

ROUND 1 QUOTES
May 9, 2024

ALEX NOREN (-4)



Q. How would you kind of characterize that round today?

ALEX NOREN: Yeah, it was bouncy greens and very wet, but it got -- it helped the greens a little bit so it wasn't as bouncy as maybe the practice round. I hit it good, hit it good off the tee and into most greens and made some putts. Yeah, overall like a lot of fun out there. Nice to be in this event, first of all, and then just very enjoyable.

Q. What's kind of been clicking in your game recently? Seems like we've seen your game on the leaderboards more and more.

ALEX NOREN: I think statistically I'm just hitting the driver -- everything is a little bit better, so I've been working with my coach and my caddie like a little bit smaller team just trying to get my caddie quite involved when my coach is not here. Just stick to a few things, a few like exercises or how you call it and very consistent like that.

You know, being a dad at home, I don't have that much time to mess around anymore, so it's actually helped me to kind of not, you know, try to reinvent the wheel, more just stick to our stuff.

Q. What do you feel like -- what was the most difficult part with the soft fairways and the firm greens today?

ALEX NOREN: I mean, well, it's hard to understand how firm they are, some shots, but then obviously they're a little bit softer. If you hit the right shot into the flags, they stop OK. It's more when -- maybe when you short-side yourself a little bit, you think you can get it close but it's very hard. So I'm looking forward to a little drier fairways, especially if you're in the rough or first cut, it's a little tricky. But overall, I mean, the course is beautiful.

Q. Overall, what jumps out to you most about the course itself when you're planning on coming here every year, and also, sorry to kind of go in a couple directions, just the idea of just coming to Quail Hollow especially at the point that it comes every single year?

ALEX NOREN: Yeah, I mean, I think it's a course where you need everything to be good. It's tricky off the tee, it's great into the greens. You've got to hit the right shots. It teaches us that you can't just hit one shot all the time. Some greens, if you hit a fade into some flags, it's just going to bounce away from you in the wrong wind direction. Like your game, you have to sharpen up your game. It teaches us and works us in every direction. I like coming here, I like playing practice rounds, kind of gets you on your toes.



Q. Alex, getting into this event, is that motivation to play well to try to stay in these events?

ALEX NOREN: Yeah, of course. Now all the events are pretty good on this tour, but these in particular. So yeah, I thought I would have a week off, but then taking another week off down the line instead. You can feel it, they feel very big and a lot to play for.

