

ROUND 3 QUICK QUOTE
July 29, 2023

LEE HODGES (-20)



Q. Seems to be maybe a tale of two nines for you out there. Can you kind of take us through the round?

LEE HODGES: Yeah, I didn't think I played bad on the front nine, I just couldn't really get it close to the hole and when I did, I couldn't make the putt. I hit one really bad shot on 2, just kind of maybe didn't commit to it as well as I should have. Yeah, on the back I hit a lot of really good shots. Putter got going, which was nice. I knew it would if I just kept hitting putts, I've been rolling it so nice. No, I felt really comfortable out there today.

Q. First I think solo lead going into the final round. How do you expect the nerves over the next 24 hours to feel?

LEE HODGES: I mean, same as they've been, I guess. I have nothing to lose. I'm out here playing with house money. I have a job next year on the PGA TOUR, this is all great. This is just icing on the cake.

Q. You mentioned that all week talking about nothing to lose. When you come out here this week, is that being more aggressive at certain pins, is it taking different clubs off the tee? What exactly is that you and your caddie have been doing for 54 holes?

LEE HODGES: Yeah, we haven't -- I mean, we've been aggressive just because the greens have been soft, but we just made a real conscious effort this week to commit to every shot we've hit and not get ahead of ourselves. I mean, when I'm walking down the fairway, all I'm thinking about is the next shot I'm going to hit. I've done a really good job of not getting ahead of myself and I think I will tomorrow as well. Yeah, we've just really, really stuck to our process this week.

Q. You mentioned your mindset. I'm sure obviously tonight will probably be a long one heading into tomorrow, but what do you do to keep the nerves down or what do you do to continue what you've been doing so far?

LEE HODGES: I don't know, same thing I've been doing. I mean, I honestly don't think I'll be that nervous tonight. I'll hang out with my wife, we'll go do something fun. I mean, yeah, it's just golf at the end of the day. I'm lucky to be here.

Q. You ever have a five-shot lead in a professional --

LEE HODGES: I don't think so. I don't think so ever, maybe not even in junior golf. It's going



to be hard tomorrow, Postman's going to play great, Tony Finau, unbelievable golfers behind me. Not like I can go shoot even par tomorrow, I'm going to have to keep making birdies. Yeah, I'm just going to stay aggressive like I have been.

Q. Same mindset even with a five-shot lead?

LEE HODGES: No doubt. I'm going to try to shoot as well as I can tomorrow. I not going to try and make pars because pars aren't going to get it done tomorrow, I'm going to have to keep making birdies.

Q. How big or small is a five-shot lead on this particular course with all the wind and water?

LEE HODGES: Yeah, it definitely is. There's that stretch down the end can get you. I'm going to try to hit it on the green and make a putt.

Q. Any texts or advice from J.T. this week?

LEE HODGES: No, I haven't heard from J.T. this week. I saw him on the range when I was making the turn, he was out there hitting balls by himself. Dude's a grinder and he was getting after it.

