

**ROUND 1 QUOTES**  
**THE PANAMA CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**February 1, 2024**

**AUGUSTO NÚÑEZ (-5)**

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**Q. What's your assessment of this opening round of 5-under par 65?**

**AUGUSTO NÚÑEZ:** I'm happy with my round. I struck the ball well all morning, so I'm happy with that.

**Q. What made a difference for you?**

**AUGUSTO NÚÑEZ:** Honestly, my ball striking. I'm pleased with the way I hit the ball off the tee and on the second shots as well. Obviously, it is a little difficult to make the putts because the greens are playing hard.

**Q. You finished bogey-birdie-birdie (holes 7 through 9), tell me about that final stretch.**

**AUGUSTO NÚÑEZ:** With this wind we have now, the seventh hole is getting difficult. You need to respect that hole because it's extremely difficult when the wind blows. On top of that, hitting the fairway is already difficult, so you need to be very focused. I made a bad bogey there, but I didn't let it bother me because I was hitting the ball very well. On No. 8 I hit a terrific shot with the pitch, hit it to about three feet away, and then I made the putt. I had 151 yards, with crossed wind, almost into the wind. On No. 9 I had a chip in from about 14-15 yards. I hit my approach pin high and it went long, but then I holed out, so I'm very satisfied with such a finish.

**Q. You have played several times here in Panama, the last two times you finished inside the top 30. How do you feel playing here?**

**AUGUSTO NÚÑEZ:** I like the hot weather, the place. Back in Tucumán, Argentina, where I live, it is a bit similar, with the heat, so it is like being home.

**Q. Tell me about the way the course changes when the wind picks up.**

**AUGUSTO NÚÑEZ:** In the afternoon it starts to blow a lot more and there are many more gusts. This morning there was almost no wind, so you have to take advantage... I started on 10 today and it started blowing nicely when I made the turn.

**Q. How do you feel about this stretch of four tournaments in Latin America?**

**AUGUSTO NÚÑEZ:** Being in Latin America makes you happier and it is much easier to play golf. It's like being at home.

**Q. You are coming off your rookie season on the PGA TOUR. How much did that experience make you grow and how much did you learn?**

**AUGUSTO NÚÑEZ:** I loved my time on the PGA TOUR, it's an incredible Tour and I was able to fulfill my dream of playing there. It was an incredible year for me, despite losing the card. Now I have to keep working to get back there. It's 2024 and you have to start from scratch and continue playing golf. We are going to do our best to get back there.