

UTAH CHAMPIONSHIP

ROUND 1 QUOTES

August 1, 2024



OLLIE SCHNIEDERJANS (-8)

Q. Ollie, bogey-free 8-under 63 today, what was working well with your game today?

OLLIE SCHNIEDERJANS: I think everything, yeah. I hit it, from the start to finish, I hit it nice. I think I probably gained a shot or two putting, so kind of everything was clicking all day.

Q. You had four birdies there in a row on a stretch on the back there. What was working well, knocking it close or rolling in putts?

OLLIE SCHNIEDERJANS: Just hit it to about 10 feet, hit fairway, hit it 10 feet, made the putt. The par 5 was, it's an easy hole, hit the fairway there, so took advantage of that.

Q. You've had good results here in the past. Does that kind of give you some confidence when you come into this week or is there anything just about this course that kind of fits your eye?

OLLIE SCHNIEDERJANS: No, I know the course, like I've played a lot of rounds out here, so I'm comfortable with -- I didn't have to do too much in the practice round to feel like I know what to do.

But no, if I play good I don't think it matters too much where I am. I was able to take advantage of good ball-striking and putting today.

Q. Where have you felt your game's kind of been at? You just finished outside the top 25 last week, a good start this week. Just what's been your overall thought the last stretch here?

OLLIE SCHNIEDERJANS: Yeah, a process with I got a new body and a new swing this year. I haven't been able to play consistent, healthy golf in three or four years. I'm really happy that I'm able to put the work in and fight through whatever comes up, keep working through it. I haven't had anything stop me that's set me back, so I've been able to, you know, when something gets off, I can stay on it, I'm able to figure it out and get back to work the next day.

Just haven't been able to do that coming back from hip surgeries and some back stuff and new swing. It's just been a lot going on for me for a long time. I know what I'm doing now, now it's doing it.



You can't play at this level if you don't put the work in. I don't need to put a ton of work in, but I need to not be set back and have to stop for a month or two weeks and then start over again.

So being able to keep working, put the work in, do at least the minimum to get by preparation-wise and play week in, week out, I need to be able to do that. Now that I've been able to do that for a while, I'm very aware of where my body and game and swing are at. Not really working on anything new anymore, it's just the same stuff that I just kind of find where I'm at each day.

Q. In that process, what do you feel was kind of the biggest adjustment or maybe biggest hurdle you felt while trying to retool your swing?

OLLIE SCHNIEDERJANS: Well, two new hips, changed everything with my swing and my posture and how I use my lower body and my sequence. It's been a long -- with the help of Greg Rose and Tom Boros, they've kind of helped me get to where I am now and where I can put the work in, I hit it a lot better than I ever did before I had hip surgeries, hit a lot straighter than I ever did. When I'm on, it's much more point and shoot. I used to shape the ball a lot, use my hands a lot, get it around the course, rely on my short game. Now, when I am moving how I want, swing how I want, just kind of comes out how I want and I can get in a ball-striking rhythm where I'm really not missing much. I have another level of my game, I just need to be able to keep doing it for a couple more years and keep rolling.

Q. Is that refreshing, though? You've kind of reached a spot now where you're not just constantly working on the retooling, you can go out and play golf and you focus more on not just your swing?

OLLIE SCHNIEDERJANS: Yeah, I still focus on my swing a lot because when I swing it how I want, for sure I'm going to play good, I hit it where I'm looking. You have to do that to shoot the scores out here, you've got to hit it where you're looking and putt good.

I still focus on my swing a lot, but it's never anything new, it's always the same couple of things with my body and my swing that I just make sure I'm aware of. If my feel and real are close and I have a good awareness of where my body's at and where my swing's at, I'm going to play really good.

Q. As we come down the stretch here heading towards Finals, what's it like for you coming into each event now knowing each result you have can help position get towards a better position into the Finals?

OLLIE SCHNIEDERJANS: Yeah, I think I've tried to be really nice with myself, fair to myself. I've been through a lot and I think a good goal for me is to just finish top 75 and have a full fresh start next year, have a real offseason and have a full season next year. Last offseason I had to pull out of the Playoffs. I didn't touch a club for six months because I



couldn't figure out the pain I was having in my back. So I didn't play golf for six months. I was just able to start retooling with Tom in February and I started in Savannah.

So I haven't had a chance to really have an offseason and start in the Bahamas ready to actually go. I started in Savannah and I had played like five rounds of golf in eight months when I played in Savannah.

So if I can have full status next year out here, that would be a success for me this year, to finish top 25. To start the Bahamas healthy and after an offseason, this would be fair to me, I think a reasonable, doable goal. Then, anything past that would be a bonus.

