

ROUND 2 QUICK QUOTES
September 13, 2024

SAHITH THEEGALA (-9)

PROCORE
CHAMPIONSHIP

Q. So that's the first time defending a title, so far, so good.

SAHITH THEEGALA: Yes, so far really good. Just played a lot of really steady golf. Haven't made a whole lot. My speed's been a little iffy on the longer ones but I'm hitting the ball really nicely, just kind of plodding my way around. A lot of my poor shots, poor iron shots are in the fat of the green kind of right where they need to be. Really haven't taken anything on, I haven't been super aggressive, just haven't felt incredible about my iron play, but I just feel like I'm hitting a lot of the middle of the greens, giving myself a lot of looks and kind of taking care of business on holes that I should be.

Q. You know, strange you say you haven't made much. You made 112 feet in putts in the opening round, made 105 feet today.

SAHITH THEEGALA: Wow.

Q. Made an 18-footer for par on 16 followed up by a 32-foot birdie.

SAHITH THEEGALA: Oh, I forgot about --

Q. So you have made some putts.

SAHITH THEEGALA: Yeah, never mind, I take it back. Sound rude saying that. Yeah, I feel like I've had a lot of chances that I've missed. I guess I was just in the zone, I kind of forgot about the last three holes. You're right, probably made 50 feet worth of putts. I just feel so comfortable on these greens, maybe I'm a little greedy, want to make more putts than I actually should.

Q. Why don't we end it right there and you go to dinner thinking that you're putting great, OK?

SAHITH THEEGALA: Well, thanks for reminding me, now I feel great about my putting. Thanks, Fred.

Q. What's the effect of playing with the couple guys that you played with? You obviously outplayed them over 36 holes, but they're PGA TOUR winners, they won a major, they've been in these big team events. What's the effect knowing you've raised your game and you're put in these groups with the elite of the elite?

SAHITH THEEGALA: For sure. Every time I get a feature group and get to play with guys

that have done so much on Tour and golf, it's awesome. Like you want to play with the best players in the world and I got a grouping just like that this week. Obviously they played poorly this week and I know they're not going to play like that next week. Guys like that just have an extra level of focus and commitment, just this killer instinct that they bring to bigger events and I really feel like they're going to bring it next week.

But it feels awesome. I still, I've said this a lot, I struggle to kind of see myself in that echelon of player, but I don't think it's a bad thing. I think there's still things that those two guys do that I don't feel like I can consistently do. Just going to keep putting in the work and let the results kind of speak for themselves.

But it's awesome, man. There's an attitude thing, too. It's not just the golf, it's kind of the way they carry themselves around the golf course. You can never -- golf's a tough game and you can never -- they obviously had a rough couple days, but I think that's also a testament to how every single guy out here is really good. Like sometimes I feel like we get so centric on the top guys, but everybody here is some of the best players in the world and I think these fall events are such a good showcase for that. You've got to play your ass off to be in contention or even near the lead come Sunday. You've got to play nice just to make the cut. It's just a good reminder kind of never let your guard down.

Q. And finally, the tendency might be this week to think you have to be too perfect, like you won here last year, the banners, et cetera.

SAHITH THEEGALA: Yeah.

Q. You must be pretty gratified to know that after 36 holes and I know you felt like you left some shots out there yesterday, but you're only four back going into the weekend. You've got to be very gratified by what's happening.

SAHITH THEEGALA: For sure. I probably hit the ball six shots better through two days off the tee than last year. That's where I feel I've gained all the shots. Everything from then on in has been I'd say pretty average, but I got a few bonus putts to go in for sure. That one on 18 snuck in the right edge, so definitely a bonus one there.

I'm hitting it so well off the tee that it doesn't quite feel like a bonus anymore. It's like I need to start getting used to that because I feel like I'm not hitting the greatest wedge shots out of the fairway. I'm so used to just kind of scrambling out of the rough and hitting these weird shots.

So just really pleased with the way I'm hitting off the tee. That's kind of the basis for how my game usually is in a good place for the week and leads to good results. I know this week not necessarily, I've said it before, but you can kind of get away with hitting it offline. It really gives you an avenue to scramble and hit the hero shots when you can. It's kind of just a free roll. I know I use that term a lot, too, but it just feels like a free roll this weekend.