

ROUND 3 QUICK QUOTES
September 16, 2023

SAHITH THEEGALA (-17)



Q. All right, giving yourself a lead going into tomorrow. Just kind of assess how the round went for you.

SAHITH THEEGALA: Yeah, it went well. I really stayed patient at the start of the round. Had a couple really nice two-putt pars early on. Disappointing, the par 5, but I'm really hitting my irons pretty well and, you know, feel like I'm rolling it well.

I didn't make a couple early on, but I still put really good rolls on them. To make birdie on 8 was big just to see one kind of drop and reassure that, yeah, I am putting well and hitting my lines, speed feels good.

Yeah, overall really happy with the way it went. The big key for me is just try to keep it in the fairway, which I haven't done a great job last three days and I feel like I'm just scrambling my butt off a little bit, which feels like a good thing because I feel like if I'm in the fairway, it almost feels like a bonus.

Q. I know earlier in the week you said you didn't feel like you got in contention as much as you wanted to throughout the regular season.

SAHITH THEEGALA: Yeah.

Q. Do you feel like you can learn the most about yourself when you put yourself in moments like you will tomorrow?

SAHITH THEEGALA: I think it's both ways, honestly, because it's really hard and really good golf to put yourself in contention. I've said it so many times, the PGA TOUR's probably as deep as it's ever been and these guys are really, really good. It takes a lot, three, four rounds of really good golf to be in contention.

I just didn't really do that much at the end of the year. I was playing well, but just kind of in that 10 to 25 range I guess in the last few events.

Yeah, I just, my main thing that I'm kind of focusing on was just making progress and I felt like I made progress again throughout the year. Yeah, I think I learned just as much from not being in contention as being in contention, seeing that it's both doable, but you've just got to keep putting in the work and hopefully it pays off on the golf course.

Q. Does a win feel like the natural next progression for you?

SAHITH THEEGALA: Yeah, I've really haven't thought about or even talked about it with too many people, about winning. It's really, again like I said, just keep making progress and putting myself in contention.

I've been lucky enough to kind of win at every level and ultimately that's why we play. The reason I'm teeing it up this week is because I want to win. I think a lot of people would say the same. I'm just so competitive, and we all hate losing out here. Yeah, there's no question that we want to win. I think by sticking to this process that's worked so well for me the last few years, even though I haven't won in the last couple years, I see it all as a really big win for me.

Q. You seem to be -- I mean, you're always in good spirits, but this week being at home, have a lot of family and friends, is that just something that you feel like does help you?

SAHITH THEEGALA: Yeah, yeah. It's been a good week, a lot of good vibes. Girlfriend just got a new car. Parents are up here. I got to spend a little bit of time down in L.A. with them. First time in almost all year where I felt like I was able to relax a little bit and take in the sights and hang with family and friends.

My buddy back home just won his first pro tournament on the APT Tour. He was texting me yesterday morning about we had the exact same tee time on Friday; I had a 7:28 tee time and he had a 9:28 tee time in Texas, so same tee time. And he ended up getting his first 'dub, so a lot of good things happening recently. I think a little bit, no matter what I say, I think subconsciously it's been helpful out on the course.