

ANDREW NOVAK (-9)

Q. If you could just give us an overview of your round today compared to yesterday.

ANDREW NOVAK: Yeah. Basically, I hit the ball a little bit more crooked today, did not hit many fairways. I truly think the number was three. I was never like not really in bad spots -- well, 18 was not a good spot, but for the most part it was close enough where it didn't really penalize me. Did a good job hitting some good approach spots, keeping it in the right spots so when I did miss, it was pretty easy up-and-downs. Made a bunch of putts, especially on the back nine, really got it going.

Q. A lot of good stuff out there, but obviously the finish wasn't what you wanted. Just talk us through 16 and 18 there.

ANDREW NOVAK: Yeah, 16 is playing so long. I actually thought I hit a pretty good tee shot, but I guess the wind was kind of a little bit different direction than I thought. So dropped a little left, hopped in the bunker, basically just no other play than to lay up. I actually hit a pretty good wedge shot from there but left it a bunch short.

Eighteen, I don't know if y'all saw that lie, but that was a bit more tee ball than golf. That was, I don't know, I should have done better from that.

Q. What was the deal with the lie?

ANDREW NOVAK: I'm not really sure I could have placed the ball and have it stay where it stayed. It was like in the rough like overhanging the bunker, but I had to stand in the bunker and hit it like this. I went kind of under it, hit on top of the face. I probably only advanced it maybe 80 yards and didn't even get it back in the fairway. Honestly, from there I still should have made par, it was a bit of a mess up by the green. But it is what it is. Nine through two days is pretty good golf.

Q. You were just talking about how you love Paspalum, you've had great success out of the United States in a lot of tournaments. What is the deal with the Paspalum grasses?

ANDREW NOVAK: I'm not sure. I feel really comfortable chipping on it and I putted well this year, too. I don't know, it's clearly a comfort thing. The chipping is nice because when I attack the greens with irons and things, I can kind of go at the pins without too much fear. I don't feel like I'm too short-sided here. I can get under the ball, it sits up a bit. I really don't know what it is. I don't think I've finished outside the top-25 this year on Paspalum and hopefully this week's headed towards another good finish.

Q. On 18 did you think about taking a drop?

ANDREW NOVAK: No, a drop wasn't really an option. I could, but I could definitely hit the ball. I should have done better than I did. I was looking to advance it just 130 yards and I went under it. If I went back out there again, I'd do the same exact thing, same club. I don't think I'd really change anything, I'd just try and execute better.

Q. And you mentioned the comfort on Paspalum. Is that the biggest thing you pinpoint compared to the last couple weeks where your results have been struggling --

ANDREW NOVAK: Yeah.

Q. -- or is your game in a better spot now?

ANDREW NOVAK: Honestly, I played pretty well at Zurich last week. I did a lot of good things, especially the first day, I think I made like six birdies. The putting was decent, I drove it really well the first day, hit some good iron shots. I feel like it's been trending well. Obviously Paspalum helps the comfortability with that and knowing I had good results on it. I think it's just a bunch of different things coming together and hopefully leading to a good finish.

Q. How would you assess your season as a whole and kind of your first season on the PGA Tour? How it's going?

ANDREW NOVAK: It's been a little tentative. It's not -- haven't quite played the golf I've wanted. I feel like I've played decent golf at times, but I haven't really put it together for one full week yet, not four solid rounds. I think a lot of it is learning new courses. This past year on Korn Ferry when I was playing so well, that was my fourth year like I knew every course, I was showing up, I knew what I wanted to do, it was just execution. This year it's been a little bit more learning the courses and I think that's kind of led to some of the struggles.

Q. And then going into the weekend right in the mix, is there anything you'll draw from from your time on KFT?

ANDREW NOVAK: Absolutely. I've been near the top before, I've played final groups and I've won a tournament on Korn Ferry Tour, so I don't really have anything else to draw back on, so yeah, I'm going to go back to that.