

ASTARA GOLF CHAMPIONSHIP

ROUND 1 QUOTES

February 8, 2024



CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR (-13)

Q. Cristobal, I mean, awesome round. How's it feel? You broke the nine-hole record on the front there with a 27 and then you shot the lowest score in any PGA-sanctioned event with a 57. Just how does it feel?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: Incredible, man. Honestly, I was just playing. I didn't even know what I was at. Actually, I asked my caddie on the 18th after hitting my 18th tee shot, we were just walking and I told him, I was like, hey, am I going to break 60, because I've never broken 60 before. He was like, you're going to break a little bit more than 60.

Yeah, I mean, I played really good golf. I drove the ball well, chipped it well, putted well. Yeah, I mean, I'm happy. It was a great round.

Q. Did you think you had this type of round in you to go this low?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: I mean, I don't know. It had to be a specific type of course to kind of do this stuff. Obviously if it's difficult, the score's going to be higher. I haven't even broken 60 practicing on my home course and my home course is pretty difficult. I'm excited. I mean, maybe if I play from the women's tee I'll break 60 someday there. But I'm just happy, it was a great round.

Q. At what point today in this round, was it at the turn where you had 27 that you started thinking 60 was a possibility?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: I mean, I knew, I knew I made the turn at 8, 8 under. Yeah, I was like, you know what, let's try to just kind of put myself like a little like goal, I was trying to shoot like 4 or 5 under on the back nine regardless of what I shot on the front. That kind of kept my head a little bit not thinking of what my score was. But yeah, it was good, kind of kept it going. That's definitely the key.

Q. And coming in today, the Pacos scores last year played a bit easier than the Lagos. Was that something coming into today to take advantage of starting on this course today?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: Yeah, of course. The greens are softer. There was a whole bunch of rain at the beginning of the week. Last year when I played the greens were a lot firmer and I hit driver everywhere kind of like just what I did today and then I kind of short-sided myself a few times and I couldn't get it close. But the greens were so soft and



the pins were still tucked, but the greens were so soft that I could just hit it near the green and just flop it near the hole or something.

Q. That putt on 18 there, was the score in your head at all when you were eying it up?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: Not really. Obviously I wanted to make it. I actually hit a good putt, just misread a little bit. It was a little bit more break than I thought. I hit a great shot into it, I hit a great putt, too. Happy, it's a good round.

Q. And then how do you plan going into tomorrow to kind of carry this momentum over?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: Yeah, new course tomorrow. Same strategy that I do every day, every tournament, same routine. Nothing really changes. Just going to try to do my best and try and hit good shots and try and make putts and hopefully at the end of the week will be good golf.

Q. I heard you might have kind of manifested this round a little bit from last week. Did you have any motivation?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: What's that? Sorry, I didn't understand.

Q. Your wife or girlfriend --

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: Yeah, wife.

Q. -- wife said that Joaquin's 59 last week --

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: Yeah, I told her, actually I told my playing partner, we were playing yesterday and he was telling me, asking me about the course. I was like if somebody could shoot 59 he would probably be out here. I broke it, so I'm happy.

Q. How does it feel just to know that you've got a PGA TOUR-sanctioned record round?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: It's surreal actually. I still don't, I mean, I don't know. I'm just happy. It was a good round. I don't really know. Good playing.

Q. And being from South America, does that kind of make it a little bit more special doing it down here?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: Yeah, of course, yeah, yeah. The people, they know me. We had a good crowd going. It's good, it feels good when people, they applaud your shots. It was fun.



Q. Did you have anyone in the crowd today?

CRISTOBAL DEL SOLAR: Well, my wife, and actually my parents-in-law, they flew in this morning. They came from Orlando. It was good. They've never been to Colombia. I was like, yeah, you guys need to come here, we're going to have good food and hopefully good weather, a good golf course. It's going to be a good time.

