

ROUND 3 QUOTES February 3, 2024



GARY YOUNG
Chief Referee, PGA TOUR

GARY YOUNG: Just to kind of give everyone an update what our thinking is right now, we're going to be in here at 5:00 a.m. tomorrow morning to assess what's going on. We have really high winds forecasted, it hasn't come down at all. He's talking about gusts in the 60 and even above that range, so sustained winds 35 to 40 miles per hour in the morning.

So we're going to come in and we are going to make a decision on whether or not we're going to be able to start. Right now we're scheduled to start at 7:45. At 5:15 we're going to message the players and let them know whether or not there's going to be a delay to the tee times. If there is, then it's probably going to be a significant delay. We'll let them know. The next update will be at 9:30. That realistically means we won't start before noon tomorrow, OK, and that will give us a little more time to see how things, if it continues to deteriorate, we would make a decision later.

Obviously our regulations say we need to make every effort to play 72 holes, which includes playing on Monday. Right now that's our thinking. We would then probably, if we can't play tomorrow, we would come in first thing on Monday morning, do it again, OK? We would not start play on Monday if we knew we couldn't finish the round on Monday.

So the drop-dead time on that would mean we would have to start play on Monday by 10:15 a.m. at the latest in order to complete play.

So the forecast right now on Monday is for showers in the morning, rain amounts are in the .2 to .4 inches in the morning.

So again, we're already dealing with a very soggy golf course and at that point we're making the decision whether or not we think that the standards for professional golf are there. We want to make sure that we have a championship that's been played under -- right now we know we've played three rounds where everyone's been playing under the same conditions. Everyone's aware that we have had some golf balls that have plugged and been lost out there. We just want to make sure that on Monday, if we get to that point, that the golf course is such that we are conducting a good quality championship, the conditions are of professional standards.

Q. If everything was exactly the way it's been this week and this was not a Signature event, would you be telling us exactly the same thing?

GARY YOUNG: I would, yeah, I feel very confident in that. I think we try to treat every event and we go straight by our regulations. So 72 holes is our goal.



But again, I think it's very, very important to say that we want to make sure that the golf course is of the quality on Monday that we would not want golf balls disappearing into the fairways and losing golf balls.

We feel very confident that the volunteers who have done an outstanding job up to this point helping us locate balls in the landing zones, that the tournament feels that numbers are going to be sufficient on Monday with volunteers that they could help us through that period.

Q. You've been doing this a long time. Based on what you know, what do you think the chances are we play 72 holes?

GARY YOUNG: I'm hopeful right now. I mean, we have been playing a pretty soggy golf course. Obviously if we get upwards of two to three inches on the high side right now, then that makes that a little more doubtful.

Q. Is that tomorrow?

GARY YOUNG: That's tomorrow. It's anywhere from one to three inches of rain in his forecast.

Q. What about the wind?

GARY YOUNG: Yeah, the wind we're going to have to see as well. I will say this, we are making an announcement that out of an abundance of caution with the winds we are not going to have spectators here on property for Round 4 if it is played tomorrow. If we do start Round 4 tomorrow late in the day and we feel that the golf course is dried down enough and we're at that point we could start and play some golf tomorrow, then there will not be spectators on site. If we go into Monday, then spectators would be allowed back on site.

Q. Clarifying, if you did play some golf tomorrow, you could go into Tuesday because you have started -- not on Monday but on Sunday?

GARY YOUNG: Our regulation states that we can't start play on Monday without knowing that we could finish play on Monday. If we did that, if we did that and then for some reason weather rolled in on us that caused us to delay again, if more than half the field has finished play, then we would extend play into Tuesday. But we would need more than half of them to have completed their round on Monday.

Q. Starting Sunday?

GARY YOUNG: Starting Monday. But if we start Sunday -- yes, technically, yes. I see what you're saying. If we start Sunday and we play through some of Monday and get shut down, yeah, we could, but we would need half the players to finish their fourth round in order to --



Q. By Monday?

GARY YOUNG: Yeah, by Monday.

Q. Is the reason for potentially not starting tomorrow the rain or the wind?

GARY YOUNG: The wind is our biggest concern right now for safety. I think we've made pretty good adjustments to green speeds that we could probably keep balls at rest up until about 40 miles per hour. Once we get north of that it's going to be pretty difficult. And the course condition is probably not -- if we get those rain amounts I'm talking about, that will probably play into our decision as well.

Q. When's the last time (inaudible)?

GARY YOUNG: The last time the greens were mowed? This morning they were single cut.

Q. Do you normally go with --

GARY YOUNG: They would have been single cut and rolled, and they would have been rolled last night and they were single cut this morning.

Q. (No microphone.)

GARY YOUNG: We would have single cut and rolled in the morning. So the adjustments have been different at different greens. I want to be careful about that because every green is slightly different so maintenance practices have been adjusted. We've been moving from 11 and a half and now we're down to about 10 and a half heading towards 10, so we're trending right where we needed to for this big wind event tomorrow.

Q. Are you tearing down structures?

GARY YOUNG: At this point, no, but I'm sure that the operations staff will be removing anything that they're concerned about from a safety standpoint, things that could blow over, things that could cause something to topple. They're right now working on a plan for that. I don't know exactly what they're going to be disassembling or taking down specifically.

Q. Given the forecast for tomorrow, would you consider playing more golf today?

GARY YOUNG: We did not. It was really important for us, we knew with 80 players with no cut, we knew that we were not going to be able to complete -- you can't play 36 holes. Probably the closest we could have come was having nine holes left to play and that would have been in an ideal world.

But if you think about it, for equity of the competition you would have had players finishing in



this and then the others coming back to play nine holes in a completely different condition. So we just made the decision let's get three rounds in the book for sure where everyone's been playing under the same conditions. I think that was the right thing to do for the integrity of the competition and now it's just whether or not we'll be able to play four rounds.

Q. What's your title?

GARY YOUNG: Chief referee.

