

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES
March 29, 2024



RETIEF GOOSEN (-6)

Q. Retief, welcome to Round 1. Just Round 1 takeaways? Currently 6 under, top of the leaderboard, just what was working for you out there today?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Putting, definitely. I wasn't hitting the ball that good, funny enough, but made everything on the front nine. Then really from sort of No. 11 onwards I didn't really hit the ball all that good, missed a lot of fairways, struggled to get it close to the hole. You know, caught up with me on the back nine, the bad ball-striking. So I'm going to hit some this afternoon, hopefully find something to get into the groove for tomorrow.

Q. What is it about this golf course, especially the first 14 holes? I mean, you're 16 under after your last 36 holes on the first 14 holes.

RETIEF GOOSEN: Yeah, I got off to a great start. I just like the course, the course is in great shape. Everything's there in front of you. If you hit the ball well you're going to score well and putt well. Obviously the greens are so good, if you start it online you make it. Like I said, I was a little off this whole week so far and struggling to just time it right. Hopefully tomorrow it will kick in.

Q. Third place last year, tied for first this year obviously. Is it just the golf course, is it the atmosphere, is it the weather, because that might change from what we hear?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Yeah, it's going to be a totally different weekend, it's going to be cold and wet. So the course is going to change completely tomorrow, the ball's going to go nowhere so the course is going to play a lot longer. It will be interesting to see what comes over those mountains.

But it's a pretty place, it's a great golf course, great setup for the Champions Tour.

Q. You came here last year, I can't imagine you played the golf course before?

RETIEF GOOSEN: No.

Q. So was there something you learned last year that you can translate into this year?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Definitely. You're starting to learn the greens a little better, some of the breaks, what clubs you can hit, which areas are favorable to hit and so on. Yeah, every time you go around you learn something, definitely.

