

**JON RAHM (-12)**

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**Q. Jon, how would you compare this round, eight birdies today playing in the afternoon, compared to yesterday playing in the morning?**

**JON RAHM:** Well, the wind makes it a completely different golf course. Yesterday, you know, except the last four holes or so, we enjoyed a wind-free day and you can be a little bit more aggressive with certain shots. Even with a couple longer irons, you're just comfortable hitting it at the pin because those greens are receptive.

On the other hand, today a couple of the par 5s were shorter, yes, but some holes were playing long, 10 was long, eight was long, nine and 13 were playing very, very difficult. You need to hit some quality shots on those holes. Sixteen and 17, you need to hit great shots to give yourself chances. And even 18, it is a par-5, but it's not the easiest fairway to hit with that crosswind.

So I feel like I might be a little bit more satisfied with today's score than yesterday. Yesterday I felt like I was really under control and relatively speaking stress free, right? Today was a bit more of a grind, but still a really good round of golf.

**Q. What stood out in your game today and was there a particular hole or a shot that stood out?**

**JON RAHM:** If I had to say one shot, it was the shot on nine, the 6-iron was perfect. And having three feet for birdie there, you know, it's a huge bonus. I think my iron game was really, really good today. It was really under control and in those windy conditions I was hitting it really, really solid so, I was never really too surprised where my ball was ending up and I was always in a good position. That's probably why I had so many birdie looks out there today.

**Q. And just being in contention early in the tournament, you've done that, you're in the lead. What are you looking forward to on the weekend?**

**JON RAHM:** More of the same, keep hitting it good tee to green and keep making putts. I've been playing really good, I can't really complain about anything I'm doing right now, so hopefully I can keep that good ball-striking going and keep rolling it the way I have.

**Q. When you think the par 5s are playing shorter and the par 4s are playing longer, do you think of par when you're playing the hole or do you block that out and think this is one shot?**

**JON RAHM:** I mean, holes like eight and 10, it all starts off the tee, right? You've got to hit a good shot and put it in the fairway, otherwise par's going to complicate extremely. You've got to take it shot by shot. Yeah, I think anybody in the field in windy conditions will sign pars on certain holes, those two being two of them.

And then on the par 5s, even if they are downwind, it's not like -- they're not short, they're long. So you've got to hit good tee shots and good second shots to give yourself the best chance possible.