

East Lake Cup Women – Match Play
October 31, 2023

BLANCA FERNANDEZ GARCIA-POGGIO
Texas A&M



Q. First match out there, first point on the board. How big is that for your team?

BLANCA FERNANDEZ GARCIA-POGGIO: Well, I think that's key because the first match is like having confidence, like having one point like yourself to make two more. I'm very happy with my point. Then this is like my assistant coach's birthday and it's for her, so I wanted to win it because of that also, so I'm happy.

Q. It was tight early and especially around the turn and then you really picked up on the back nine. What changed? What went well?

BLANCA FERNANDEZ GARCIA-POGGIO: Actually, I made -- I made like a bogey and I went 1 down. I was like, OK, just keep going. Then I hit a really good shot and I made birdie. Then I holed a putt and I made birdie. Then I made another birdie. Then we did like another birdie so fast and we started to make birdies and I was just confident. It was like very good. I was feeling good with my game, so I was like I'm going to win this.

Q. How much fun is match play?

BLANCA FERNANDEZ GARCIA-POGGIO: It's very fun. It's fun and it's stressful, but is good. It's good stress, you know? I was feeling nervous, of course. I was like my heart rate was high. I was like, yes, you know how to do it.

Q. Different course than last year. Through two days now and the practice rounds, what do you think of Atlanta Athletic Club and playing here?

BLANCA FERNANDEZ GARCIA-POGGIO: I think this course, this course is harder for me. For my game, it's harder. You really need to be in the right spots. And the greens are like, like when you are -- the flags, I don't know who like set them, but they are like so good set. Like they are on the sides, you know. So you're like I need to hit it to the right because if I go to the left, like I might be in the water. So I was making sure to be in the right place.

Q. What did Coach tell you guys coming into match play today after yesterday?

BLANCA FERNANDEZ GARCIA-POGGIO: He was like, he was like I trust in you all, like we are good players. Like yesterday, like this is a new day. He was just like giving us really good motivation in the morning. He's good, like he always give us motivation. I felt good. I was like OK. Then we did the (indiscernible) and I was like OK, now I just have to win my point. Then I need to see how my teammates are doing. I'm sure they're doing good, though.