

**BLUE CROSS AND BLUE SHIELD OF KANSAS WICHITA OPEN**  
benefitting KU Wichita Pediatrics

**ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES**  
June 19, 2025



**JOHN VANDERLAAN (-7)**

---

**Q. John, 7 under today. You kind of got hot there to start the back nine with three birdies followed up by an eagle. I guess maybe take us through that stretch.**

**JOHN VANDERLAAN:** Yeah. Honestly, I just started pouring in putts. I made a bunch of putts in that stretch, like a 20-footer on 11 and probably 40 on 12, 30 on 13 and then a 15-footer for eagle on 14. Just nice to see a couple go in. I feel like I've been hitting a lot of good putts and nice to have it pay off.

**Q. What's that feeling when you feel like you're getting hot, getting a lot of these long putts to drop out there?**

**JOHN VANDERLAAN:** Yeah, the greens are in really good shape. They've done a great job of getting the course ready for us after the weather we had earlier in the week. If you hit good putts, you can make 'em. So just trying to give myself opportunities and see if I can cash 'em in.

**Q. Yeah, can you talk a little more about the course? It took on a lot of water obviously from the storms, but a lot of guys have been saying similar to what you just said.**

**JOHN VANDERLAAN:** Yeah. Honestly, I'm pretty amazed by like we played lift, clean and place today, we probably didn't have to. I'd be shocked if we do tomorrow, the course is dry. I think somebody told me they had seven inches of rain in two days here. Yesterday I teed off in the pro-am and there were two holes closed because you couldn't get to 'em because they were flooded over from the ponds.

So pretty wild that it's so dry we don't even need lift, clean and place. Just hats off to everybody here for making the course as good as it is.

**Q. You dealt with a little bit more wind this afternoon than maybe the morning wave did. I guess how did that play a factor maybe going forward because it seems like there's going to be a little bit more wind as we go into the weekend?**

**JOHN VANDERLAAN:** Yeah. I mean, it was good. I don't mind playing in the wind, I like playing in the wind. It's going to be windy this weekend. It wasn't too bad out there this afternoon. Sometimes I think it might be a little easier to play with 10 miles an hour than

dead calm, kind of work up against some winds, work with some.

But yeah, just happy with how I played today. I feel like I've been playing well for a while and haven't gotten much out of it. Nice to kind of get a couple long ones to fall and shoot a good number.

**Q. Kind of mentioned that before we started talking, you had some solid starts beginning of the year and then kind of this middle stretch, missed cuts and then just kind of some late finishes on the weekend. Where do you feel like the game's been at and maybe where those results and maybe inconsistency have come from?**

**JOHN VANDERLAAN:** Yeah, I mean, it's just such a fine line, especially out here. I'm sure it's the same on Tour, too. But I don't feel like I've been playing poorly, I just feel like I haven't been getting a lot out of my game, shooting even, 1, 2 under instead of shooting 5, 6, 7. So to see a couple putts go in and get to 7 today and put myself in good position for the rest of the week is nice, and keep trying to take advantage of the things we're doing.

**Q. You mentioned putting being good today. What do you feel like has been a strength in your game for the majority of your season that you've been able to rely on?**

**JOHN VANDERLAAN:** Yeah, I feel like my ball-striking's been pretty good for most of the year. It goes in waves every now and then. I've putted great at certain points, too. I putted great in the Bahamas to start the year, I putted great in certain events throughout the year. Feel like I'm rolling it really well now and have been the last couple weeks, they just weren't going in for whatever reason. Sometimes that happens. Just going to keep doing my thing and see what happens.