

COMPLIANCE SOLUTIONS CHAMPIONSHIP

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW

June 22, 2023

RAFAEL CAMPOS (-8)



Q. All right, 8 under today, what a great start to the week. How was it out there?

RAFA CAMPOS: It was great actually. The weather was awesome, not that much wind compared to the last couple days where it was quite windy. I was really happy with the day, thought I hit the ball very well. It's extremely important here to hit it well off the tee box. If you hit fairways, you can score. I was fortunate to be able to do that.

Honestly, I hit the ball well enough where it was actually very comfortable and easy today. I think I only had two bad swings and the putter was hot. You know, we probably left a couple out there, but at the same time we made a couple of long putts where those are bonuses, so I can't really complain. Really happy with the score today. It's not often I start off on the right foot. Trying to savor the moment.

Q. Walk us through that hole-out. What happened? Give us the numbers.

RAFA CAMPOS: Hole No. 11, hit a good tee shot. I started on 10, so I pulled my tee shot on 10 into the water, up and down for par, which is good.

Hit a good tee shot on 11 and I think I had 106 to the pin. It's funny because last week I was playing with a couple guys and they holed out two days in a row from like 140 yards. I was telling my caddie last week, I'm like I don't think I've holed out in years.

As soon as I hit it in the air, I told my caddie, I was like, man, what a great shot. I hit it perfect. Probably ended like three paces behind the pin and you could see it rolling back to like straight to the hole. Once it disappeared I'm like, oh, I just needed to ask for it.

Yeah, that was a great shot. The only bad swing I had was the following hole. Ended up having to, from a bunker I had to play it out save and not even give myself a chance for a par.

Like I said, really happy. Played the par 5s good on the second nine. Front nine I did not take advantage of the par 5s. Overall, I hit the ball very well off the tee box, which I'm pretty happy.

Q. You've had two top-10s this season, but overall how would you assess your game and how 2023 has been for you?



RAFA CAMPOS: Trending. Man, I feel great physically. I see the consistency more now and I know -- I knew it was going to come. Apart from a couple top-10s, there's been like three occasions I've been top-10 coming into the last day and kind of don't really seal the deal or play well.

Either way, a lot of positives. I really do feel that I'm getting really close. I'm starting to see the consistency, I'm starting to be a little more aggressive on the golf course knowing I'm able to pull the shots out.

Hopefully, this is the year. I really want to go back to the PGA TOUR and I think I'm slowly moving into the right direction. I definitely need a win or solo second to kind of put myself in a better spot mentally. It will come, I really think it will come, I've just got to give myself some chances and hopefully the putter stays hot for, I don't know, four months.

Q. How's it feel starting off this week on such a good foot? Like you mentioned, it feels good to --

RAFA CAMPOS: It feels great, it really does. One of the things I've struggled throughout the last three years is beginning tournaments. It's not nice to start 1 over, even 1 or 2 under, especially considering the courses we play where cuts are typically 4, 5, 6 under.

I've always had to be behind the 8-ball the second day and put a little too much pressure, but it feels great to have a great round. Hopefully, the mindset tomorrow will just be let's try to hit fairways, greens and try to keep making putts, not think about where we're standing. I think that's the advantage of playing well the first day, for sure.

