

ROUND 3 INTERVIEW

November 19, 2022

ANDREW PUTNAM (-13)



Q. Andrew, how would you characterize the round today?

ANDREW PUTNAM: Pretty boring, pretty -- yeah, our group was just not really firing. Started out pretty slow and just tried to tell myself to hang around there. I knew there was going to be a tough stretch of golf, it had been too easy the first 36. Yeah, I mean, overall, I'm glad I finished under par and still have a chance.

Q. How hard is it when your group, the other guys you're playing with don't get off to a hot start? Is it hard to kind of keep your mind in the right frame?

ANDREW PUTNAM: Yeah, I mean, the momentum just was not in our favor. There was not a lot of birdies. Some guys were shooting good scores today. It just felt hard for us for some reason, the ball wasn't going in. Luckily, our group played a little better the last nine.

Q. What's been the key to the fall? You made all eight cuts, played well at ZOZO. What's been behind the good play?

ANDREW PUTNAM: Just been really consistent with everything. I mean, I can't really point to just one thing that's been good. Driving it pretty accurately and irons have been pretty good and putter has been my normal pretty hot. Everything's been firing and it's been a great stretch.

Q. You look like you're going to play with Sahith tomorrow. It's two waves. What's the relationship like with him and what do you like about what he does?

ANDREW PUTNAM: Yeah, I saw that I needed to make that last five-footer to play with him, so I was happy to do that.

We've gotten to know each other pretty good over this past year, played a lot of practice rounds. He has my old caddie on his bag, Carl, who's my roommate. Great kid, and obviously very easy to be around and has been playing great. It will be fun to play with him in the last round here and see if either he can get his first win or me get my second.

Q. You talked about getting off to kind of a slow start on a Saturday and staying patient, just keeping yourself in it. Is it easier to do that on a Saturday than a Sunday obviously?

ANDREW PUTNAM: I think so just because you know you've got more golf ahead of you. If it's Sunday, you've got to press a little harder and thankfully we've got another 18.

Q. Were you invited to Sahith's buddies' trip?

ANDREW PUTNAM: Didn't make the cut.

Q. He wouldn't divulge the guest list.

ANDREW PUTNAM: I have two kids, so he probably just knew I was out.

Q. What year was Carl on your bag?

ANDREW PUTNAM: He was on my bag two years ago. So he went to the Korn Ferry Finals with Sahith, told me he wasn't going to bounce on his bag. They made it through and then he ended up firing me. It was all good because Carl recruited Sahith and he had always wanted a young rookie who he could show the ropes and I was OK with it.

Q. How much do you think he's helped Sahith through this stage in his career?

ANDREW PUTNAM: I think more than anything, probably just making him comfortable out here. When you've got a good friend on your bag, I think that just makes it easier just to get adjusted to being on the PGA TOUR when you're playing with all these bigger names and people you watch on TV.

I know having a good friend on my bag early on was helpful and having my brother ahead of me was extremely helpful. I'm sure Carl, he's a very even keel type presence, so that's probably helped Sahith to get off to such a good start.

Q. Andrew, it's been a few years, what do you think it's going to take tomorrow to get across the finish line?

ANDREW PUTNAM: Probably going to have to shoot 4, 5 under. I mean, maybe even more. Depends what the weather's like. I think it might be a little bit colder, but obviously this course is very scorable. The greens are rolling so good, you can make a lot of birdies, so we'll have to play a lot better than I did today.