

PINNACLE BANK CHAMPIONSHIP
presented by Aetna

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTE
August 10, 2023



CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR (-8)

Q. Eight under first round, obviously off to a great start. How are you feeling after that?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: Good, man. This course is very tough. Rough is extremely thick, long. I mean, I'm very happy. I hit the ball as good as it gets, putted the ball incredible. I chipped in twice. I mean, it was a great round.

Q. Is there -- the last few weeks have been, you know, high cuts, 6 under, 7 under. Is it a little bit of a relief that you're playing a more difficult course?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: Yeah. I mean, obviously two different courses, you've got the hard ones and the easy ones. The easy ones, anybody can win because they're short, a lot of wedges, open, soft. I mean, on hard ones, you kind of limit the field a little bit. I mean, longer courses, it's definitely a really good track. I mean, you've got to play extremely well to win here.

Q. With this course specific, I guess the keys to beat it, is it just stay out of the rough or is it all over the place?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: Yeah, I mean, ideally it's just to hit the fairway. Yeah, I mean, you hit the rough and then you've got 6-irons, 5-irons in. And the rough is so thick that the ball doesn't get airborne.

So yeah, I mean, you hit the fairway, then it's just -- it's a key definitely. Hit the green. Around the greens the rough is extremely thick, too. So it's not like if you miss the green you're going to get an auto par, no chance. But yeah, I mean, just ideally just hit the middle of the fairway, middle of the green and make the putt.

Q. Only two more regular season events, a lot of guys are fighting to get into the Finals at 156. You're more of in a position to fight for top-30. Can you feel maybe a little bit of pressure amongst membership to make a good push?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: Not really. I think I'm 45 or 44 in the ranking, 46 or something like that. Obviously my goal by the end of the year is to be in the top-30. Just it's still we have a bunch of, we've got two regular season, but then we've got four in the Playoffs. So I think I still have enough time to get in there.



Obviously if you play well one week, that just will take care of itself. Yeah, I mean, I'm trying to just be week by week, working on my routine, just kind of doing me, you know, every day. Practicing, working out, just doing me. I try not to think about other people.

Q. Is that kind of your -- that more personality or a mindset that you come into the golf course with, just lock in on just yourself and not worry about anything?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: No, man, I'm trying. It's difficult, man. I mean, it's difficult kind of thinking about yourself. You get all the external factors and just trying to do the best you can to just avoid them and just focus on yourself. Yeah, that's kind of what I've been working on not just this season, I mean, for the past X amount of years I've been trying to just working on my routines, kind of just sticking to myself.

Q. Going back a couple weeks, this is kind of random, back in Chicago I know you did an interview with the Barstool guys that kind of blew up. I guess that week as a whole and specifically that interview, what was that experience like?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: It was good. I mean, Francis was actually following me, that group. He showed up on like the 15th hole or whatever.

I got to know him at the beginning of the week because I was doing some drills on the putting green and he was doing I think a shoot, I think maybe pranking some people or something. He kind of came up to me and he was -- I mean, I think he wanted to prank me or whatever, but yeah.

Then I saw him working out, then I kind of built the relationship with him a little bit and he asked me, he was like, hey, do you want to do an interview? And I was like, yeah, sure. I didn't know, I don't know if I should. I was like, you know what, I'm playing well, I'm relaxed, yeah, let's do the interview.

And he asked me, I was like, yeah, what happened on the bogey on 15? It was I think my first bogey of the week or something. I was like, well, you showed up.

It's all good. I mean, it was a good experience for them to be there. It was actually my first on-course interview I've had, so it's good, it helped.

Q. Different, very different.

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: Yeah, very different.

