

**Q. Akshay, just kind of feeling your way around the PGA TOUR. Shortly you'll turn 19. How's the experience been this week?**

**AKSHAY BHATIA:** It's been great. It's obviously the biggest thing for me was just to Monday qualify, it's basically my whole schedule for the next year. And I've been beating up on the Mondays and I finally made one. It's been a great week so far. This place is pretty, it's warm. It's freezing at home so I would much rather be here than in 40 degrees.

**Q. Rounds of 4 under and 2 under. Do you consciously know what the cut is when you're feeling your way around the PGA TOUR or just trying to post the best score possible?**

**AKSHAY BHATIA:** Early when I started playing I thought about it a lot, but now, like today I felt very comfortable and my goal is just to get close to the lead or in the lead. That was the whole goal today. I was still a little uncomfortable and still managed to make some birdies. I'm putting well enough where I can hit it in the middle of the greens more. I'm pretty capable of making some 20-footers, so that's been kind of the story the last few good tournaments.

**Q. Akshay, we have 10-, 20-year veterans on the PGA TOUR that struggle on Paspalum. Have you played it before and how are you finding the surfaces?**

**AKSHAY BHATIA:** So I played in Puntacana after I top-10ed, those greens are nowhere near as good as these. These are really pure. I don't know, they're easy to read. Like a lot of the greens are flat and you just -- even if you miss a green, it's not too hard to get up and down. It's a really good course for me just because I'm a pretty good ball-striker, I hit a lot of greens. As long as I can hit fairways, it's the key to making a lot of birdies out here.