

**ROUND 3 QUOTES**  
**June 9, 2024**



**DOUG BARRON (-8)**

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**Q. Doug, is it a bogey-free scorecard?**

**DOUG BARRON:** It was a bogey-free scorecard.

**Q. How does that happen on (indiscernible)?**

**DOUG BARRON:** I just played good. I left a couple out there, but I stole a couple putts, too. I played pretty good. It started blowing hard on about the 11th hole, so I three-putted 11 unfortunately. That one stung a little. I made about a 12-footer for par on 12 so I felt like I got it back. There was a lot of opportunities out there early because the wind wasn't blowing as hard. I felt like when Ernie beat me in Newport Beach a couple years ago, that's kind of how he got out early and got the lead and I had to make a birdie coming in. I needed to make a couple more birdies. I was trying to get to 10 today and I got off to a great start and just never really -- the front nine's just hard. It's out in the open and the wind blows, and I mean No. 8's diabolical and I just didn't birdie 9 all week. Just made it tough when I didn't birdie the par 5s on the front, on the two long par 5s.

**Q. But you've been playing well this year. You must come into a day like today thinking if I can take it low, I can do something.**

**DOUG BARRON:** Well, I had a number in my mind and it was low, but I knew the wind was going to blow coming in. I was pretty comfortable, I'm pretty happy with my round, I got zero complaints. I'd like to not three-putt when I know I could keep moving forward, but I did make a couple great birdies coming down the stretch, so that was nice.

**Q. Walk us through those. Where were those and what did you do?**

**DOUG BARRON:** Made a good par at 12. On 14 I made -- golly, let me think now, 10, 11, 12. I made a really good birdie at 13, I hit a great L-wedge in there about three feet. The wind was blowing so hard I had to take my hat off. Then 14 I almost made it. On 15 I had another good -- that's the putt I really needed. Then I hit good putts at 17 and 18. I was trying to make it, but they were so fast I couldn't get too crazy with them. The greens are so good. I mean, they were really, really fast.

**Q. Oh, yeah, especially I'm sure in the wind.**

**DOUG BARRON:** They're firm. I didn't get as close as I wanted on 18, but for a drawer, that pin just didn't set up for me. I had to take my medicine and try to get a putt at it from where I thought I could.

**Q. We haven't seen this kind of Steve Stricker this year, this looks more like last year. Were you watching where he was? Looks like he kind of separated for a while.**

**DOUG BARRON:** I don't really look at the scoreboards until the last cup holes because I didn't really think I was in it. To know that no one really made a run today made me happy. I mean, I never pull against anyone, I was just trying to play the best Doug Barron could play. There's so many good players out there. I'm sure Ernie and those guys will make a few birdies coming in. When you get to -- once you get to 13, 14, 15, 16, there's four birdies holes in a row, there's no one not going to play it under par that's at the top of the leaderboard, they're all top-notch players. I can go catch my flight I'm pretty confident.

**Q. And you've had a great year. This year's been different than last year. A couple guys -- you've been a winner and there have been other guys that haven't broken through. Can you talk about kind of the different mentality this year?**

**DOUG BARRON:** Well, my year, I was out injured. I was off to my best start ever last year, I was 10th on the Money List after seven events and I had two torn elbows. I've had two elbow surgeries and I'm still not 100 percent.

So I'm trying to get in U.S. Open golf shape is really what I'm trying to do. I walked all day today and I'm trying to walk a lot. My goal is just to keep getting stronger. I hired a trainer to work during the week. I'm just now back starting to lifting weights. I don't have near the speed that I had, but doing a lot of good stuff. My putting has made an immense improvement in my off time, so that was the one positive I can say, my chipping and putting. Chipping's always pretty good, but my putting's gotten really good, so it's helped.