

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES
July 30, 2026

RICKIE FOWLER (-7)



Q. Rickie, how did the course play? Everyone talked about it being a little bit tougher, some low scores out there today.

RICKIE FOWLER: Yeah, no, it's good. Soft conditions. Course is in -- for being as new as it is, it's in great shape. I really like what they've done here. It's going to take a year or two for it to mature and then properly grow in, greens to settle. Like I said, being a year from when it basically was dirt, I think it's great.

Yeah, receptive greens, you're going to see low scores, but you also have to take advantage of that. I think you're seeing a good variety, plenty of low rounds, but also it's not like it's a gimme out there. You can still -- bogeys and others are still available if you're not careful.

Q. How does the Playoffs chase and trying to position yourself for East Lake come into play at this point of the season? Obviously you want to play well here this week, but do you have thoughts on -- are you looking at standings at all yet or are we a little early?

RICKIE FOWLER: Yeah, I know where I'm at and all that. Obviously would like to just play well and have a good week here. You know, I think the earlier, sooner you could potentially lock up just being in the top-30, that would be something that would be great for me and then above that, just being in the position where we have a chance going into East Lake would be ideal.

But at the same time, it's not necessarily a position where I'm looking at playing next week just to get points because also it is a tough stretch. This week the weather's great being up this far north, but you look at Greensboro on through the Playoffs and that's just grinding it out and trying to survive.

Play well this week, enjoy some days at home, rest up because it's going to be a hot, sweaty, muggy run to the finish.

Q. Rickie, your history at the tournament, your association with Rocket, what was it like out there with the fans, the reception? Is it a little bittersweet to see it going now?

RICKIE FOWLER: Yeah, no, it's definitely been a bummer to kind of come into this knowing it was the last one. It's been fun for me to have a partnership with Rocket and see this event make its way here because that was always a dream of theirs to have an event back in Detroit, and to see it continue to grow over the years, felt like it just kept getting bigger and better. This being I think the best that they've done continuously.



It is a bummer, but it's been a lot of fun, like I said, to be a part of it. Fans have always been great to me here and having the association with Rocket, but I think the win in '23 helped solidify that. Yeah, this has always been a fun week for us and a little bittersweet.

Q. Rickie, a long-term one for you, but we're starting to see some Championship Series events start to come out the last few days looking at the '28 schedule. What's it like for you as a player to see this shift from like a theoretical vision to something you can see take shape?

RICKIE FOWLER: Yeah, it's tough to really know until obviously everything's out. I know everyone at the Tour on the board level and higher up than where I'm involved, they're putting a lot of time and effort and focus on trying to get it as close to right as possible. I know a lot of times there's going to be tweaks here or there.

I think it simplifies things and you know kind of going in depending on where you're at what your schedule is, not having any of this am I in this event, do I need to go play down or go over here.

So is it going to be better? I'm not sure. I think it helps, like I said, simplify things and give a little clearer idea for the player, for the fans.

So I do think it has the potential to be better than where we currently are of having two to three tours potentially out here over -- you know, since I've been out. It's just not maybe talked about as much and now going into a little bit more of an actual structure of that.

