

## ROCKET MORTGAGE CLASSIC

### ROUND 4 QUOTES

June 30, 2024



### AARON RAI (-17)

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**Q. Aaron, close call, just overall I would imagine you've got to feel pretty good about a solid week. Just some comments on that.**

**AARON RAI:** Yeah, overall a good week. Obviously being in the position that we were in today, there was a great chance to maybe do a little bit more. Got off to a really good start today. Just, yeah, a few too many loose shots and just didn't really keep the round going as well as what I could have and as well as the last three days. That part was a little bit disappointing for sure, but as you said, overall still a great week, so many positives to take. Yeah, really pleased with how my game feels overall.

**Q. You mentioned all the positives to take. I just asked you over here, going to play your first John Deere Classic this week. Are you able to take -- kind of put aside the frustrating parts and focus on the positives from this week?**

**AARON RAI:** Yeah, I think so. I think I'll feel it a little bit for the rest of this evening, but I think after kind of going over things and analyzing them, on my travels tonight I can definitely take the positives. Played nicely, felt like I handled myself pretty well over the weekend as well being in the final group with Akshay the last couple of days. Yeah, a lot of positives to take on the mental front, a lot of positives to take from the game as well.

**Q. You talk about finishing on 18 and things like that, just executing in those moments. What do you -- is there a tangible difference of hitting an approach on 18 there kind of knowing what's riding on it?**

**AARON RAI:** Yeah, I would say so. I mean, it's cliché to try to stick to the process and really get into what I would normally do over a shot, but yeah, my body definitely feels different. I'm sure that's the case for most of the guys in that situation. Definitely a little bit of adrenaline, definitely feel a little heavier, for sure. Again, those situations are great to experience just being able to manage those things and figure out what the tendencies are in those situations and hopefully just be a little bit better for it the next time.

**Q. You seemed so dialed in on your process all week, even from the range onto the course. Just how much progress do you feel like is happening in realtime of just the repetitiveness and just knowing it will be reliable when it matters the most?**

**AARON RAI:** Yeah, definitely. I've tried to practice in that way for quite a while now whether it's on the driving range, chipping area or putting green and I think that definitely helps on



those situations out on the course. Felt like I did a pretty good job of that over the last two days, really tried to zone in on each shot. Really pleased with how I handled myself overall.

**Q. I asked Akshay this, but is there a mental shift or what does it feel like when you go from three straight days where it's basically birdies, birdies, birdies, to today which felt like more of a kind of grinding, a little bit of just holding on, trying not to make mistakes? Is that a mental change?**

**AARON RAI:** It is. I think when the momentum is really continuing throughout the round, it's never easy, but you can really ride that out and continue to see good shots, and you're obviously executing a lot of good shots when you're making those kind of scores. A day like today when things kind of slow down, you've really got to try and hang in there as much as possible and get the most out of each given situation. It is a tricky shift because playing so well the last three days, it's kind of tricky to shift gears and it feels worse than what it actually is. That part is definitely still a part that I could learn and improve on. I think it was tricky out there for both me and Akshay, we didn't really have our best stuff. We both hung in there well and yeah, it wasn't quite enough for us today.

