

ROUND 2 QUOTES
May 10, 2024

RORY McILROY (-7)



Q. Rory, if we can get some comments on your day.

RORY McILROY: Yeah, another solid day. Felt like I probably could have squeezed a couple more out of the round, but anytime you can go around this golf course bogey free it's always going to be a decent day. Yeah, look, it's two solid days. I set myself up for another good go at it this weekend.

Q. Rory, not too much breaking news happened last night off the course, so we get to ask you about some golf today.

RORY McILROY: Perfect.

Q. You kind of struggled with the driver a little bit, only hit about half your fairways. I think you were still able to get around bogey free. What was happening off the tee and what does that say about your short game that you were able to shoot a good score like that today?

RORY McILROY: I probably hit the same amounts of fairways yesterday, but strokes gained off the tee was actually pretty high. Yeah, it's hard when the fairways here are angled quite a bit and there's a lot of doglegs, so with the distance that I'm hitting it, it's hard to fit it into some of the places I'm trying to hit it into.

I don't mind if I miss a few fairways as long as I miss the fairways in the right spots or on the right side so I have an angle into the greens. I've just got to try to keep being aggressive. But I hit a good tee shot up the last hole there on 9, good 3-wood on 8, so I made a good couple of swings coming in.

Q. You've had two rounds in on the new greens at Quail. What do you make of those and how do you think they're going to fare over the weekend as this place gets more firm and fast?

RORY McILROY: Yeah, I hope it does. The way these things were playing on Tuesday, we got all that rain on Tuesday and Wednesday, but yeah, I hope they do firm up because I obviously think with how I'm feeling about my game and how comfortable I am, that will suit me well.

Q. Rory, Xander's at 12 under I guess right now and still playing. You shot 61 once here on a Saturday, 62 on a Sunday. Does that give you reason to believe that, hey, no matter how big the lead, you can come back and win this thing?



RORY McILROY: Yeah, I think anytime you're playing a golf course where you've shot some really low scores, you know that it's out there. The golf course is playing a lot differently this week than it played in 2010 and 2015, but I know if I get it going around here I can make some birdies and chase him down.

Q. The issues that you were dealing with around the time of THE PLAYERS, you've worked your way out of that. Did it flip? Was it just a matter of putting in the time and finally got there?

RORY McILROY: Yeah, putting in the time. After THE PLAYERS I went to see Butch for that day just to sort of get a couple of ideas. I think just the combination of going to see Butch, getting a couple of ideas from him, working hard at it, sort of trying to rekindle some feelings that I've had in the past, it all sort of started to click or come together in New Orleans. I felt like I played very well there over the weekend. These two days have just been a continuation of that.

Q. Why do you play so well here? (No microphone.)

RORY McILROY: I'm comfortable here. I think I can take advantage of how far I hit it off the tee. I think this golf course really lends itself to driving distance. So the fact that I'm comfortable, the length off the tee, and then I've had so many good memories here, just I feel positive vibes, I feel good about myself when I'm walking around here.

Q. What have you been trying to do in your swing?

RORY McILROY: Trying to support the club better with my right arm. Yeah, and then just trying to -- trying to sort of sync up the turn through, try to sync up like right hip, right shoulder, just trying to get everything moving together through impact, because sometimes what happens is my lower body stops and my upper body keeps going and that's the one I can get going left. Really trying to sync up the rotation on the way through. Yeah, I'd say right arm, rotation on the way through are the two main thoughts.

