

**ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES**  
**January 22, 2025**



**ALDRICH POTGIETER (-6)**

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**Q. Aldrich, nice start for you today. What was working particularly well?**

**ALDRICH POTGIETER:** Hitting the ball a lot better today. Really found something last week at the AmEx, kind of started to see some better results how I wanted to hit the ball. Just worked on it the whole weekend. Missed the cut last week so had some time to do that, then came out here early.

Yeah, love the golf course. Nice and long, so it's tough. Yeah, just enjoying it. Rolling some putts as well, so it's pretty good.

**Q. What did you find in the swing?**

**ALDRICH POTGIETER:** Yeah, just trying to see that one shape, a little fade. We were seeing some drop lefts out there early in Sony and last week, so just wanted to get rid of that and find a way to see the ball going the one way. Yeah, we got there at the end, so really happy.

**Q. Just from first glance, this property and these two courses seem like they would fit your game quite well. Is that how it feels when you play them?**

**ALDRICH POTGIETER:** Yeah, the rough is really high up and it's quite brutal out there. It is kind of an advantage to have that strength to get out of the rough and get that high ball flight to stop it as well. Just looking forward to it. Trying to keep the ball in play and trying to go low out there.

**Q. Couple missed cuts to start kind of your Tour career. Probably not how you wanted it to go. Do you kind of try to give yourself some patience to get started, not get worked up after two missed cuts?**

**ALDRICH POTGIETER:** Yeah, just trying to build a team around me. It's quite new out here and don't really know anyone outside of the field. I've got a coach now, putting guy, so it's starting to come together a little bit.

Yeah, just trying to put in the work and trying to stay patient. It was just minor things last two weeks and looking forward to this week seeing some results.

**Q. Have you not had a coach before or just one that wasn't going to be able to be here regularly?**



**ALDRICH POTGIETER:** Yeah, it's kind of been on and off traveling so much throughout the years. Now that I'm out here, I can kind of work with one guy as well, so it's pretty good to kind of just hear one thing in your ear, not 50 things. Something to concentrate on and work toward.

**Q. Who are you working with?**

**ALDRICH POTGIETER:** Justin Parsons from Sea Island. Looking forward to it.

**Q. Is that where you're based, Sea Island?**

**ALDRICH POTGIETER:** Based in Atlanta at the moment. Staying with a good buddy of mine. It's a nice area, nice up north out of the city so it's nice and quiet up there.

**Q. Fellow golfer or just friend from --**

**ALDRICH POTGIETER:** Just an American friend that got linked up with another friend, so I've been staying with him for the last year now so it's been really good.

**Q. How difficult is it to get out here and, like you said, put together a team? I mean, I assume you're pretty much starting from scratch?**

**ALDRICH POTGIETER:** Yeah, I mean --

**Q. Where do you go for that?**

**ALDRICH POTGIETER:** You just try and pick advice. Erik van Rooyen's out here, trying to pick his brain kind of where to go, kind of what course to play first and just little things that can help you at the end of the week.

Try and learn from the guys who have been out here way back to Korn Ferry that I played with last year and just trying to build something up. You just hear little things that everyone talks about and try and take that in and take that into consideration. Yeah, it's just hit or miss at the moment trying to build something. If it doesn't work, then just wasted a couple weeks, but you have to try.

**Q. Have you been here before?**

**ALDRICH POTGIETER:** First time here.

**Q. And how much did you play between the desert and the start of today? How many practice rounds?**

**ALDRICH POTGIETER:** We came out here a little earlier. We were here Sunday, so we played nine holes on the North course and then Monday played nine holes on the South,



and yesterday played 18, which wasn't ideal. Because that pro-am was a little slow, we decided to only play nine.

But yeah, just need to see some tee shots. Greens are nice and they're not too firm for the rough, so it's not really a big factor of placing the ball too much. It was just getting those tee shots down and knowing where to hit the ball.

**Q. Is there a particular part of your game now that you've seen a couple Tour setups that you feel like needs extra refinement or work?**

**ALDRICH POTGIETER:** Yeah, I think from Sony was a little different golf course, you have to work the ball right to left a lot, especially the holes where you have to work it right to left, the wind was off the left so it didn't help at all. And I hit a fade, so it just wasn't great.

Last week it was kind of wideish tee shots, just a lot of approach shots in probably from 90 yards to 180 yards that I wasn't committing to the shot because I just didn't know where the ball was going to go, left or right. Kind of worked on that. And trying to hit the driver also one way, find some fairways this week, which is ideal really, a key factor for this week. Just happy with putting the work in there.

**Q. You played a few events in South Africa, right, kind of over the fall? How was that to kind of go home and play some of that?**

**ALDRICH POTGIETER:** It was good. I went to Australia first. I grew up there so it was nice to see some familiar faces out there. Played some good golf, but it was kind of more a vacation. Came home with a top-10, which was pretty good for not putting all the effort into it.

Then went back home. It was fun playing in front of South African fans. It was really, really good. Unfortunately I didn't get the win, came just short, but it was good, just good in general.

