

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTE
November 2, 2023

MATT KUCHAR (-7)



Q. Solid start. How would you assess your opening round?

MATT KUCHAR: Yeah, thanks. Listen, I think we're all learning just how to play this course. I've been down here a couple of the trips and I've played this course I think two times prior, but no real extra course knowledge for me. I came here and still feel like I had a lot of learning.

Thankfully, we have fantastic yardage books and today I felt I relied a lot on my yardage book and my caddie that kind of pointed me, made sure I was still going in the right direction.

A lot of this place is very generous fairways. Fairways are pretty easy to find. It's I think kind of a second-shot golf course, back nine even more so than the front nine. Back nine feels like they have a lot of rejection greens, the front nine are more collection greens. So on the back nine you've really got to kind of focus on avoiding a few of those big fall-offs on the greens and I was able to do that pretty well today.

Q. Past champion of the Worldwide Technology Championship, but not a real kind of advantage being the first time at this course, but how helpful it was that you've been able to come out to this course before?

MATT KUCHAR: I don't know all that helpful. It's funny, when you're a past champion, I think back, my son just played a junior event, TPC Eagle Trace. I did not play there. They used to host the Honda Classic and I think it was overly difficult. I won the Honda at Heron Bay and I think the very next year they moved away, they moved to Mirasol for the Honda. Now here I won the World Wide Technology Championship, but different course, so certainly I don't feel like I have any advantage at this place. You've got to come in, you've got to execute good golf shots, and I feel like I'm on pretty good form and pretty good control of what I'm doing.

Q. Did you have a favorite shot of the day or favorite hole or birdie of the day?

MATT KUCHAR: A couple really nice approach shots, a couple tap-in putts, but I started -- it's a nice start. I think chipping can be a little bit tricky around here, this Paspalum grass can be kind of sticky. I hit an excellent chip on the first, left it just short of the bunker in two and what appeared to be a tough up-and-down, made it look like an easy up-and-down. It was a good way to get started, for sure.

