

ROUND 3 QUICK QUOTES
February 17, 2024

HARRIS ENGLISH (-10)



Q. Harris, great round, 65, bogey free, only a couple of fairways missed. You were in the fairway all day. Was that the key to the day to kind of set up this golf course?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, if you're playing from the rough all day out here, it's going to be tough. Hard to access these pins and greens are firming up. They're not quite as firm as yesterday when I played, but you've still got to hit quality shots from the fairway and spin the ball. I feel like finally we have a course where I can spin it as much as possible and get it up in the air and try to get it to land soft, because the last few weeks it's been the opposite of the ball spinning back a lot, so you're trying to take spin off.

It's an awesome track. Got a lot of guys around the hunt. It's going to be one of those coming down the back nine. It's a special place and you've got to be on your game. I think you can really separate yourself from the field if you're kind of hitting on all cylinders and I was doing that today.

Q. Off the top of our show today we were talking about the 15th hole. That's an interesting hole location because people watching the broadcast or listening, it sounds like it's an exposed hole location, but up there on that shelf, not so much. Turns out it's the hardest hole on the golf course, but not for you. You make a three there. That's like making a two and a half.

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, that's an awkward hole location because it's so easy to try to hit it left of that flag and that's kind of the dead spot. I had a really good number, I think I had 168 flag, a little bit into the wind so it's just a normal 8-iron for me.

I was actually looking a little right of that flag and taking 20 feet if I had it. It came out perfect and that's the perfect spot to putt from, short right of that flag, left edge putt. Hit it solid and went pretty much dead center.

Yeah, that's an awkward hole. Yesterday was tough. It's just one of those that's going to give people trouble all week.

Q. In a great spot right now, 10 under. We don't know where that's going to finish at the end of the day. Might even put you in the final group, we don't know. Does it change the game plan at all for tomorrow or the game plan remains the same, you take care of yourself?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, I feel like I've been playing really well the last couple days, only had one bogey the last 36 holes and feeling good about my game. Just giving myself a



chance. I love being in contention and having the chance and we'll see what happens tomorrow.

Q. Harris, what's probably the best part of your game today?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Really got the driver going. Really these last few weeks I feel like that's kind of been hit or miss for me. I've always been a really good iron player, pretty good around the greens and a good putter. Yeah, just having confidence in that driver to step up.

Some of these holes don't -- I mean, they're tough, you've got 12 and 13, trees everywhere it looks like. So if you can step up there and hit a confident shot and hit it right in the screws down the fairway, gives you a chance to make some birdies out here and I feel like that's what I did. I drove it really well today on some of these hard par 4s and gave myself a chance.

Q. What's changed over the last few weeks?

HARRIS ENGLISH: I played pretty good last week at Phoenix. I was in the bad wave teeing off early on Thursday, but overall I had a pretty solid week.

Pebble, didn't get anything out of it. San Diego, didn't get anything out of it. I felt like I was playing pretty well.

Yeah, little tweaks with my coach Justin at the start of the week and I feel like it's finally started to click some and starting to understand it better. Really the last two days I've hit it really well.

Q. What changed for you the past two days? Like what was different about today?

HARRIS ENGLISH: I feel like I played really, really solid yesterday, just didn't putt as well. You're going to have a lot of 8- to 10-footers out here either for par or birdie and I made 'em all today. Yesterday I didn't make as many of 'em, but really just all in all pretty similar round to yesterday, I just got a little more out of it.

It's a chess match out here. These greens are getting firm and the pins are tough. I like it, I like the way it plays out here and trying to hit it to 15 or 20 feet and get the putter going. My speed has been great all week and hopefully it will stay the same.

Q. Asked you this before, Harris, but why do difficult golf courses favor you?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, I just like that chess match about it, playing different angles. It's not just the birdie fest, the aggressive every hole. I'm kind of picking my spots to have a green light at a flag and then others I'm kind of playing away from. I don't know what it is, that's just kind of how I've played all my life. The golf courses I've enjoyed have always been the hardest.



Q. The 10th hole gets a lot of attention out here, you birdied it today. What makes that a great hole and is it a hole that you like?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, I would say it has a lot of talk out here on the PGA TOUR if people like it or not. They did soften it a bit this year. The green is still really firm, but they softened it a bit of not so severe around the green.

It's a great strategy hole. My strategy every time is just trying to send it up there. It's just such a hard wedge shot when you're laying up and you have to be so precise. And it's usually a perfect 3-wood for me to cover the right edge of that bunker and chip it up and try to make birdie.

It's not a hole where I'm thinking I'm going to make birdie every single time, I'm OK with par. You've got to be in the right spot and kind of if you're out of position, play to a position you can get up and down. It's an iconic hole and one of the best short par 4s we play all year.

Q. We've seen in recent years more people going after it on No. 10. Why do you think that's the trend recently?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, I mean, the greens are so firm, with a wedge in your hand you have to be so precise, A, with your spin, and hitting in a 10- or 12-foot area, that's really difficult to do. And most people can get to the green, so they feel like they can chip it closer than they can get a wedge.

Yeah, I don't know why the strategy's changed, but that's kind of been my strategy since day one of playing this place. I can remember back in 2013 or so trying to send it up there. And I'm OK with par. It's one of those holes you just don't want to walk away with a 5 or 6. I mean, par, you're not going to really lose any shots.

Q. It's been a long road back to get to that level you were at in 2021. What's your excitement level being back in the mix heading into Sunday?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, it's always fun to be in contention and seeing the golf ball do what you want it to do because I know I still have it. Some days feel better than others, but it's just fun being in the mix and playing in a big tournament like this with the best players in the world, I love it.

Hopefully I can make a run at Patrick tomorrow. Obviously he's playing really well, but it's just fun being in the mix and having a chance and getting those nerves and butterflies going. That's kind of why you practice and prepare for tournaments like this and moments like this of being close to the lead.

Q. Did you have any doubts during the recovery process?



HARRIS ENGLISH: You always have doubts. I mean, you're laying in a hospital bed and on crutches for a while. I just struggled with my head for a while and it was time to get it done, but it's felt great now. My physio team has been awesome back home and they've got me on the right track.

I'm glad I did it. It sucks to take that much time away from golf when I was playing well, but I'm glad I did it and hopefully it will be better in the long run.

