

ROUND 2 QUICK QUOTES
February 21, 2025

ALDRICH POTGIETER (-16)



Q. Aldrich, spectacular round of 61. You flirted with a new course record that would have been 60, but tell us, how did you manage to shoot 61 today here at VidantaWorld?

ALDRICH POTGIETER: Yeah, started off really good with five birdies in a row on the front nine and that helped a lot to get momentum. Made a really good chip-in for par on 10 to keep the momentum going. I knew on the back nine there was a couple of par 5s, three par 5s that I still had available to me, just tried to birdie those three and come up with a good score. Yeah, made some bonus birdies and didn't birdie the par 5s, which were unfortunate. Yeah, really happy with today.

Q. We know driving, it's a strength of your game, you showed that last year on the Korn Ferry Tour. What's the driving difference today?

ALDRICH POTGIETER: Yeah, I mean, yesterday was pretty good, today was a little off but I was still missing in the right spots even though I wasn't in the fairway all the time. The recovery shots were really good and I was really happy with that. But the flat stick was working, so I was having a lot of saves out there that kept me going.

Q. It's impressive that you shot 61 with no bogeys and two pars on par 5s over the final stretch. Probably a little disappointing to not have a birdie at the last. Tell me about that one.

ALDRICH POTGIETER: Yeah, I mean, I just hit it in the bunker on the last with my drive and it was unfortunate because I probably had a 6-iron into the par 5, which is pretty good to that pin, back left pin position. Just hit in the bunker and I wasn't able to get a long enough club to get it on the green. I hit it in the front bunker, which I thought was a fine miss, but it rolled up the face and didn't roll back down. So I was on a really uphill lie with really soft sand, so I was just trying to get something out and rolling towards the flag to about six foot and tried a look for a putt for birdie and yeah, left it a little short.

But it was OK, I knew I made a lot of extra birdies throughout the day where that wasn't going to hurt me.

Q. What's your mindset when you're going low like this? You had a very low round last year in Bogota on the Korn Ferry Tour carding a 59 in the second round of the Astara Golf Championship. What's the mindset? Are you completely aware of score or do you just let things go, flow?



ALDRICH POTGIETER: Yeah, I like to look at the scoreboard, keeps me on top of it, I think. After that five birdies in a row stretch and hole 10's a really difficult hole into the wind as well, really tight with the water on the right, I kind of knew I just had to reset and start over after nine. Ended up hitting in the water still, but I was still in the zone enough to keep the par save going and keep the momentum going forward. Just trying to give myself a 10-, 15-foot putt on every hole and try and make a birdie.

Q. You're a rookie on the PGA TOUR coming off your first season on the Korn Ferry Tour with a win with that 59, finishing 29th. This is your fourth start. A good result early in the season is important for the upcoming reshuffle. You have a great opportunity ahead of you this weekend.

ALDRICH POTGIETER: Yeah. I mean, I love the golf course, it definitely suits my game I think in a lot of aspects. If I can keep putting well, I think it should be pretty good.

Last year I had that win early, played pretty good in the start of the year and then disappeared a little bit and I don't want to be in that position to be playing for my card in the last event of the year again. Yeah, just trying to put a good result up this week and keep the momentum going forward to the other weeks.

Q. Continuing on that line, how much did that season on the Korn Ferry Tour help you build the player you're growing to become?

ALDRICH POTGIETER: Yeah, I think it was really good to kind of get me on Tour, a player. In that sense I think my golf game was always really good to be able to be there, but being a rookie playing new golf courses every week, staying in hotel with my dad at least so that made it easier as well. That aspect I learned a lot. Had to struggle through some stuff being away from home as well. It was difficult but got through that at the end and now it's so much easier out here, especially on the PGA TOUR. The treatment, we get a little bit different than the Korn Ferry guys so it makes it a lot easier to feel at ease every week to just play golf.

Q. Can you just talk us through your second shot on 12, driver off the deck, what was going through your head there?

ALDRICH POTGIETER: Yeah, I knew I was playing good and I knew if I didn't hit the shot the best I could still walk away with maybe a birdie, I just had to miss that tree, the big tree. I've been practicing doing a drill on the driving range with teeing it really low and hitting it really good with the driver that way. I was telling my caddie, I was like let's just do the same thing. It was a perfect number, so yeah, hit the perfect shot and had an eagle opportunity that I didn't make, but it was good, yeah.

Q. What was the number?

ALDRICH POTGIETER: I think it was 275 meters front edge and 300 flag if I was not wrong, yeah. If you want to do the conversion to yards.

