

## ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES

June 26, 2025

ZACH JOHNSON (-7)



**Q. Zach, congrats, great round, low round of the year, 7 under. And I know you wanted that last birdie, I could tell. You thought you had it.**

**ZACH JOHNSON:** Well, it was actually one of the better putts I've hit all day, to be honest with you. 18's quite the green. I don't know what I had from -- I mean, straight distance it was probably only about, I don't know, eight, nine feet, but the ball rolled probably close to 10, 11 feet because of the break. Hit a great putt, high side of the hole. Can't complain about -- yeah, I wanted it, but at the same time I made some so it probably evens out.

Very steady. Really never put myself in position -- I think I was bogey free, so for the most part a pretty boring day, which I love boring days.

**Q. Yeah, it was a really good day and it's good to see. I know you love playing, but with the U.S. Open, you didn't get in, the Signature Event, you've been off for a while, so obviously your batteries are fully charged.**

**ZACH JOHNSON:** Yeah, I mean, I guess you'd say I'm fresh. Yeah, it's been great. I've never had seven weeks off in the middle of the season. A lot of family time, which is great. Son graduated from high school in there, we had competitions with my little two, and then college orientation was in there. There's life things but great things, things that I would obviously relish.

Yeah, I've actually been working a little bit specifically the last two, two and a half weeks. I've been playing quite a bit at home. Game's been good but you never know how it's going to transpire. My goal this week was just to kind of stay right where my feet are. I know that's cliché, but that usually bodes well.

**Q. It is interesting, a course like this because Min Woo Lee hits it a country mile and he's hit wedges into every hole, you're playing a little different game and yet you scored well today so I guess there's different ways to play this thing.**

**ZACH JOHNSON:** Yeah, I like this place a lot. I like it when it's bouncy. Obviously it was ball in hand today in the fairway. Hitting the ball in the fairway was an advantage. If you could get the ball in your hand, you could get the moisture off, get the mud off and that sort of thing. And I hit a lot of fairways.

Also, I hit a lot of loft, too with, the exception of two or three holes, maybe a par 3, but there wasn't many -- I mean, a lot of wedges. The first hole was a wedge. A lot of like 9-iron to wedge, those are scoring clubs for me so I had to take advantage.



I did well on the par 5s. I didn't birdie 14, but other than that I played the par 5s really solid, created opportunities there. You know, that's what I've got to do, I got to lean on -- I've got to lean on obviously putting but everybody's got to putt. I've got to lean on my wedges. Again, it's boring. Get the ball in the fairway, lean on the wedges, hopefully control your spin and make good putts.

**Q. And you're a Midwest guy, you play this week, can, then you go to your place. I say "your place," the John Deere Classic.**

**ZACH JOHNSON:** Yeah, I love it.

**Q. This is a fun little stretch for you.**

**ZACH JOHNSON:** Yeah, it's awesome. I don't know if I feel at home but I feel comfortable. Next week is almost like a quasi home. Yeah, I've got bentgrass coming up. This is poa but it rolls great, Midwest poa. I'm familiar with the turf, I like the bumps and the rolls, people are obviously awesome. I love what Rocket Mortgage and John Deere does so I'm biased, but they're great partners with us and I'm excited. I've got five out of six weeks coming up and that's a lot for I think the oldest man in the field.

**Q. You'll be 50 February 26th, I think?**

**ZACH JOHNSON:** 24th.

**Q. Happy birthday early.**

