

ROUND 3 QUOTES
May 11, 2024

RORY McILROY (-11)



Q. The driving, is that a direct result of the visit with Butch?

RORY McILROY: No. I would say that's a direct result of some of the feelings I got in New Orleans a couple of weeks ago. A lot of the stuff Butch and I worked on was more like iron play and wedges. The driving is more just me committing to most of the time hitting that little cut that I've been hitting off the tee, and then having the freedom to just, every time I hit a good tee shot, the more confidence I get and then the more I want to just keep hitting it.

Q. Rory, bogey free out here is no easy task, you did it two days in a row. What's been working well for you this week? Why do you think you've been able to get around and scramble as well as you have when you've been out of position at times?

RORY McILROY: Yeah, I think I've held out pretty well for the most part inside six feet, and then I think because I know this golf course so well, I've missed it in the right spots when I have missed the green. Yeah, to play two rounds in a row on this golf course in these conditions bogey free is a bit of a feather in my cap, I'm pretty proud of that.

Q. Are there new spots for you to miss with the new greens?

RORY McILROY: The template of the greens is very similar. There might be a few different like nuances, but overall they're pretty similar to what they have been. So they all slope the same way, they all -- you know, so overall I think slight subtleties and slight changes, but it still plays very similar to how it's played over the last 10 years.

Q. Par 5 scoring seems like it's been a bit of a problem this week. What would --

RORY McILROY: Yeah, the three-putt on 7, got the birdie on 10 which was nice, and then out of position on 15. So I think birdieing two of the three par 5s would probably be satisfactory for the week, or I probably haven't quite done that, but I've birdied some of the tougher holes as well so it all evens out.

Q. On 18 were you playing it down the left and needed a cut and it just didn't cut?

RORY McILROY: Yeah, yeah, just trying to -- the wind was off the left and just trying to hit a little flat cut up there like I've tried to do the last couple days and thankfully it cut just enough so it didn't go in the hazard.

Q. Was it nervous there for a sec off the tee? Could you tell?



RORY McILROY: Yeah, it was. It was sort of tracking the red line, but one of the TV guys sort of gave us a safe signal down there so I knew it at least wasn't in the water. I thought it might have been in the hazard, but it even stayed outside of the red lines.

Q. Given your success here, was that a bit of a member's bounce?

RORY McILROY: A little bit. I was saying I remember Saturday 2015 when I shot 61, I basically hit it in the exact same spot off the tee. So again, like I feel like there's not a place on this golf course where I haven't hit it from and don't have some sort of memory of what to do.

Q. Does 2010 seem like another life --

RORY McILROY: Yeah, yeah.

Q. -- when you think about who you beat and just everything?

RORY McILROY: Billy Mayfair was leading going into the final round. I played with Scott McCarron on this Saturday pretty early. Obviously played with A.K. on Sunday, Phil was up there, Cabrera was up there. Yeah, lifetime ago.

Q. Do you like walking ahead of guys when you hit the longer tee shot? Does that give you confidence?

RORY McILROY: I think I just like walking ahead of guys in general, yeah. Like them to be looking at my back.

