

ASTARA CHILE CLASSIC
Presented by Scotiabank

ROUND 2 QUOTES
March 8, 2024



THOMAS WALSH (-11)

Q. Thomas, 8 under yesterday, finished 3 under today. How would you assess your play over the first 36 holes?

THOMAS WALSH: Yeah, it's been solid. I played really well today. Honestly, just as solid, but every drive was five yards in the rough and yesterday I was five yards in the middle of the fairway. So I managed it great today. I've been putting well. I've been playing well for a month now. I had the flu last week in Argentina so I was toast, but this week I'm feeling better and playing better.

Q. Was there much difference in the course playing yesterday in the afternoon and in the morning today?

THOMAS WALSH: Yeah, it played a lot longer this morning. I mean, it was 55 when we teed off and at altitude it was cold so the ball's going nowhere, and I was in the rough so it played a lot longer for me. It was a slow start.

Q. You mentioned kind of early season success so far. What's been really working well for you through these six international events?

THOMAS WALSH: I've been driving it great, keeping it simple. Had the same swing guy for three years now, we've done the same thing for three years and just do it every day and it's been solid. I haven't been jumping all over the map.

Q. Can you talk about 18 there, finishing up with an eagle there to end your day?

THOMAS WALSH: It's always nice to end the day, especially when we're 1 under and kind of grinding. Had to make a lot of par putts. And to drop that, we were just hoping to two-putt that, so that was fortunate to get that done.

Q. And you said today you played with 13 clubs. How did that go? Did it affect you much out there?

THOMAS WALSH: I needed it one hole and it was a perfect 8-iron. My caddie and I looked at each other, we were like, we deserve this. It was fine, we just hit it to the middle of the green and took our medicine. So I'm sure, I think I'm going to ask my buddy here if I can use his 8-iron for the weekend because we play a similar golf shaft. My caddie wants me to carry



13.

Q. So what happened to it yesterday?

THOMAS WALSH: I chucked it into a tree.

Q. What hole was that on?

THOMAS WALSH: The par 5, No. 3. I was trying to punch out, hit a horrendous shot and just ripped it. It was all right.

Q. Did you have to adjust your numbers at all today like playing with one club short?

THOMAS WALSH: Just on that one hole. It was a perfect 8-iron and we both laughed as soon as we walked it off, we knew we were screwed. Once we were just it's got to be a 7 and we just hope this works. It worked, we just played to the middle.

Q. And these international events, they're not easy to navigate, they're kind of all over the map, all over South America. Why have these worked for you outside of your play? It's not simple to like get on a shuttle every day, do that.

THOMAS WALSH: I did a year in Canada and a year on the Latin Tour and this is nothing compared to the Latin Tour. That's a whole different ballgame. This is pretty nice. We get fed, we get buses, you don't get that down there. It's pretty easy to come here for us.

Q. And I would say, too, I followed you the past three years and I've always had these like moments of Thomas Walsh leading this round, through 36 holes, or this round, but really this year you've been so incredibly consistent. What was offseason like for you?

THOMAS WALSH: I mean, yeah, I think it's just my fourth year. I don't think I felt I belonged out here my first year and then I switched swing guys and we've just been building and building. Last year I played great. Blew my wrist out in the beginning of the year and just got in a rut. I picked it up at the end of the year and I've just been building on it. I just don't change anything except I'm going to need a new 8-iron, so that's the only thing I'll change.

Q. Anything off the golf course for you that maybe has helped you as well?

THOMAS WALSH: Yeah, I think I just keep life simple. Got married, have a house. My wife keeps it easy, she's not really big into golf at all so I'm not even sure she'll know what I shot. We'll see here in 15 minutes.

Q. You live in Jacksonville, right? Are there any guys that like you practice with that you feel like has helped you competitively?



THOMAS WALSH: Yeah, I think every day going back to the back there and you have Tour guys and Korn Ferry guys and playing chipping games and hitting games, we have 12 guys we play with routinely. I absolutely just get my butt waxed out there, I play horrendous when it's not in a tournament. Yeah, I lose some pretty big money, especially to Joe Weiler. Yeah, they get us prepared for the week.

Q. Would you say TPC Sawgrass and just the practice that y'all have is probably the best out of anywhere you could be?

THOMAS WALSH: I don't know how it could get better other than owning the course yourself, I don't know how it could get better. It's pretty great.

