

THE BAHAMAS GREAT EXUMA CLASSIC

ROUND 1 QUOTES

January 14, 2024



FRED BIONDI (-8)

Q. So solid start through the first two rounds. What's been kind of working well for you?

FRED BIONDI: I've just been kind of staying patient and just controlling my shots. There's a lot of tricky holes out here, tons of kind of scary tee shots I'd say, but I've just been, I don't know, kind of being committed to all my targets and shots and that's all I can do.

Q. You had a stretch there where you had five birdies in six holes there. What was kind of going well through that stretch for you?

FRED BIONDI: I hit some pretty good shots. Played hole 15 perfectly, just exactly how I planned it. Just executed the right shots at the right times and made some, I don't know, five- to 10-footers that normally those are some birdie lengths. Yeah, it was good.

Q. When you run through the front there you had a lot of pars. Was it a lot of saves or just birdies weren't falling there?

FRED BIONDI: I put myself out of position a couple of times, a couple balls out of the rough. The greens got pretty firm, so like I was just having a hard time hitting them close. Yeah, some of them I saved. I had I think two good up-and-downs, nothing crazy, but then on 9 it was a good save, just laid up a pretty bad shot, just laid up in the left rough. Yeah, ended up making par.

Q. And last year you got a handful of starts after finishing second in PGA TOUR University. How has kind of just the experience from getting to play last year kind of helped you as you get off to a good start through the first two rounds this year?

FRED BIONDI: Yeah, I mean, I think it's huge. I struggled a ton last year. Right out of college I didn't have a lot of success on the Korn Ferry Tour and yeah, it was a ton of learning. It was tough learning for sure.

Yeah, I kind of remember sitting down just trying to think what was I doing and what I need to do to kind of get over the stuff. I've been doing some things differently and this first two days worked out my way. Not always going to be this way, but just I feel like I give myself a better chance if I do those things right.

Q. What's been a couple of things you've been working on?



FRED BIONDI: Things that I saw that helped me, the way I practice, how I practice, the gym. Little things outside the golf course, like the mindset kind of stays like this week.

Q. From Q-School you finished T-10 to get those 12 guaranteed starts. Does that kind of feel like a little relief knowing you're kind of set for the first swing of events this year?

FRED BIONDI: Yeah, for sure it's big. You can ask any guy out here, starts out here are pretty important. Yeah, having the first 12 guaranteed, it's huge. It's definitely a weight off my back. I still have to play good golf, it's not said and done.

Q. Since Q-School have you been playing a lot of golf or have you been taking some time off?

FRED BIONDI: I actually took the longest break I had in a while. It was good like mentally, physically after Q-School. Went back to Brazil, played a little bit there but not much. Got to see my family and stuff. Then actually was here in Exumas not long ago on a boat with my family, so I didn't touch a club for a week then, which was nice. Then came back a couple days before this tournament and kind of got back into things. Yeah, it's nice.

