

**ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES**  
July 31, 2025

**MARK HUBBARD (-7)**



**Q. Smooth 63 today. What did you like about your play and your day?**

**MARK HUBBARD:** Yeah, I liked everything. Drove it pretty good, irons were good for the most part. Lost a few right but that's usually what I do. Yeah, putted great. Really good start. I need three more of 'em, but yeah, I was happy.

**Q. Your Strokes Gained Approach was pretty good today and I know historically that's been one of the strengths of your game, but this season it's been more middle of the pack on Tour. Is there anything -- do you feel like it's been holding your irons back this year that's been better this week and today?**

**MARK HUBBARD:** There's nothing I can really put my finger on. I feel like for the most part, I mean this year's been weird, man. Like, if I look at last season, last two seasons, I finished 63rd, 64th something like that on the FedEx. I've played consistently way better this year than I did those two years, I just haven't had like the great weeks. I feel like the whole year I've just played B-plus.

It's kind of the way with my irons, like I haven't had the huge gainers. I think last year at Torrey I gained like almost eight, nine shots approach. Like I haven't had any of that, but I've hit it pretty good, putted pretty good all year. So I'm just kind of waiting for everything to come together the same week, but I've been pretty happy with my game.

**Q. I know you and Joel are pretty good friends. Did you see that he had shot 61?**

**MARK HUBBARD:** Yeah, of course I saw that, and everyone's been telling me "good round" and I'm like, "I lost by 2, I don't know what you guys are talking about."

**Q. I asked him kind of to give the analogy to the Seahawks and what they needed to do like in week 18 to make the Playoffs and he said to like point differentiate 50 to nothing. How would you compare yourself to the Broncos and what you would need to do this week?**

**MARK HUBBARD:** Yeah, the difference is they're not going to be in that situation and we might be. I like our chances. I'm trying to keep my hope a little bit down just because I don't want to get my heart broken, but if I were to be honest with you, I think we're going to be amazing and I'm so excited for the year where, I mean, the thing that the Hawks have going for them is I don't think their division is going to be that good this year whereas everybody in our division is awesome. We might have the best coaching division of all time. So it's going to be a fun season. And yeah, since he beat me by 2, at least I can hang that over his head



tonight.

**Q. Amazing. For your spot in terms of what you need to do to make the Playoffs this week, did you like look at the stats and try to calculate anything?**

**MARK HUBBARD:** Yeah. I mean, you know, it depends a lot on what other people do, but if it kind of stays the same, I need at least a second three-ways. So basically a second or first, which I told these guys like I think it's all about how you look at it. For me I think it kind of takes the pressure off because it's really hard to do that and it's not something that you're really thinking about. Like I've just got to go play super well and make a ton of birdies. If that happens to fall into place that way, then that's great, but I think it's easier than if I had to top-15 or top-10 because that way you're always looking at the board. You shouldn't be, but it's always kind of in the back of your mind, where this week I've just got to go out and play as good as I can.

**Q. And if you were to (indiscernible) to compare that to football, is it like being down -- because the way Joel said it was like Seahawks needing to win by 50 in the last game, but I don't know if it's that much of a stretch. Like what would you compare that to, being down 20 in the fourth, et cetera?**

**MARK HUBBARD:** Yeah, I don't know if I can compare it. I mean, the difference is if they don't make the Playoffs, their season's over, whereas for me, you know, yeah, I want to make it to Memphis, I want to have a chance to get into that top-50 because that really changes your next season, but if I don't, like I have to go play the fall, which I love to do anyways. I play well at a lot of those courses and I like a lot of the stops.

So it's not the end of the world, I'm not stressing out about it. I know my game's been good. Like I said, I know I'm going to take care of business in the fall. Kind of one last hurrah this week, but if not, I get some time off, which I'm super excited about. Going to go hang out at the lake and life's good, man.

**Q. My last Joel comparison is he said he had vacation planned for during the Playoffs. Have you gone that far or have you kept those weeks open?**

**MARK HUBBARD:** Yeah, I think he's -- my wife's actually in Jackson Hole right now, I think they're talking about maybe going there. I'm super jealous of both of them so I might just third wheel onto his trip, I don't know. I haven't planned anything yet. We just moved in February, I've only been home like five weeks since we moved so I'm more excited to just be home.

**Q. Obviously a lot of guys went low this morning. Wind picked up a little bit. What was the difference from when you first teed off to just now?**

**MARK HUBBARD:** I don't really know why it played so much harder, maybe the greens firmed up a little bit because it didn't blow that hard. If anything, we were kind of hoping for



the wind to cool us off a little bit, but I don't think it made that big of a difference. So my only thought is that the greens got a little bit firmer and faster as they dried out from the dew this morning or something.

**Q. And what are the bracelets for?**

**MARK HUBBARD:** These are from my daughters, girl dad.

**Q. When did they make them?**

**MARK HUBBARD:** I've had this one -- this one's actually from Kara, who works for the Tour, and this one was my Father's Day present.

**Q. Good vibes.**

**MARK HUBBARD:** Yeah.

