

ROUND 3 QUICK QUOTES
October 22, 2023

SHANE BERTSCH (-5)



Q. You tried to make it interesting on 14, didn't you?

SHANE BERTSCH: Yeah. You know, you see a little bit of everything in this game. I've stuck balls in pine trees and palm trees, whatever those ones are in California, the big cypress trees, but to stick in a tall skinny pine tree about 80 feet up and then drop out after I hit my second ball, that was something a little different.

Yeah, luckily, made some good shots coming in and made a nice putt. It was just a tough week, tough week. I haven't played under this much stress in three, four years. You know, I used a little trick that I call Q-School focus, because it was kind of like I've been pretty good at all the Q schools I've been at. It was like a Q-School for me.

Q. The emotion that you're showing right now to know, like you said, being under so much stress, did that eagle give you confidence after the double coming in to know like I can do this?

SHANE BERTSCH: Yeah. You never know if the boards are exactly right, but I saw where it was after 15 and I knew if I could make a birdie at least, I'd be good. It looked like, but you never know, right? So the eagle really helped a lot erase that double.

Q. Currently projected 48 right now, so I think you're good. How does that feel?

SHANE BERTSCH: It feels great, feels great.

Q. What's the emotion?

SHANE BERTSCH: Just been a long year. I feel like I've been playing a lot better than what I've gotten out of it. I had the shanks early in the year. I got rid of 'em, got 'em back this week. I had two shanks this week and I made pars on both those holes. Things were -- somehow I was staying focused. I'll work on the swing a little bit.

I'm just happy to have at least some status next year. I didn't want to go to Q-School. I don't know if I'll still end up going or not. I don't know the rules enough to know what I need to do, but I think I'm in a lot better shape.

Q. You may have answered this already, but when you're out here and really competing for something and under pressure and you kind of performed the way you did today, how satisfying was that? What's that tell you about yourself?

SHANE BERTSCH: I mean, like I said, I've had a lot of success at Q-School over the years, which is probably the highest amount of pressure you can have when you're playing for your job the next year. I've had a lot of success, I've had a lot of bogey free-final rounds Q-Schools, you know, the regular Q-School. That was my goal today is to somehow go bogey free. Unfortunately, I had the double, but it was actually an incredible double by the way. I had an up-and-down that was just like, it was look like triple or quad. I just kind of stayed focused. Sometimes in the middle of the year I let things like that bug me too much, then it avalanches under this kind of pressure. And as much as I'm playing for, I've got to just play like this more often, dig a little deeper.

Q. Are you going to kind of, obviously not take the pressure off yourself, but give yourself some grace knowing that, hey, I did this, I'm headed to Boca and we'll see what happens?

SHANE BERTSCH: Yeah. I couldn't be happier. I mean obviously identify rather be up in the 36 and safe or have another win under my belt, but none of that happened this year and so now I've got another shot next week.