

**ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES**  
**February 6, 2025**

**STEVEN ALKER (-4)**



**Q. Take me through that last putt on 18.**

**STEVEN ALKER:** It was going a little fast, yeah, for my liking, but right in the middle of the hole. I mean, I just had a great finish today, it was exciting. We were making some birdies at the end. Miguel was chipping in and Padraig was doing all sorts of funny stuff. Yeah, it was a nice finish to the round. To finish those last three and get in the clubhouse at 4 was good.

**Q. First time here, just overall thoughts on the course?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, love it. Tee to green is fantastic, and then you get on the green and you've got to start thinking again even more.

Yeah, it reminds me of a couple Australian golf courses down there. Visually I like that you have to drive it well and move it about and hit good shots. Yeah, I'm enjoying myself.

**Q. Steven, how much did Troy help you on those greens having been here and won here?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, good question. He did. There was a couple today, like does it really do that? Yeah, sure enough it did. He was very helpful, except for the one on the last, that was all me.

**Q. The bunker hole-out?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, Miguel hit a great shot there, whatever it was, six, seven feet, and then I holed it. It was just a couple of those things went well today. It was a slow start, I was just trying to get some momentum and it all happened on the back.

**Q. What is the strategy tee to green?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Tee -- well, first thing is fairway. I've been working on my driver a bit more this week before I come out, I knew it was a good driving golf course, so you've just got to drive it. And then from there you've got to put it on the right part of the green. It doesn't just start with the tee shot, you've just got to be on all day.

**Q. How did you play today?**



**STEVEN ALKER:** I played a little bit up and down. It was scratchy to start and then I played better as the round went on, made some nice birdies at the end. I was pleased to finish on a high. My game was good at the end.

**Q. What do you think about this event?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Having a blast. I mean, it's fantastic to have the men and the women here, and then play such a good golf course, it's fantastic.

**Q. What type of competition are you expecting?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** It's always tough out here. We've got two days to go. It's going to be a crowded leaderboard. It's that type of golf course where it's going to be crowded, you know what I mean, unless someone takes off. It's just hard to make birdies and you've just got to stay on it all day, so it will be tight.

**Q. What can you say about the conditions, the weather and the general conditions?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, this is fantastic. It's been very cool the last couple mornings. With the pro-am, it was cold, I had everything on, but today was perfect. We're in short sleeves and it was ideal. Not too much wind, don't have to worry about the wind today, so it was good.

**Q. First time in Morocco?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** No, I played Agadir, I played the European Tour event down by the palace and then this is my first time in Rabat.

**Q. General thoughts about Royal Golf Dar Es Salam?**

**STEVEN ALKER:** Yeah, it's super, I like it a lot. Whenever you go somewhere and you like the golf course, it's a good sign.

