

**COLLIN MORIKAWA (-8)**

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**Q. Collin, I feel like it's rinse, repeat. Another tournament, another good play. I'm not saying it's getting redundant, but it looks pretty fun out there right now.**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** It was a lot of fun. Obviously when I got my pairing on Tuesday I knew it was going to be a lot of fun just getting to know Phil and Patrick. You know, the course is playing tough, greens are getting a lot firmer. I fortunately was able to get out there early this morning, wind was a little calmer, but yeah, it was a lot of fun out there.

**Q. I know there's a learning curve when it comes to playing on the Tour, you're seeing a lot of new places. Not that you would probably get up here very often from Berkeley, but a NoCal vibe this week. I have to feel there's a lot of familiarity when you tee it up on a course like this, poa, all that fun stuff.**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Definitely. This was my first PGA TOUR start as an am a few years ago, so coming back here on a course that I played before obviously helps. Being in southern California, my caddie, J.J., pretty much living here and I think more people are rooting for him than anyone else here. But it's just kind of cool. Yeah, it feels good to be back in an area that I've been the past four and a half, five years.

**Q. We talked in the summer and it was just that long run of playing and trying to keep the heat going with it. When the season finally came to an end and you had a chance to sort of reset, what was the last few weeks like to get ready for another season, because boom, there is no offseason on the PGA Tour.**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Yeah, I had five weeks off. I took the first two and just never really touched a club. Enjoyed it with my family, my girlfriend, doing random things. Then three weeks to kind of get back into it, get practicing. I was ready to play. It felt like a short time, but it was also a long time because, you know, I played so many weeks in a row in the summer and I was ready to get back out here this week and finally start competing. On Wednesday, a little itch to get back out.

**Q. Assess the way you played today. What were the keys to your round? What did you feel was working for you today?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Yeah, compared to yesterday, I was missing some fairways just by like a few yards in the first cut. As the greens got a little drier, a little firmer, it makes it a little harder to stop. So today it was just let's get in the fairway and get it from there. I was able to hit a few more fairways and just able to attack some pins. I had a lot better numbers. Yesterday I was kind of in between some like gap wedge and pitching wedges and today I

just had a little more full shots I can throw out there and spin. You know, it helps.

**Q. What were the conditions out there like today, because it didn't appear to be that breezy as it can be?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Yeah, compared to yesterday it was a lot different. It was a lot cooler than I've pretty much played this past summer and even yesterday, so the ball wasn't flying as far. The wind hasn't been too bad today. Yesterday was a little gusty and today hopefully, you know, it's picking up now.

**Q. You talked about -- I heard you mention over here you had a bunch of tap-in birdies and you talked about attacking. Were you able to attack more with your approach shots because you were in the fairway off the tee or just maybe just a little bit comfortable with being out here yesterday?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Yeah, no, I think it was really getting in the fairways, really helpful out here. Especially some of these greens, they skip and with some front pins today you can't have -- you can't be playing out of the rough into those pins if you want to try and make birdie. Being in the fairway you can just open up a wedge, throw it up high. Like I said, I had some really good numbers that I felt comfortable with.

**Q. Justin was saying how certain greens out here, some of them roll, some of them were plugging. Is that again why you wanted to attack and hit those aggressive shots towards the pin, because of the difference?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** No. It's kind of some of the holes it's hard to figure out. Like on one today, I had a great number with a 56-degree wedge and landed pin high and jumped all the way to the back fringe. Then you have a hole like six where I had pitching wedge and hit a little low mid trajectory and it just stopped. It's just kind of figuring it out. Some of the pins, when they tuck them on these ridges, you've just got to be aware of where you might miss, where you want to be. But there's a few pins out there that, like I said, when you have good numbers and you know what it's going to do, you just fire away.

**Q. Just a better feeling obviously?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** A hundred percent.

**Q. J.J., your caddie, is from Napa, played thousands of rounds out here. How much of an influence is that with your game plan going into -- playing the golf course?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Yeah, it doesn't change it too much, but obviously he knows where to miss and where to hit it. But like just being in northern California, like you just get an extra sense of comfort and you're able to go from that. But it's fun, having a lot of fans from Cal or supporting J.J. that I've met, it's a lot of fun.

**Q. What do you like about your chances heading into the weekend? You've got two more rounds to go. Do you feel -- I mean, does this golf course provide you with a good feel for your game? Does it fit your eye? Does it fit your game, the way the golf course sets up?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** There's a lot of -- like I said, you've got to hit fairways, and when I'm hitting fairways, my game's kind of just top to bottom flowing from there. So tomorrow I've just got to keep focusing on that and we'll just go from there. There's a lot of wedge shots out here. The par 5s are very gettable. They've been playing into the wind, so I've been able to just kind of creep them up with whether it be 2-iron or 3-wood. So have to take advantage of the par 5s. There's a four out here and a lot of wedge shots.