

ASTARA CHILE CLASSIC
Presented by Scotiabank

ROUND 1 QUOTES
March 7, 2024



JOHN PAK (-7)

Q. John, 7 under today, nice round. What was kind of working for you out there today?

JOHN PAK: Yeah, I kind of just hit the ball well and I putted well. I just didn't really put myself in any positions to make bogeys and bad numbers. I got the putter going, which didn't happen last week, so it was nice to see a couple putts drop.

Q. What was your kind of plan coming into this week?

JOHN PAK: Really dial up my numbers. The elevation's a little different, we're at 1,500. It's cold in the morning and then it gets really hot around 10:00 a.m. So really get those dialed and keep myself below the hole or pin high and just not get myself in trouble. I stuck with that plan and worked out pretty well today.

Q. This being your second start of the year, just kind of --

JOHN PAK: Third.

Q. Third, yes. So what's it been like having a few starts here and there this year?

JOHN PAK: It helped a lot. Making the cut in Panama really helped me plan for these last two weeks. If I didn't make that cut, I probably wouldn't have reshuffled in and knew I was going to get in before two weeks prior. So the planning and knowing that I was for sure in those events really helped. Yeah, it's nice to play some events right now.

Q. And last year, it's been kind of a year since you've been out on the Korn Ferry Tour, what was last year like for you?

JOHN PAK: It was a great learning experience. I went up to Canada. Kind of like down here you're not in your own home state or home country, so you learn a lot. You kind of have to figure things out and you just learn a lot from these experiences.

Q. What was your biggest takeaway from that year? What would you say you learned the most or helped you grow?

JOHN PAK: Just every shot matters and don't take a week, if you're not playing well, and



try to turn it into something good, don't just -- just take it for granted. Out here every week, especially not having the greatest opportunity other than getting into Panama, like taking advantage of every week.

Q. And what's kind of your thought now going into Round 2 tomorrow?

JOHN PAK: Same thing, just stick to my game plan, just have fun and try to play some good golf.

Q. The course is shorter than you're used to playing?

JOHN PAK: Yeah, it's definitely a little shorter, but it's a great golf course. It's in fantastic shape, probably some of the best greens we've played out on the Korn Ferry. It's very tight, it's one of the tightest courses I've ever played, especially that eighth hole, the fairway's like 15 yards wide. So you've got to make sure you don't get yourself in trouble off the tee, but it's a really good golf course, I enjoy it.

