

COLLIN MORIKAWA

Q. Strong 64 today. How comfortable were you out there?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Yeah, look, taking a few weeks off, you never know what you're going to get, but I've been kind of working on a few things trying to get control of the golf ball, spent a lot of time putting yesterday. It's nice to kind of see the work I've put in, just kind of recreate that on the golf course. Obviously you never know how it's going to be, but it was a fun round today.

Q. You mentioned in your press conference that the fairways would be firmer this week. Was that the case? You said you might see some different tee shots. I think you only missed two fairways?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Felt like I missed more. No, yeah, some holes played a lot shorter with the wind direction and the firmer fairways, so you got like hole 11, I think I only had 8-iron in; in the practice rounds I was hitting 5-iron. Having a little bit more roll, tournament speed. It's nice when certain holes that you consider to be essentially par holes, you're able to give yourself a birdie opportunity really.

Q. Obviously have a pretty popular group. How were the fans today?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Oh, they're awesome. Our group played pretty well, we had a bunch of birdies throughout the three of us. It was kind of nice to just see that and see their excitement and have some cheers extend throughout the entire round.

Q. Two quick questions. One, how big would it be to break through in Japan for you after a year where you haven't won, or more than a year? How would that feel?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Yeah, look, there's obviously a little bit more meaning to this tournament for me, but look, a win's a win, I'll take a win anywhere, right? I'm doing everything I can the next three days and kind of tonight to make sure I give myself the best opportunity to do that.

Q. For those of us who don't know you or people in Japan, give us your family background exactly, where the Japanese part comes from.

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Yeah, I'm half Japanese and so my dad's side is the Japanese side. To be honest, I think my great grandparents came over from Japan and moved to Hawaii, so moved to the U.S. fairly early, quite some time. I was talking to my wife yesterday, I actually don't know if I have any relatives out here, if I still do. I'm sure there's someone out there

that I just don't know of. For the most part we've been all in the U.S. between Hawaii and California and that's been my Japanese heritage.

Q. And the Chinese side, what do you know about that?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: My grandparents on my mom's side moved from Hong Kong pretty early on, I think when they were young. My mom also grew up in Los Angeles. That's the two halves.

Q. A typical American immigration story, right?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Yeah, we've been in the U.S. for quite some time. But it's been nice ever since 2019 when we've kind of been able to travel over here and play golf to just learn a little bit more and kind of reconnect with the culture and essentially my history.