

QUICK QUOTES

August 3, 2023



MATT WALLACE (-3)

Q. Overall pleased with the first round, Matt?

MATT WALLACE: A bit pissed off actually with the finish. Playing nicely. Yeah, just frustrated. I don't like this golf course.

Q. Is there a reason you don't like this golf course?

MATT WALLACE: Because the runoffs are just absolutely ridiculous and this -- it's just not fun to play. Hit a shot out of the rough on the last and it landed on the front and runs backwards 40 yards. Like, it's just not great. Yeah, I shouldn't be in the rough, but it's difficult to hit the fairway all the time, especially like this. And then hit shots to the front and just -- this is my third time playing. Every single time like, yeah, 83 percent of the winners hit green in regulations pretty much, so a lot of green in regulations is key, but the penalty for miss -- even on the par 3 down the hill, 12, you can't go long because you can putt it off the green, so you play the smart play and you play it towards the front, the middle and, from 220 yards, I mean, it's just -- it's too severe, so they need to do something about it.

Q. When you play a golf course like this that you do not like, how do you mentally kind of get over that to still play some solid golf today?

MATT WALLACE: Just know that -- I'm trying to like it, I'm trying to like it. Came -- I think the most important person here this week with me is my psychologist and we're trying to enjoy the tournament rather than what it produces. So great tournament, great sponsor. Just for me, I just don't like -- if I don't have to come here, I wouldn't, but I kind of need to.

Q. You don't want to be here? You don't want to be at this tournament?

MATT WALLACE: No, I want to be here, I just don't like the golf course. I want to be here, I want to play here and I want to play well.

Maybe I shouldn't say that. And hopefully if I win I'll say something different at the end of the week, I absolutely love this golf course.

But I know the way to play well around here, you've got to hit lots of greens and I felt like I'm doing that. You know, the putting was good today, which has been great.

I hit quite a few greens, especially early on. I just think the penalty is just really, really severe, especially with bermudagrass, you know. It's difficult to chip and play and I just think -- yeah, just personally, my personal belief, my personal preference is if I play or



design a golf course, I just have areas where it wouldn't just carry on running away.

I hit 5-iron into the last there and it pitches at the front and then doesn't go anywhere and runs 20 yards down, you know. I don't know, maybe I'm just being me and being a bit bitchy, but yeah, it's just how -- it's just how I see the golf course. Runoffs in the fairway, you can hit the fairway and they run into the rough. I mean, I don't see that.

Q. What's your sports psych been doing to help you get in a good frame of mind?

MATT WALLACE: Just talking about how I'm playing, how we're going to go into today, play every single hole on its merits or individually. And I think I did that really well, especially at the start when I was playing really nicely.

But we all know that the main thing around here, fairways and greens, is really important. And even so, when you hit the greens, sometimes you might be on the wrong side of the slope like I was on 17 -- 16 in the bowl there, you know. I kind of had no putt up and over the hill. So it's tough, it's severe, yeah.

Q. Do you keep an eye on the standings throughout the week as you go here knowing your position?

MATT WALLACE: The standings? No. I'm here to win a golf tournament. Yeah, hopefully I can turn that tune around and at the end of the week I'll tell you I absolutely love this golf course and thanks for having me and I'll be back again next year.

