

## ROUND 4 QUICK QUOTES

November 19, 2023

**MATT ATKINS ( -12)**



**Q. Matt, so it's -- you've kind of had a cool journey this week and it's been emotional at times.**

**MATT ATKINS:** Absolutely.

**Q. Made the cut and finished strong. How's it feel right now putting four rounds together, solid rounds on the PGA TOUR and having this result?**

**MATT ATKINS:** Yeah. I mean, I think it's -- my initial reaction is I'm just like eager like to play more out here, whereas a week ago I didn't know if that was even going to be a thing.

Leaving here like super encouraged in the direction that things are going with my game and everything. So obviously this week was great overall, and now we'll go into the holidays.

And I still have to figure out how to play my way into stuff, qualify for something, reshuffle into the Korn Ferry, that type of thing. So it's still a long road ahead as far as with my status, trying to get back into playing full time, but I never doubted that my game was good enough. I know I'm a better player now than I was when I was out here in 2018. It's just hard to get out here. It's super competitive, there's so many great players.

And today I left so many shots out there, but I think it's just like a perspective shift on I had so much more fun out there today than other events that I've played in where I was leaving a bunch of shots out there. It's because I knew coming into this that -- it was funny because I play a lot of golf with Wesley and George and those guys back home. I told Wesley a couple weeks ago, I missed first stage and I said I'm doing the RSM, I've got to try to find some sponsors or something for next year. I said the RSM could be my last thing I ever play in. He said, oh, stop it. I said it's just true.

To qualify to get in here, it was incredible. I'm just trying to look at all the great things that happened and know that I feel like I'm being pushed in this direction still and just creating opportunities to keep on playing and keep providing for my family and not jeopardizing my family's, you know, kind of health and overall quality of life by trying to continue to play golf.

So that was where all the emotions came from, is that I was willing to, you know, give it all up for them because it was -- this is nowhere near as important as taking care of them and providing for them and just making sure that we have a roof over our heads and that my girls grow up just with the things that you need, just the basic stuff.

So yeah, it's really cool to be able to keep on going after this hopefully. I'm sure in the next

couple weeks as we sit and be still more so through the holidays that it will be -- I'll have even more to think about from this week and more positives and I won't worry about the bunch of putts I left short today.

**Q. You've had a ton of support through kind of the social media and a lot of positive comments. Have you felt that?**

**MATT ATKINS:** Yeah. I mean, like because on Monday like he just asked me one question, it was like how do you feel right now or something along those lines. I don't know, it just -- it all came puring out. There was a bunch of people that reached out, and obviously it's been extremely positive.

And I've had a few old friends reach out talking about how encouraged they were by it. That was really refreshing for me because like it's not about the golf, it's about the fact that other people can take my experience and hopefully apply it to them and hopefully give them some encouragement and some hope for what's promised for them as well.

**Q. In the kind of financially speaking, this will be one of your I guess bigger checks of the season. Just how will that kind of help into I guess the offseason?**

**MATT ATKINS:** Yeah, I have no idea like what the number's going to be, but yeah, coming into this week it was going to be, like I said, without any sort of sponsors or anything for next year, it was like come January, it was going to be like I need to find a job and find one fast.

I would have been willing to do whatever starting out to just make some money to pay bills. So obviously this will help at least sustain just our normal life for the next few months and hopefully gear up towards next season and just kind of see what happens.

Like I said, there's going to be some reflection and things over the next few weeks, but I know my game is sharp enough to compete and just hopefully I get another opportunity to turn my conditional status into full-time playing, and then playing my way back out here because this was a lot of fun. I didn't have this much fun the year I was out here because I wasn't playing too well, probably put way too much pressure on myself to succeed. I finally made it to where I wanted to be and I wasn't having the success that I wanted, so it was a disappointing year. I don't think I had as much fun as I should have or appreciated it the way I should have. This week was a blast for that.

**Q. Is there anything that you'll kind of, in terms of takeaway, anything you've learned that comes to mind that you'll kind of take with you that will serve you well?**

**MATT ATKINS:** From this week? I think the biggest thing I'll take from this week is just, just to be patient, to be present, not get -- it's so -- the whole professional golf system is so complicated, life can get super complicated and you can think about all the what ifs.

I think the thing to learn from this week for me is that to just place my faith in the Lord and

there is no what ifs, it's a promise that I'll be taken care of.

Now, what the path looks like is an unknown, but that's kind of what's rewarding about it. If it was a known variable, then everybody would just kind of be like robots out here.

Yeah, just to be patient, be present and not think about all the what ifs and all the other possibilities. Just put my best foot forward every day.