

KORN FERRY TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP

ROUND 2 QUOTES

October 4, 2024



ZACH BAUCHOU (-10)

Q. Solid round to start this week. What's it mean to you to kind of -- obviously two more rounds to go, but what's it mean to you to have this lead here midway through the Korn Ferry Tour Championship?

ZACH BAUCHOU: Yeah, it means a lot. It's been a long season and I feel I've gotten better throughout the season, so it's nice to show that this week and see some good results so far.

Q. What have you gotten better at this season?

ZACH BAUCHOU: I think I've gotten better with my irons. I've certainly gotten better with my chipping. I've struggled with my putting and went back to AimPoint this weekend. It's helped a lot just trusting my reads and trying to make good strokes.

Q. Did you go back to AimPoint like during the off week or what -- like this week on the putting green Tuesday, Wednesday, or when did you make the switch?

ZACH BAUCHOU: I stopped using -- I stopped -- I stopped using AimPoint in Denver and putted pretty well not using it for about four weeks. Then started putting bad and didn't really trust reads. After last week in Ohio I was like, I'm going to grind on AimPoint a little bit more the off week and get comfortable with it again. Yeah, it's been a work in progress.

Q. Do you have like a putting coach or do you work on putting yourself?

ZACH BAUCHOU: No, I just work on it myself.

Q. Do you have a swing coach?

ZACH BAUCHOU: I do. I work with Denny Lucas in Florida for a couple years now.

Q. And what's -- like is there anything -- you mentioned your irons being better. What's -- is there a drill or a technique or adjustment? What do you think it is that's allowed your irons to get better this year?

ZACH BAUCHOU: That's a good question. I think I've gotten better at controlling the flight, able to bring it down better than I have been in the past, which is nice, especially when it gets a touch windy like this. Just trying to hit it off the middle of the face. It sounds so simple, but if you hit off the middle of the face, you'll be pretty good.



Q. What does this opportunity this weekend mean to you?

ZACH BAUCHOU: It means a lot. Obviously got to go out there and do it, but to have the opportunity and be in a good spot means a lot.

Q. Did you have a favorite shot of today?

ZACH BAUCHOU: I had a nice chip-in today on the par 5 today. So I eagled that hole both days. That was probably one of my best shots.

Q. What was your -- what were your impressions of this course when you arrived?

ZACH BAUCHOU: There's a lot going on here. I think it really helped me to get out there and play it a couple days just to know where the lines are at because they move tee boxes around, wind changed a little bit so the line changes a lot on holes. Obviously they can do a lot with the tees out here because there are so many different boxes. I think getting comfortable with your lines out here is a big deal.

Q. Was there ever a point you felt like impatient about I guess your career as a whole and like waiting for results to come or have you always been confident they were going to come and you haven't put that pressure on yourself?

ZACH BAUCHOU: No, I certainly put pressure on myself, but that's OK. I've had friends that have done quite well, so it's cool to see and it's inspiring in a way. But I've done a decent job of focusing on my game and what I need to do to get better. I feel like I've gotten a lot better in some areas, which has definitely helped me.

Q. Is it hard to like not dwell on the past too much or are you like naturally good at staying in the present?

ZACH BAUCHOU: There's definitely a time to think about the past and reflection's very important, but the time is -- when you're on the course the focus is about being on the course and then after you can think about, OK, I made this mistake, try to do this better the next time.

Q. If things continue in this sort of direction to you, all five of you from that 2018 National Championship team would have earned your PGA TOUR card. Obviously we're looking far ahead with that, but how cool of an accomplishment do you feel that would be given the success of that team and how you're doing this week? How cool is that on top of everything else?

ZACH BAUCHOU: Yeah, when you said that, I haven't really thought about that, although I played with Austin and Sam and Hovie a lot. And Kris is getting his card this year. We had an amazing team and we knew it at the time that we were all playing very well. I forgot about



Wolff, who's obviously won on the PGA TOUR. It's cool that those guys have all gotten out on the Tour and done quite well.

Q. Yeah, and then talking with Kris before, he said like obviously you guys still remain in touch and everything. Talk about your ups and downs so far in your pro career. Just how would you describe kind of the grind of it all? Yesterday you mentioned kind of being on the Asian Tour and being close to the point of quitting. Talk about like the mental hurdles you've had to kind of go through since you graduated and got off the team.

ZACH BAUCHOU: Yeah, so when I graduated in 2019 I went to Q school and missed. Then the following year the pandemic happened so there was no Q school. Just kind of bounced around, played in Asia some. It's a lot of traveling, but I feel like it educated me in a way, which was good. Even though I didn't play well, I still got something from it. I do think that helps me out here, whether it's just being comfortable with traveling or adjusting plans. I feel like I've had a lot of personal growth in the last couple years.

Q. And then 2023 you were the sponsor's invite winning your way into Wichita and having that tied for fourth there, how impactful was that for your confidence and stability just knowing you're going to have some more starts to prove yourself here in America and show what you're capable of?

ZACH BAUCHOU: For sure, that was huge for me. I remember I switched to broomstick putting that week and that was the first week that I ever did it and I almost won the tournament. So I struggled with my putting a lot and this was the last resort to give it a try and it's helped a lot.

Q. You compared this I believe as well to like Karsten Creek. Does giving yourself that kind of nostalgia, the positive memories kind of help you sort of let loose out there just kind of some ways you can sort of talk about?

ZACH BAUCHOU: Yeah, I think it does because golf is -- yeah, you've got to hit the shots, but you've got to be comfortable. When you first show up to Karsten Creek, especially as a freshman, you can get overwhelmed because it's blowing 20 and like wow, there's not very much room out there, which this course kind of looks the same way from the tree. But you learn how to play it, you learn how to manage your ball and you become better because of it.

Q. And obviously you started the week 35 and the goal is to win and keep this going, but given -- I guess back to the word stability of having a full season next year, is it a little bit more freeing or are you just locked in on one goal?

ZACH BAUCHOU: I'm trying to finish the year out strong here. Obviously it's nice to have somewhere to play out here next year, but when you're on the bubble and I feel like I've been there for a little bit, you want to get inside the Top 30 and get your Tour card.

