

**ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES**  
**October 24, 2024**

**NICO ECHAVARRIA ( -6)**



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**Q. We'll just start off, 6 under for the day, how would you assess your round?**

**NICO ECHAVARRIA:** It was good, it was solid. I've been feeling pretty good with my game. I missed the cut last week, but I made 12 birdies Thursday and Friday and that's a good sign. Carried it over and played very solid. This is a tough course and you have to keep it in play to give yourself chances.

**Q. You said tough course. What's the keys to kind of navigating around here, staying out of trouble?**

**NICO ECHAVARRIA:** The rough is thick and high and it's very hard from the rough to get it close because there's a bunker in front of the green pretty much on every hole. So the key is off the tee and some long irons. I played very well the par 3s today, made three birdies on the four par 3s and that was one of the keys, I think.

**Q. Big stretch right now, have you played every event so far this fall?**

**NICO ECHAVARRIA:** Yeah. I feel good, my body feels fine. The travel was long but it was easy in the charter and body feels fine.

**Q. I asked Max, he's looking for his first win, you've won before. What's the difference between having won and still trying to get that first one, anything notable you can talk about?**

**NICO ECHAVARRIA:** Just for me is giving myself a chance of being in that position again. I haven't been there since I won. Actually played with Max on the Zurich, he was my partner and we were close coming into the back nine. That's the closest I've been to winning other than Puerto Rico. There's not much difference, just being there on the back nine.

**Q. I'm sorry, you were talking about you and Max were together when?**

**NICO ECHAVARRIA:** We played the Zurich together, we partnered up.

**Q. We're halfway through the fall now. Is it kind of an added pressure to get into events here in the spring or kind of almost a sense of playing free now?**

**NICO ECHAVARRIA:** Just a sense of playing free. I'm not thinking of what's going to come next year. Hopefully play good these last four events that we have left and give myself a chance of winning one of these and seeing what the schedule is next year. How I said, it's

being close on Sunday and giving myself a chance that I haven't done since Puerto Rico. It's a good start of the week.

**Q. Thursday, a lot of fans out here. Can you speak to what the crowds are like especially playing here in Japan?**

**NICO ECHAVARRIA:** They're awesome. People here are so polite, so nice. They clap when you hit a good shot, they clap when you hit a bad shot, but they're incredible and they're very glad we're so, so makes you feel special.