

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
NOVEMBER 4, 2021**



AARON WISE (-8)

AARON WISE: Then you've got a tough finish. I knew that I was doing really well, but I had some tough golf ahead of me. But like you said, it was awesome to get off to that fast start. I made a couple really long putts, hit a lot of really nice iron shots, and being 8 under through 10's never a bad thing.

Q. You only had one bogey and it was a big bogey. That was a good putt. You drove it in the penalty area. That was big.

AARON WISE: Yeah, that's the toughest hole on the course and I hit a bad 3-wood and was really out of position, but like you said, to get that ball up and down from 40 yards or so to save bogey kind of kept the round going, kept me in it, and was able to get a nice one on 18 to finish off at 8.

Q. The one at 18 was sweet, that was about 35 feet, maybe a little longer.

AARON WISE: Yeah. I was joking with my caddie that I came here to hoop it this week and I was able to make it. That's just a bonus. Overall, a great round out there.

Q. Last year you finished one short, Viktor with that great birdie on the 72nd hole. What's the mental frame of mind right now? Did you feel like this maybe owes you one or something?

AARON WISE: No, not really. Just good vibes here. I feel like I've played well here more years than just last year. Obviously last year was great and I feel like my game's in a good spot. Overall, just a lot of really good vibes and a lot of positive energy and hope for a good week here again.

Q. Tell our listeners, what do you do this afternoon now? I mean, you're not going to go out and practice all day, are you?

AARON WISE: No. I'll probably hit some balls. That 3-wood bugs me a little bit, so I might go hit some 3-woods on the range and kick up the feet, relax. It's hot out here, the course is wet, it's a long walk, so just try to rest up and get some sleep for tomorrow.

Q. Eight under through 10 holes, birdie and a bogey late, just some comments on especially those first 10 holes and the round overall?

AARON WISE: Yeah, it was great. Made a couple long putts, hit a couple really good iron shots and drove it well. It takes a lot to be 8 under through 10. I was happy to be there, but

this course has a pretty tough finish to it. There's probably three, four really tough holes coming down the back end and one of them got me there with hitting a 3-wood out of play, but was able to save bogey, and then made a nice long putt on 18 for birdie to kind of cap off the round.

Q. The bogey was one you were celebrating?

AARON WISE: Yes, it was. If there's ever such a thing as a good bogey, that was one of them. It was a huge up-and-down, a nice solid eight-footer I made there. It's not a position where you want to make double, it kind of takes a lot of wind out of your sails, so to only lose one, and I knew I had two birdie holes coming up that I knew I could maybe get it back.

Q. I know you finished second last year. Did you close with a 63 as well last year?

AARON WISE: Sounds about right. I had a really good day.

Q. So 16 under in your last two rounds here.

AARON WISE: That's pretty good.

Q. Yeah. What is it about the course that suits your game, do you think?

AARON WISE: I just feel like I have pretty good vibes around here. Every now and again you find those courses where you just come and you're comfortable the moment you're on the grounds and this is one of those for me. I feel like I make my fair share of putts around here, I hit good iron shots and I get a lot of wedge opportunities, which is really good. At the end of the day you've still got to play good golf, but just coming here, I just feel happy, I feel good vibes and I feel like that translates into the golf.