

## VISIT KNOXVILLE OPEN

### ROUND 2 QUOTES

May 24, 2024



### HARRY HIGGS (-11)

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**Q. Harry, nice round today. Just kind of talk to us going back to yesterday, a lot of stoppages with the weather and having to come back this morning. Just can you kind of --**

**HARRY HIGGS:** Yeah, I'm shocked at how much we did play yesterday. For me it was only one stoppage. It was a little weird teeing off my first hole, the 10th, and getting to the green and turning around and coming back. After that obviously it stopped us for darkness. I was shocked at how much we played.

It was early this morning, but it was nice to get out and only do -- I had, what, probably 20-and-a-half holes roughly I played today.

It was warm, though. I definitely found myself getting a little tired the last three or four holes, not quite getting through it like I'd want. Now I've got plenty of time to go back and rest up.

**Q. Just what was kind of the change in the course after all the rain we got yesterday?**

**HARRY HIGGS:** It's just soft. It's probably a little easier to hold it in the fairways, you can be a little closer to the edges. And then the greens, it just makes it a little easier to get the ball close.

Now, there are some pins, there's a lot of slopes and then throw some flags in the back and you really have to play a pretty exact shot to get it near those holes. So there's some that make it -- more make it easier than some make it maybe a little bit more difficult.

It's an awesome golf course. It's a bummer, it was pretty spicy and going to get spicier had we missed the rain. That would have been a lot of fun, but it's a ton of fun to play the golf course.

**Q. And then you had a quick turnaround right into the second round. Just how did you kind of keep the momentum going into that? You closed out very strong with the birdies.**

**HARRY HIGGS:** Yeah, you just sign your scorecard and go again, no real secret there. Laid down on the floor in the locker room and stretched a little further and then walked and hit the first tee shot. Tried to conserve as much energy throughout the day. It wasn't that long, but it was just a long one yesterday and then an early start today. Try not to whine at any shot that



didn't come off like you wanted it to and walk slowly in spots, find some shade. It got pretty toasty, drank plenty of water and ate plenty of food while we're out there.

**Q. Did you feel any kind of fatigue down the stretch or you did a --**

**HARRY HIGGS:** For sure, I definitely was fighting it, especially some of the longer clubs. For me that usually means I start missing it right. I missed it right a little bit down towards the end, but was able to still give myself some good looks. And I guess I did birdie the last four holes amazingly, yeah. I can think back on that tomorrow. I'll feel much fresher tomorrow, but I was almost so tired, I wasn't letting myself get frustrated. Kind of goes to show that's -- didn't get frustrated and whine and complain about things and all of a sudden I made four in a row.

**Q. And just kind of, I mean, coming off the win, continuing to play well, where do you feel like your game's at just confidence-wise?**

**HARRY HIGGS:** Yeah, last time we teed it up, no one beat me. Somebody did tie me, no one beat me, so there's no reason for me not to be confident.

But again, like I did last week, I have four things written down that I would like to accomplish before I hit each shot, one thing after, and I would say last week I was probably a solid B at that. I'd say I'm approaching A, A minus. And then this is a totally different week.

Somebody, hopefully me, but somebody, there's going to be a new winner this week so that's also one of the little notes I wrote in my yardage book. It's a new week, treat it as such. But I've certainly got a little bit more pep in my step.

And then also maybe the ability to try a few things that maybe others wouldn't, but guys are so good out here and they play so aggressively that you've got to pick your spots. Yeah, but it's nice to have that little bit of confidence, which I haven't had from a result. Sometimes it was just smoke and mirrors confidence, so it's nice to have it from a result coming into this week.

**Q. You guys are playing here obviously on Memorial Day weekend, it's a special weekend, means a lot to a lot of people. Anything in particular that you remember as you play out here this weekend?**

**HARRY HIGGS:** Yeah, my grandfather served. He's still with us, 89 and kicking, can't keep him down. That's really about it. Some friends along the way that I've gotten to know that have been very kind to me. Certainly we don't get to enjoy beautiful weekends like this at beautiful places without all those folks, so definitely a thank-you to many. I don't have a ton to thank that are super close to me, but I have certainly met a lot of those folks. Great people, and without all the stuff that they do that we probably don't know a whole lot about we wouldn't be enjoying these great weekends.



**Q. The four things you said you kind of do before every shot, what are those?**

**HARRY HIGGS:** I have to have a clear intent about what I want to see happen. I have to have a rehearsal that matches that intent. I have to have a positive thought before I hit the ball. I think it might be three. Yeah, I think it is three. And then the fourth is after, and I have to accept wherever it is.

And then I also am trying to do a good job controlling my breathing, especially late in the day when getting a little tired. And then I have written down, this was started last Sunday, that it's a marathon, not a sprint. Certainly even on Sunday when you have a chance, but there's just so much that can go on, so much golf. Four days, 72 holes is a lot.

And then also underneath that I wrote this is a new week. I prepared similar to last week. Obviously I had a nice blueprint, but it's a new week. Just because I won last week does not mean I'm going to play good this week. I have to take care of those -- it's four things. Three before, one after. If I don't take care of those, I'm not going to have the same success that I had before.

I can't, oh, I won last week, willy nilly I'm going to play good this week. No, there's a reason why and I'm going to make sure that I do my best to continue to kind of check off those reasons so that I give myself the best chance the next two days. Sorry starting to lose track.

