST. Attendance is free for walking spectators.

Following Sunday's round at 3 p.m., Hawai'i men's golf coach Scott Simpson and his team will host a clinic for the Maui Junior Golf Association and Lahaina Junior Golf Association students. They will speak about college recruiting, offer swing lessons and more.

All team and individual scores can be found here: [SCOREBOARD](#)

Team Leaderboard

Place	School	Rd. 1
1	Oklahoma	-20

2	North Florida	-18
T3	LSU	-16
T3	Indiana	-16
5	Kansas	-15
6	Colorado	-14
7	East Tennessee State	-13
8	San Jose State	-10
T9	Liberty	-9
T9	Georgia	-9
11	Sacramento State	-8
12	TCU	-7
13	Louisiana Tech	-2
14	Gonzaga	-1
15	Connecticut	E
T16	Boise State	+2
T16	UC Irvine	+2
T16	CSU Northridge	+2
T19	Wyoming	+3
T19	Hawai'i	+3
21	Southern Illinois	+4

Top Individuals

Place	Player	School	To Par	Rd. 1
1	*Jaxson Dowell	Oklahoma	-8	63
T2	Gunnlaugur Arni Sveinsson	LSU	-7	64
T2	Justin Biwer	Colorado	-7	64
T2	Matthew Troutman	Oklahoma	-7	64
T5	Ethan Flynn	Gonzaga	-6	65
T5	Filippo Serra	North Florida	-6	65
T5	Jase Summy	Oklahoma	-6	65
T5	Kristian Bressum	East Tennessee State	-6	65
T5	Maximilian Jelinek	Kansas	-6	65
T10	*Parker Paxton	Colorado	-5	66
T10	Danny Erickson	North Florida	-5	66
T10	Cole Starnes	Indiana	-5	66
T10	Chase Carroll	North Florida	-5	66
T10	Bradley Chill Jr.	Indiana	-5	66
T10	Camden Smith	Georgia	-5	66
T10	Ryder Cowan	Oklahoma	-5	66
T10	Jed Dy	San Jose State	-5	66

*Competing as Individual

TOURNAMENT INFO

Dates: November 2 – 4, 2024

Venue: [Royal Kā'anapali](#)

Location: Lahaina, Maui

Yardage (Par): 6,700 (71)

Format: 54 holes; 18 holes each day; 5-count-4

Tee Times: 8:30 a.m. HST shotgun each day

Donation Link: [2024 Kā'anapali Classic invites you to support families of Maui wildfires](#)

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About Kā'anapali Golf Courses

Built on 300 acres of land once home to Hawaiian royalty, Kā'anapali Golf Courses present golfers with pristine conditions and stunning views of the Pacific Ocean and West Maui Mountains.

Opened in 1962 and designed by Robert Trent Jones Sr., the par-71, 6,700-yard Royal Kā'anapali Course features wide fairways and undulating greens which make it both distinctive and demanding. The tournament-tested layout played host to the Champions Tour Kā'anapali Classic for 14 years, Shell's Wonderful World of Golf, the Canada Cup and LPGA Kemper Open, welcoming Jack Nicklaus, Arnold Palmer, Greg Norman, Fred Couples, Jan Stephenson, Betsy King and other legends.

Complementing the Royal Kā'anapali Course is the modernized Kā'anapali Kai Course, which hosted Golf Channel's "Big Break Kā'anapali" in 2008. Extensively renovated in 2005, the 6,400-yard, par-70 layout boasts an array of strategically placed bunkers, contoured fairways and resurfaced greens.

More information: www.kaanapaligolfcourses.com and 808-661-3691.

About Troon

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