

East Lake Cup Men – Match Play Round 2
November 1, 2023

TREY JONES
Head Coach – Florida State



Q. What did you see from your team today and this whole week that you think you guys can take forward into the rest of this year?

COACH TREY JONES: I saw depth in our team. We had several different players play well at different times. A lot of fight with some guys that got behind in some matches and fought back. Several things from this week you can only get from being in the situation.

We didn't win, but we do have some things to work on now in the offseason. We'll work and we'll be better, and more than likely we're probably going to see this North Carolina team again somewhere.

Q. I'd like to talk about Luke Clanton coming back from down big in front of a massive crowd that wasn't -- crowd wasn't necessarily in his corner, but he still fought back. Just what have you learned about the resilience of Luke?

COACH TREY JONES: Well, Luke's a fighter, he's a competitor, he loves it. He probably likes that truthfully more than anything. He would almost rather have it that way so he could do something.

But we've just got to not get 4-down is the key. I guess a good player like Maxwell Ford at this golf course, even though Luke came back and showed a lot of heart, ultimately we just can't get 4-down at that point in time or give away some golf holes, which is I think what we did is a little bit uncharacteristic of us, we gave some golf holes away early and they were too good for that.

Q. As a coach, what does this tournament do for you guys going forward just having the whole format resembling the NCAA Championship?

COACH TREY JONES: It's perfect. I mean, there's so many things that are just little things that you don't duplicate at home. One is sleeping in and late starts. When you're playing NCAAAs, you don't go out super early for the match play. You have to learn how to occupy your time, you have to learn how to come out, when to eat. You think it's simple, but it is different for a golfer.

The TV cameras buzzing around and people doing different things around you and you know you're on television and seeing yourself on TV. The more you do something you don't normally do and you're uncomfortable, you have to do it over and over to become comfortable. I think those little things are huge. And then the competition aspect, you know,



is ultimately what they'll remember.

Q. And then last question: How would you sum up this week here at the East Lake Cup? Such a prestigious tournament at a really impressive golf venue.

COACH TREY JONES: Well, it's a treat for the kids, it's a treat for the coaches. The way the Athletic Club here embraced it with their membership out there volunteering, and not just hosting it, but hosting it with the attitude that they wanted us here. We felt like members this week. They made us feel like members.

Anyone that has an opportunity to come here and play the golf course and be around it is fortunate. We got it for five days, so can't say enough about the staff of the Athletic Club and the members especially.

