POST-ROUND QUOTES May 6, 2023

KEN TANIGAWA (-12)



Q. Just to start, how did that finish feel?

KEN TANIGAWA: Oh, the finish felt great. Hit a great drive, I didn't expect it to be down as far as it was. I had 152 to the pin and anytime you can finish with an eagle, that's a bonus.

Q. Do you remember fairways being this fast, especially after rain?

KEN TANIGAWA: Well, it really -- no. Years past we've had a lot of rain, right, so even yesterday it was a little bit of a sprinkle, but the greens are fast, the fairways are fast, which is great. I mean, that's probably the way everybody wants to play them.

Q. Where you sit now, you're one back.

KEN TANIGAWA: Right.

Q. So two back, final group, is that good? Is that where you want to be?

KEN TANIGAWA: Well, of course you want to be, right? Anytime you can play in a final group out here on Sunday you're obviously playing well, Al.

Yeah, just go play hard tomorrow, whatever, see what happens.

Q. You are playing well.

KEN TANIGAWA: I am playing well, yeah. Sure, I'm talking to you, so I must be playing OK.

Q. What is clicking?

KEN TANIGAWA: I'm putting nicely, I seem to be holing the putts. Some of the par putts that you always kind of seem to have in a round, that five-, six-footer, right, and I even made a great four-footer for double today. Yeah, putting, putting nicely.

Q. What does the eagle on 18 mean for you, momentum, et cetera?

KEN TANIGAWA: Well, it makes dinner taste great, right, to finish with an eagle. Yeah, momentum. But it's great, but tomorrow's a new day. Golf, as you know, who knows what it brings. Sure, it's better than finishing even with a birdie, right, or a par.



Q. I think last year Steve was four shots behind starting the last day and ended up winning. Is that just kind of the way this course is, the way the Tour is?

KEN TANIGAWA: I think the way the Tour is with all the great players out here, you just never know. The scores always seem to be bunched up, so anybody within two, three, four, even five shots, right, if they get hot, you never know. Usually the leaders, they seem to go low as well so it's hard to catch them. That's why they say you need to get off to a good start in a three-day event.

You know, you never know, you never know. You just go play hard and just hit that tee shot, go all in there and just keep going.

Q. But they are catchable at the back nine, the drivable par 4, two par 5s you can get to.

KEN TANIGAWA: Sure, there's no doubt. You've got to hit some quality shots in there, but it gives you opportunities for eagle, especially with the fairways running like they are. Hopefully we'll be OK with the weather tomorrow, not sure, but if it holds up, the greens are beautiful, the course is in great shape, probably the best I've seen it since I've been out here. It's a treat to play.

Q. With a victory tomorrow --

KEN TANIGAWA: OK.

Q. I don't want to --

KEN TANIGAWA: Right, hypothetically.

Q. But you don't have status.

KEN TANIGAWA: Right.

Q. We talked in Hawaii.

KEN TANIGAWA: Right.

Q. What would this mean for you?

KEN TANIGAWA: Well, anytime you can win, right, I've been lucky enough to do it a few times out here and to be able to be the last guy standing on Sunday, it's just very rewarding. It's not so much guaranteeing to be able to play in every event for the rest of the year, I've never approached it that way this year. Just play as hard as I can when I have the opportunity to play.



And I can play in all the big events, all the majors, which is a big deal. Just to be able to win, just to be able to validate that, hey, if you give yourself some confidence, you just keep playing out here with these guys, yeah, it would be great. It would be a great deal.

