

UTAH CHAMPIONSHIP

ROUND 3 QUICK QUOTES

August 2, 2025

TAYLOR MONTGOMERY (-16)



Q. Taylor, great round, and obviously with the wind kind of kicking in the last hour and a half or so, walk me through the highlights and maybe how things changed later in the round.

TAYLOR MONTGOMERY: Oh, yeah, it was definitely a lot tougher today. Anytime in the afternoon compared to the morning, just the greens get a little crustier, bouncier. It just makes it that much tougher to hit it close. I feel like I hit a few good iron shots. Off the tee it was a different wind, and the left-to-right wind kind of tricked me a little bit today. I still hit a few good drives and ended up in the first cut, but you really need to be able to hit it in the fairway just to be able to control your distance and spin and stuff like that.

But the wind, the wind made it so much harder. I mean, this course, you look at every hole and you're like, "Oh, I can birdie it," and then today was just a grind for pars. My putter bailed me out on the back nine for sure last probably 12 holes, which was nice to see some of those go in.

Q. Just in general, how hard is it to hit some of these fairways?

TAYLOR MONTGOMERY: Well, the first two days the wind was -- I liked the wind direction because the right-to-left holes that kind of make you draw it, except for 10, 10 was a left-to-right wind.

But most of the holes kind of fit my eye in the way that I kind of saw the shot. But today the wind changed and wasn't able to hit as many fairways as I wanted to. I felt like I hit a good drive on 13 and it just kept on going and going. It almost went in the water.

Q. Do you think you've done a good job of going into tomorrow maybe keeping your mind -- you talked about wanting it too much sometimes to win. Do you think that you did a good job sort of managing that today?

TAYLOR MONTGOMERY: Yeah, I felt like I definitely did. If you're able to make 10-, 12-footers for pars on a lot of the holes, I feel like you've got to be able to control your mind somewhat. It was just really hard out there I thought compared to the first two days. It was a lot different.

Q. What do you think are some of the biggest things you've learned from the couple times you were in contention, got close but just didn't quite finish a couple of those

tournaments?

TAYLOR MONTGOMERY: Just being patient. I mean, I know everybody says that but it's kind of, it's true. It's not a sport where you can go up and hit somebody, it's a sport where you've got to stay calm, relaxed and think your way around the golf course. But I think that's the hardest part about the game of golf is being able to control your mind and keep your emotions under control.

Q. What do you think you're most excited for tomorrow?

TAYLOR MONTGOMERY: Just anytime you put yourself in contention, it's just another steppingstone and another chance to get a win, just another time to be able to perfect your craft under the highest amount of pressure.

Q. The putts on 16 and 17 were all-world. Walk us through your process. I would like you to take us step by step through your thinking on both of those putts. They were incredible.

TAYLOR MONTGOMERY: Well, the process with my putter is pretty solid for the most part. I kind of visualize like how the ball would roll and then I look at it from both sides.

But when I start putting bad is when I don't like visualize the speed before I hit it. That kind of gives me the tempo of my stroke. When I'm putting bad, I tend to like punch at it a little bit. I think a lot of guys do. Especially this week the greens are, they're fast but the uphill putts are so slow and those are the ones that I have a tough time getting to the hole. When I putt my best, I feel like a one-two sensation. And everybody talks about tempo, that's kind of just what I feel. I kind of calculate that feeling by visualizing the speed.

Q. People climbed the leaderboard, but for the top of the leaderboard, birdies were hard from the get-go before the wind came up. What was different for you out there today?

TAYLOR MONTGOMERY: Well, I think every day out here, just typically higher elevation golf in general and the way these greens are, they're bent with poa annua and the morning time, everything's kind of going to stick and you can land it next to the hole and kind of attack some pins, whereas the afternoon they get crusty, bouncy. Even your good shots you don't know whether a 7-iron's going to bounce and roll 30 feet long or it's going to hit and stop, and that's the trickiest part. And then when you're around these greens chipping, your spin and launch and everything has to be precise because they're bouncy. So if there's no spin compared to other greens, it's just going to keep rolling and rolling. Even some good chip shots you're going to hit to 10, 15 feet.

Q. So you'll be in the final group again tomorrow, which means at the end of the day after everybody's walked all over the greens and all that again, what will your approach be tomorrow to close this out?

TAYLOR MONTGOMERY: I don't think it changes much. Just if I can go through my process ball-striking, I think I can lift the trophy at the end. I mean, anybody can win on this golf course, especially when it's playing in the afternoon like this, it's hard. There's still birdie opportunities if you hit really quality shots, but if you miss the greens, I mean, I know I've got a lot of them up and down today, but you're not going to do that the whole tournament.

Q. I was just wondering, when we talked at Black Desert last year, you seemed like you were in a low place in your career. Did you ever think with the injuries that you had that you would be in a position like this again?

TAYLOR MONTGOMERY: I mean, yeah, I would say I thought so, I just didn't know like when it would happen. I worked about as hard as you can really and it's nice to be in this position to have a chance to win. I've worked on ball-striking a lot and it just, it comes and goes. I'm not the most consistent, but I do hit a lot of quality shots, it's just the bad ones that I need to clean up. If I have the right feeling at the top of my swing, I feel like I can hit any shot, but sometimes I just don't have it.