

## BIOSTEEL CHAMPIONSHIP

### ROUND 4 QUOTES

August 4, 2024

**BAREND BOTHA** (-26)



**Q. Barend, your second win in as many weeks and your second in three starts. How are you feeling right now and what are the emotions kind of going through your head now?**

**BAREND BOTHA:** Speechless. I came up 18, looked at the scoreboard, I was like tap in, OK. But I was like it's not done yet, but the heart was pumping.

**Q. You had an eagle on 15 to tie the lead and ultimately had the birdie on 18. When you hit that eagle putt on 15, did you know that you were tied for the lead? Did you know you had an opportunity to eventually go on and take the lead in the next three holes?**

**BAREND BOTHA:** No, I had no idea that that was for the lead, to tie it, but I wasn't leaving it short, that's for sure.

**Q. Can you walk me through just your shot selection on that hole?**

**BAREND BOTHA:** It's been the same every day, my famous hybrid. Came out a little hot, asked it to sit down and it sat down pretty good. Me and Max walked up, like this one's going in, middle of the cup.

**Q. Staying on that, can you tell me the length you saw in the putt, your read, and at what point you knew that that was falling down? And then your reaction when you saw it fall, because that was some pretty good emotion there?**

**BAREND BOTHA:** Yeah. We got up there to the green, probably 25 feet, around there I would say. We were between two cups and just one cup. Yeah, I hit it about a cup and a half outside left. I mean, it was tracking all the way. When it hit the back, it felt great.

**Q. The last two weeks you've talked a lot about your relationship and your friendship with Max, just your comfortability with him on the bag. Was he giving you any advice today or what was he talking about in your ear throughout the entire round?**

**BAREND BOTHA:** He was keeping me very like in the moment, present. There was a couple of times where I told him, like I was thinking ahead, and he was like stop that, focus on this now, focus on this shot.



I mean, club selection, he helps me a lot. He probably knows my game better than I do. Most of the par 3s we get up there and he's already got the club out and I'm like, OK, fine. Then he's like just trust it, that's the right club, and it's always been the right club.

**Q. What was the pivotal point today where Max handed you a club and knew what the right yardage was? Was there a point today where that even started some momentum or swung it in your direction?**

**BAREND BOTHA:** I would say probably 12, that was a good start. Made a good decision there, hit the shot exactly what we wanted to do. And 13 was pretty good, too. The par 3s, 14 and 16, I mean, he gave me both the clubs, I didn't even have to do anything. He said that's the right club, just pick your line and hit it. Yeah, I mean, I'm lucky to walk off with pars on those two holes.

**Q. Not to -- Max would get mad at me for saying this, but not to think ahead, three wins gets you an automatic promotion up to the Korn Ferry Tour. How does it feel just knowing that you're just one win away and that you have the opportunity to jump up this quick in your pro career?**

**BAREND BOTHA:** It feels pretty good, I'd say.

**Q. For us covering this tournament, it's kind of crazy, chaotic because there's so many guys within one or two shots of the lead and they kind of keep flip-flopping. What's it like to be in the middle of that? What do you think separates you from that pack?**

**BAREND BOTHA:** I would say the team I have around me. Max is doing a great job on the bag. I don't know, I'd say mentally I'm in a pretty good spot and the swing feels great. Just play smart golf.

**Q. And how aware are you of what's going on around you with the scores? Are you a guy that pays attention to that or like not at all? You must know what you need to do on the last couple holes?**

**BAREND BOTHA:** No, no idea. I don't look at any scoreboards, I don't go on my phone, I don't ask around. Just play golf. It's another day at the office.

