

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES
June 6, 2025



THONGCHAI JAIDEE
BRENDAN JONES (-9)

Q. All right, gentlemen, thanks for joining us. We've got 2022 AmFam champion Thongchai Jaidee, and making his debut PGA Tour Champions player Brendan Jones. Just talk to us about your round today. You guys are currently leaders in the clubhouse and what was working for you as a team?

BRENDAN JONES: I just think playing with Thongchai's probably one of the greatest things that anyone can possibly do. He's such a relaxed guy. I think if more people were like Thongchai the place would be -- the world would be a great place.

You know, it was just good teamwork today. We seemed to both have a lot of birdie chances all day, but when either of us was out of position, the other guy was right there so we weren't really in any trouble.

There was a couple of holes out there that we didn't get, maybe 16, No. 2, they're two holes that you probably should be making at least a birdie between the two of us and that didn't happen.

But having said that, we made a few putts and just kept the round going nicely. What a pleasure to play with Thongchai, he's just a lovely man and just so relaxed.

THONGCHAI JAIDEE: Yeah, first of all would like to say we had a good partner team together. Knew Brendan a long time ago and also this event new for us. I never do an event like this in a long time but we do (indiscernible) format I think got to be fun to play together with Brendan. He's a very consistent player together.

We hole some good putts, but I think the golf course is challenging, you have to keep the ball in play. But I know the course is amazing, the golf course is amazing tee to fairway -- the fairway to the green is amazing. I think a lot of guys, the golf course play really difficult. If you don't put the ball in the fairway, don't hit any green, going to be big trouble. I think this format is very, very good format for today.

Tomorrow going to look forward, look forward to what happen tomorrow. Hopefully enjoy. Tomorrow going to be more and more fun.

Q. Can you talk about how your partnership came together and have you played a lot of golf together in the past?

BRENDAN JONES: Well, interesting story about how we actually first met. We were both

going through the Japanese qualifying school back in 2000, and the first round I was paired with Thongchai and he shot 60 the first round, so he shot 12 under. I shot 2 under, felt like I shot 80. I was thinking to myself there's no way I could ever beat this guy. So that's when we first met.

Our sort of careers have gone in different directions where I've stayed in Japan, Thongchai's been to Europe for many years and over here.

Known him for a long time. Haven't spent a lot of time together over those years, but having said that, I was in the right place at the right time to get chosen by Thongchai and I'm very grateful and very happy to be here.

THONGCHAI JAIDEE: Yeah, for myself, I think Brendan is another -- luckily we came to play the team. I think we met Brendan in 2002 at least, I think we spend Japan Tour 2004 and then back to European Tour probably like 19 year for myself. I think a long time met him, I think we play a lot Asian Tour together. Finally we're on the Champions Tour, this tournament the first time. I think we enjoying and really (indiscernible) this week, I hope our team doing good job.

BRENDAN JONES: For me it's a great experience to be up close with Thongchai because he's just such a loose, you know, relaxed sort of character. I know I'm a bit more highly strung and if I can just sort of -- some of the -- some of Thongchai wearing off onto me can only be good for my golf. It's a really good format. It's a different format but it's really fun, and especially when you play well.

Q. I was going to ask about that. For both of guys just with the team format what are the interactions like between you guys out on the course?

BRENDAN JONES: Well, there's a few tee shots where I'll say, Thongchai, what do you think, 3-wood or driver for me? Water can come into play for me. And he says, I don't care, whatever you want. But for me I'm hitting first and I want to get in play. Not that he ever worries about that, but for me, I want to be in play in the hole for Thongchai just to do what he does.

THONGCHAI JAIDEE: I think the best thing to me, you know, I try to make to play fairway, green the more important thing. A couple hole you try to get like (indiscernible) even par 5 you have to put the ball in play and you have second shot you hit the green, that way we plan. The more important we can play together, the plan we want to be, first one hitting fairway, second one whatever you want to do. I make something for easy, anything you comfortable. We play together, whatever you're comfortable we go for. It's a very good plan and then very good team and then we're happy with 9 under today. Couple missed putt but it's OK.

BRENDAN JONES: Thongchai actually said sorry to me a couple of times. I said never, every, ever say sorry to me because I'll be saying sorry more than what he will be.

THONGCHAI JAIDEE: Yeah, but fun, you know?

Q. Brendan, can you talk about playing out here now, and you did one year on the PGA TOUR was it?

BRENDAN JONES: Two years.

Q. Two years? And what is it like being back playing this side of the pond?

BRENDAN JONES: Look, it's great to be back, the tour is fantastic. It's been a very slow start for me trying to work out the best way to play these golf courses. When I first got here I just thought I would overpower everything. Because I'm one of the young guys, I can still hit it a decent distance, but that hasn't been working for me.

I had a couple weeks off, went back to Australia, saw a good friend of mine who's not officially my coach but he's somebody that I like to speak to and we just tried to simplify a lot of things. Not -- as I said, not try to overpower things, play percentages more and hopefully my game can shine through like I know it can.

Yeah, it's been a disappointing start for the year for me. This opportunity to play with Thongchai might be the best thing for me, just trying to relax a little bit more out there and just let your game shine. He's just saying don't worry, don't worry about anything, but I'm always worrying. I just need Thongchai on my shoulder, I think that would help.

THONGCHAI JAIDEE: That why team partner.

Q. Thongchai, this is -- we're at a new golf course, you had great success at University Ridge a couple years ago. How does it feel coming back to Madison and Wisconsin for you?

THONGCHAI JAIDEE: It feel great to be back here again. Different format, different course. I know the golf course, this golf course going to be challenge. I think the condition of the golf course amazing. New green, new fairway, new tee box, amazing.

I don't mind the format in choosing to be, you know, very tough if you don't hit the fairway, that's why game plan for me with partner together, that's why for me this golf course more challenging. A lot challenge on the green I think, the green is quite tricky. Very great condition here.

Q. Brendan, curious to hear your thoughts on the course.

BRENDAN JONES: Yeah, I think it's brand new for everyone but I really, really like it. You've just got to man up and hit good shots, there's no -- there's no other option. Like there is -- there's probably a little bit more room on a lot of holes than what you actually realize

because visually it's quite an intimidating golf course, but the greens are fantastic, they are phenomenal, the surfaces are incredible.

Yeah, there's a lot of opportunities for birdies out there once you get it on the fairway. You know, I think it's an ideal golf course for the format that we're playing. Yeah, it is a very fun and visually intimidating golf course.

THONGCHAI JAIDEE: It's a par 3 challenge for the team.

BRENDAN JONES: We're playing par 3s around the 200-yard mark, which for old guys that's a bit longer than what we're used to. You've just got to hit good shots. We're lucky enough to do that today.