

ROUND 4 QUICK QUOTES
January 25, 2025



HARRIS ENGLISH (-8)

MODERATOR: All right, everybody, we would like to welcome the 2025 Farmers Insurance Open champion, Harris English.

What a great day. It was a difficult day, Harris. Just what are your emotions like after winning for the first time in a couple years?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, it's the first I've slept on a lead in a long time. I don't really know if I've done that in my PGA TOUR career. It's never easy. You think it would get easier being in this position a lot, then winning four times out here, but it never gets easier.

It was nice having my family out this morning. It was pretty easygoing. We were watching some kids' shows, no Golf Channel, no Sports Center. Not my usual TV during tournament week. It was good to keep my mind off of it.

I knew it was going to be a tough day today, I love that. I love this golf course when it plays really tough. I knew with the wind you're probably not going to get somebody that shoots a solid -- Sam Stevens shot 4 under today, which is an incredible round, but you're not going to really see somebody coming up and throwing a 65, 66 out there today.

As a leader coming in the final round, you kind of like that, that it's going to be a grind. You're going to miss fairways, miss greens, but you've got to miss it in the right spot. I kind of leaned on my putter. I had that thing for a long time and started putting with it my senior year of college in 2011. Haven't putted well the last couple weeks in Hawaii and Palm Springs last week, but I worked a lot more this week and I felt like my speed was really dialed in and every putt was going in at the right speed. It's nice when you hit it to 40 or 50 feet a few holes and you can get it up there to tap-in distance. That really won me the golf tournament.

Q. Harris, talking to your caddie and Justin, they both said you play better on tough setups when it's hard. Why in particular do you feel like that happens?

HARRIS ENGLISH: It kind of goes back to when I was a kid like playing in the U.S. Juniors, the U.S. Amateurs, I loved those big-time golf courses with thick rough. You've got to play chess out there, it's not some of these golf courses where to me is kind of a dart test and a putting contest. Tests like this, you've got to miss in the right spots, you've got to grind out there and pars are good and that's kind of all you're trying to do.

I don't know what it is, I just love U.S. Open-type setups and Torrey Pines has always been one of my favorites. It's definitely kicked me in the teeth before because if you're not hitting it

well, if you're not missing in the right spots, you're not going to play well.

I've had really good success here and I've had where I'm not beating anybody based on how you're playing. So I love setups like this.

Q. Justin mentioned maybe kind of pulled you aside or had a conversation last week like I want you to remember your competitiveness, kind of what got you those four wins, maybe not playing as much golf swing and kind of remembering the competitor in you. Is there any part of that kind of shifting your mentality and remembering that?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, I mean, we all want to be so perfect out here and I'm obsessed with this game, I'm obsessed with getting better. It's easy to fall in a little bit of a trap of what your swing looks like, what the TrackMan numbers say and what on a video it should look like and perform.

So when you kind of get in those ruts, you kind of lose your competitiveness, you lose the fun in shaping shots and hitting different shots. That's kind of what we've worked on last week. I spent a lot of the offseason working on some technique stuff. He said it was like time to get back in playing, getting back into having fun on the range like I was a kid back where I grew up was hitting different shots, curving it around trees. That's kind of how I grew up playing and just to have fun with it. Whatever I see, get up there and hit it instead of trying to be so perfect.

Q. Harris, it's an interesting contrast to when you lost in the playoff here to Jason. The winning score was 9 under, the conditions on Sunday were hard and you were unhappy with your driver, right? And then today you go out, didn't really hit many fairways.

Can you think about like that tournament and then today and what the difference was for you?

HARRIS ENGLISH: That's a great point.

Yeah, when I lost that tournament I would have come off the course and said like, well, if I would have just driven it better, I could have won this event.

But today I didn't feel like I hit it that bad, I just -- it's hard to hit fairways out there. I guess being out here for 14 years now, that's kind of what I've learned is you don't have to play perfect golf. That's playing this golf course years and years and having a lot of experience, I kind of know where to miss it, and I've had a lot of those same shots before or same chips or same putts. You kind of build those in the memory bank and relive some of those good putts and good chips that you've hit.

Yeah, I think that was 2014 or something when I did that. I feel like I've definitely grown as a player of letting the round come to me and not trying to force it. I probably drove it the same

today as I did back in 2014, but I had a total different outlook on it of. I knew it was going to be a grind and you've just got to make pars. And it doesn't have to look pretty, you've just got to get the job done.

Q. I wanted to ask you, this is the first win since the hip surgery. You know, we heard you talk about how difficult that was at the time. How good does this feel given what you went through at that time to come back to even be here? And when the hip problem got to its worst, did you think that you would be able to come back OK after it?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, it was one of those injuries that was just nagging for a long time. I never could really get over it. I thought in 2022 it was time to do it, it was time to get it done.

Went out to the Steadman Clinic in Vail and Dr. Philippon, who I trusted -- I saw him right after I college when I had this problem, trusted him to get me back. I knew it was going to take a lot of work. I'm not scared of putting in the work, putting in the rehab, I just wanted to get back.

The biggest thing I missed was just traveling and playing tournament golf, like that's what I missed. I love it out here. You miss seeing a lot of your friends for a few months and you miss getting the juices going and standing there on the first tee and got the butterflies going, you miss that feeling.

And when you win, you never know when your next time's going to be, so you've got to really cherish the moment. It's so hard to win out here on the PGA TOUR, there's so many good players. There's young guys coming out here every single year that are trying to take your job and it's awesome to see it. It pushes me to get better. And at 35 I feel like I've got a lot more years out here to compete and just keep getting better at this crazy game.

Q. How old's your daughter and what's that like given what you came back from and enjoying the moment? How is it different now for you with her?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, she's a year and a half. Just like this week, it's so much more fun and relaxing. My at-home life doesn't revolve about golf anymore, it's all about her. My wife does a really good job of keeping everything great outside the ropes and everything in line. Really, all I have to do is go play golf and she kind of takes care of the rest. It's been great.

But my daughter, I mean, it shows you that golf is not everything. If I was staying on my own all the time, you can go back to the room and all you're thinking about is your round and you have nobody to talk to and take your mind off of golf. So she does a good job of that.

I've been seeing over the years of people's families coming out on 18 green and their children coming out to see them win. I'm so happy that she was there to see it. I have no idea if I'm going to win again or when I'm going to win again, but we'll have those pictures for

a lifetime.

Q. Keeping along those lines, you said you watched some children's shows instead of typical stuff. Is that something you stumbled up now, when you have another 54-hole lead you're going to go back and (indiscernible)?

HARRIS ENGLISH: It was awesome. I'm usually watching Sports Center or watching NBC or Golf Channel, seeing guys play. I love watching golf.

It was great. It's funny for watch those shows that totally get your mind off of golf. We might be on to something.

Q. And then you make your debut here, you come close to winning here. After this many years coming back, did it almost feel like you were taking care of some unfinished business winning on this golf course you have such a long history with?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, that's what I told my caddie, Eric. Like finally we got in the winner's circle here. I've been close a long time. I was close at the U.S. Open a few years ago when Jon birdied the last couple holes. I feel like I've been right there here.

I love the setup and kind of everything aligned this week. I played an unbelievable round yesterday finishing the way I did and kind of getting some momentum.

And today, like I said, I hadn't had a lead in 54 holes in a long time. It's tough, your emotions are all over the place. I knew that being out here for 14 years, I've got to use that to my advantage.

The guys that were around me, not many of them had won before, so I knew I had a little bit of an upper hand of how to handle my emotions out there and I feel like I did a really good job.

Q. Harris, what was the best shot you hit today?

HARRIS ENGLISH: A lot of the putts were really good. I'd say the up-and-down I had on 4 was pretty incredible. You never practice lies like that a whole lot, plugged, uphill, 30-yard bunker shot straight downwind. Those shots you just kind of have to visualize it and make it happen. That's one that came out exactly how I was seeing it and right up there to five, six feet. Those are the putts you've got to make to keep the round going, to make some hard pars like that. I would say that up-and-down was probably my best.

Q. You only hit four fairways today. It took a while to even get the first one. When the driver's kind of a little wayward, are you trying to tweak things as you go or are you just hoping you're going to find it eventually?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, I drove it unbelievably last week. I think at Palm Springs I think I

led the field in driving. It's wild how this game changes from week to week. I mean, I went from probably my best driving week to only hitting four fairways in the final round.

I just know it's hard. I'm not trying anything different, I'm going through my routine and seeing the shot. If it comes off, great. If it goes in the rough, I'm going to figure out how to make par.

Q. Can you talk us kind of through what was going through your mind on 18 over that drive? I mean, obviously driver wasn't necessarily your friend today, but were you a little nervous over that drive and then the approach shot after you punched out?

HARRIS ENGLISH: I wasn't really nervous on the drive, I was just trying to hit it way down there so I could hit it on the green in two and have an easier -- I kind of thought Andrew had a chance of making eagle on that hole, so I thought birdie would definitely get me a victory.

Kind of an awkward wind for me. I like playing a fade and any wind off the left I'm a little worried about overcutting it. So it happens. I mean, get over there, I'm like OK, I've got to get it back in the fairway.

It wasn't a very easy lie, dead into the grain, kind of don't really know how those are going to come out.

My caddie talked me through that shot a little bit of kind of hey, we've got to get this back in the fairway. I didn't even know how far it was to get back to the fairway. It's just kind of one of those shots where you've got to feel it and see it and hit it.

That's why we practice so much, you've just kind of got to go with your gut. Hit it really good. Just to get that ball back in the fairway left me a pretty good number, a full 56-degree. Kind of an awkward lie, like downslope right-to-left lie. When it came off I thought it was going to catch the slope and come back towards the hole. Barely stayed up top. But knew my speed was good all week and cozied it down there to the hole.

Q. And then you said you saw Stevens was 4 under. Did you know that he was that hot or are you one that doesn't like to look at the scoreboard while you're out there?

HARRIS ENGLISH: I started watching it like 14, 15, 16. I kind of knew where everybody was. I didn't know if somebody was kind of making a run on the back nine and getting up to 8, 9, 10 under.

I like to know and kind of start playing out on how the last couple holes are going to go and kind of your strategy. I feel like I did a good job of not getting ahead of myself and kept playing my game and kept plugging along.

Q. A bit random, but I know you're close with Davis Love. Jim Nance on the broadcast mentioned that Davis had open heart surgery today; was healthy and

then -- was healthy and came out healthier was kind of how Davis referred it as a procedural thing. Just wondered if you had any words to share with Davis?

HARRIS ENGLISH: I didn't know that. That's wild. If there's anybody to come back stronger than ever, it's that guy.

I see him a lot in the gym, I see him a lot hitting balls and practicing. He loves the game and loves to get better and he can't sit still at all.

He's one of the few guys that if I was stuck somewhere, I would call him to come pick me up and I know he would. He's that kind of guy. Such a good mentor to all of us down in Sea Island.

I hope he gets well. I know he will. I know he's going to get up in the morning, probably have some coffee and get right back at it. He's a great guy and I can't believe he had that, but I know he'll be back soon and probably playing golf tournaments before anybody knows it.

Q. Harris, can you tell us a little bit about the '21 Open, last round? Don't remember much about it other than Jon's birdies. How were you feeling like even on the back nine? Did you feel like -- solo third, right? I mean, how close did you feel like you were going to win the U.S. Open?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, I was feeling close, for sure.

I remember birdieing 18. I hit a really good drive and I think I hit it middle back of the green, I think the pin was front right, and two-putted for birdie.

Yeah, you started feeling it and you have no -- I can't remember if I was third or fourth group from the last, but you don't really know how those guys are going to handle stuff coming in behind you.

This is a tough golf course, U.S. Open setup. Yeah, I love being in the mix. I mean, that's why I practice, that's why I keep going, I love that feeling. Love trying to win a major. I was close at Winged Foot and I was close at Torrey. I've had a lot of my major successes in U.S. Opens, which you kind of saw that today. Like Torrey's a U.S. Open golf course and always plays hard, especially in those conditions today.

I feel like a lot of people beat themselves or get too aggressive and kind of shoot themselves out of the tournament, so that's why I love setups like this.

Q. Were you the clubhouse leader when you finished that day?

HARRIS ENGLISH: I might have been. I remember finishing 18 and going in the player hospitality, kind of don't really know like kind of waiting, like not putting my clubs back in the travel bag, waiting to see what Rahm did. I can't remember if Louis finished second, but I

think Rahm birdied the last two holes.

Q. So you were watching it to see what he does?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Um-hmm. I remember him making that slider on 17 for birdie. Yeah, I think I was sitting in player hospitality watching him do that.

Q. Do you love seeing -- I know you just said you love Torrey Pines, but seeing how difficult this course can be set up even for a PGA TOUR event? I mean, it's just so rare, right, to get this condition?

HARRIS ENGLISH: It is. We don't see rough like this a whole lot, maybe a few times during the year. I wish we had more really difficult setups on the PGA TOUR. I know it takes a lot of work. They probably have been watering that rough for a long time and haven't had a whole lot of rain here so it's hard to get that much rough.

My caddie and I said this week, we came out here on Monday, I had never seen the course in this good of condition, both South and North. They made North a lot harder and obviously a lot of the guys -- I was lucky to play it the first day but a lot of guys that played it the second day, it's so challenging. Thick rough out there as well, really tough golf course. Obviously the South is more of a bear, but they've made that North course a lot harder.

Q. How do you feel about coming back for the Genesis now?

HARRIS ENGLISH: I'm excited. I was hoping they would choose this course to come back to. I'm looking forward to it.

Obviously I love Riviera, that's one of my favorite golf courses. I've had a good bit of success there and hate what has happened in the Palisades and kind of around L.A. We all hate to see that, but I think you're going to see a lot of PGA TOUR support for L.A. and those affected in the wildfires.

We're excited about coming here and playing this again.

MODERATOR: Harris, I'll just close, I notice the bracelet you've got there. Can you tell us the story behind that?

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, they just gave it to me I guess at the trophy presentation. Made a little friendship Farmers Insurance Open champ bracelet. Put it on and might have to wear it a little while.

MODERATOR: Might be a good luck charm.

HARRIS ENGLISH: Might be a good luck charm.

MODERATOR: Well, congratulations again. We appreciate your time. How will you celebrate tonight?

HARRIS ENGLISH: I'm not sure, we've been going to a good sushi place up in Delmar, we've been staying at an Airbnb up there. Maybe pretty low key, I don't know. We've got to put our little girl to bed here in a little bit. We'll see. I'm pretty tired, it was a challenge out there. Still hasn't really hit me yet. Got to get ready for next week.

MODERATOR: Congratulations again. Great champion.

HARRIS ENGLISH: Thank you.