

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES
September 11, 2025

BEN GRIFFIN (-8)

PROCORE
CHAMPIONSHIP

Q. Ben, off to a nice start, got yourself in the mix. How was that vibe out there today?

BEN GRIFFIN: The vibe, yeah, it was great. It's funny, last week in Jupiter me and Cam and JT played like three rounds together. We didn't know exactly we were going to be paired together but we've played a lot of round together, so it felt pretty easy out there. We've seen each other hit a bunch of shots over the past week.

Yeah, vibes are great. Just awesome to be here in Napa competing leading into the Ryder Cup with all these other guys.

Yeah, really proud of the way I focused in kind of at the start here. It's easy to kind of get myself thinking ahead on things, but there's a tournament here, Procore, and I'm trying to win it just like a lot of other guys here. Just trying to keep the pedal down, keep swinging well and hopefully make a lot more putts, too.

Q. I was going to say, a little adventurous through that last hole.

BEN GRIFFIN: Yeah, just trying to hit all parts of the golf course pretty much on one hole.

Yeah, I was in the trees on all the par 5s today for some odd reason, and every time I hit a tee shot I was like, I wonder what tree's going to be in my way this time.

On 18 I had two trees to deal with. I had one I tried to -- I really just got greedy on my second shot, but there was a tree, I was trying to go kind of underneath it and kind of around and draw it, and it's hard to curve the ball out of the rough, especially when the ball's sitting down.

That's a situation where I just need to take a little bit more medicine. I tried -- I took like fourth of a dosage of medicine there, I need to take a full dose of medicine and just hit it 60 yards instead of trying to push it 130.

Yeah, I just got greedy, hit the second tree, it bounced in those roots. Didn't hurt myself, advanced it forward. Yeah, I was just happy to give myself even a par look to that pin. It's really tough to get it close to that coming from the fairway even. So awesome to make a par there, that felt like a birdie to me, and hopefully ride that momentum into tomorrow.

Q. Keegan talked about wanting you guys to spend time together. (inaudible). What do you take from this week getting a chance to spend time together?

BEN GRIFFIN: Yeah, it's great. It's awesome to have an extremely competitive field here, some of the best names in golf on Tour.

It's fun to hang out with the team, getting closer with all those guys. Most years it seems like in the past with Ryder Cups -- I haven't been a part of those teams, but it seems like you almost set the teams and the whole team doesn't get fully together until almost the Ryder Cup.

I think last year a few of the guys went over to Rome and played practice rounds early, which was tough with the time change, or that was two years ago.

It's really cool to just be around all the guys, get more and more comfortable with each other. That way when we get to Ryder Cup week it's going to feel like a breeze, which it's not going to be, we're going to have to bring our A game obviously and play really well and play strong golf.

It's just really awesome to hang out with all these guys, get to know everyone better. Then yep, play rounds out there together as well, just see each other's games, see if we maybe mesh well with each other, if we have any advice to give Keegan on pairings but I think all the captains kind of know what's going to happen, they paired us all up together for reasons probably and we're just trying to have fun with each other and gear up.

Q. Ben, you guys all probably observe each other, what other players do well, maybe try to glean stuff from them. When you look at Sam Burns and his putting, what do you see technically and maybe confidence wise?

BEN GRIFFIN: Yeah, he's one of the most confident putters in the world. I played with him final round of the Tour Championship this year, and obviously it was a big round for probably both of us, especially him I think. He knew he needed to have a really good round, and he did.

Yeah, he's one of the best putters in golf, best putters on Tour. Just really aggressive putter, not scared. If he misses a putt, he's not afraid to hit it a few feet by, he's going to make the one coming back.

That's the type of player you want on a Ryder Cup team, he's going to make a ton of putts at Bethpage.

Q. Is that more important than the technical stuff, what you just talked about maybe? You know what I mean, like mechanically is being confident in the way he goes about it?

BEN GRIFFIN: I mean, every guy's different. I don't know. I mean, he's just got some natural talents that he's just a really good putter. It's like Brad Faxon back in the day everyone talks about.

Everyone **wants to be the best putter but everyone has their little tendencies. I kind of know what my tendencies can be from time to time with putting. Everyone just tries to put good strokes on it. He just puts a good stroke on it it seems like almost every time.**

I like to think I'm a good putter, too. We've all got our talents, our individual talents. Yeah, it's going to be fun to watch him make a bunch of putts at Bethpage.

Q. As a follow-up to the benefits of playing this week with the eye on the Ryder Cup in two weeks, are there any drawbacks to playing this week?

BEN GRIFFIN: I don't think so. I think it's amazing to kind of get together with the team and stay competitive. I think it does way more good than harm.

Actually, I don't even see it doing any harm because if we aren't playing here competing this week, it's almost four, five weeks off without playing in a tournament.

I know for me, I play a lot of tournaments on Tour so I like to kind of stay on a pretty disciplined schedule of playing a bunch of competitive golf. I think it's good for every guy on this team not only to hang out with each other, but to stay sharp competitively.

Q. At the Tuesday dinner, what's the best thing you heard?

BEN GRIFFIN: A lot of great things. It was a lot of fun. You know, one of the coolest things, not the coolest but one thing Keegan kind of brought up is you just don't know how many Ryder Cups you're going to play on so just to really soak in all the moments you have with these guys, soak in the fact that you're one of the 12 best American golfers, and really embrace and build bonds with each and every other guy.

I mean, we have our own talks about staying competitive and what we're trying to do at Bethpage, but I'd say the most important message was just really have fun with each other.

Q. What do you anticipate Bethpage is going to be like?

BEN GRIFFIN: It's probably going to be loud is what people are saying. There's going to be some fans.

Advice? I talked to a few guys last week at Old Palm in Jupiter. Talked to Raymond Floyd and Brad Faxon, a couple guys that have played in some Ryder Cups. Raymond played in a bunch and was a captain as well.

They all talked about the first tee shot, just how crazy it is then you kind of get off and go.

No, one of the coolest pieces of advice, not really advice but just something that gives me

more hope than anything, is Raymond was like a lot of the guys on the teams that I was playing in that weren't major champions ended up going on to win majors. It was like a steppingstone almost, playing in the Ryder Cup. You learn a lot about yourself as a player and it prepares you really well for the majors going forward.

He said a lot of the guys on all his teams hadn't won majors and ended up winning majors after the Ryder Cup, so gives me some hope, maybe next year at Augusta.

Q. How have the past few weeks off been for you, and is there anything specifically that you worked on that you're bringing this week to the Procore or the Ryder Cup?

BEN GRIFFIN: Yeah, it's been good. Tried to get away from golf a little bit. It's hard to get breaks in this game, and so I think everyone on the team probably took about a week to a week and a half off after the Tour Championship, and then just started gearing up kind of last week getting ready for this week.

There's not anything specific I was necessarily working on. I feel like every week my golf swing or something's a little different than the previous week, so I always have little things I'm kind of working on, but there wasn't anything specific I was trying to do to gear up for here.

I'm the type of guy when I get to a tournament I really kind of learn a lot about the course and the grass and the chipping, and you kind of learn as you go in the practice rounds.

So really leading up to this was more rest I'd say for most guys and then yeah, again, it's just really nice to get a competitive rep in and play a tournament right now leading up to the Ryder Cup.

Q. Is there any satisfaction or bragging rights for at least maybe 24 hours that --

BEN GRIFFIN: Yeah, I'm the best player on the Ryder Cup team. Yeah, I'm the best player on the Ryder Cup. Yeah, it's pretty cool.

I'm just kidding. Yeah, I guess there's bragging rights. I've got to go back out. I don't have much time, 12 hours maybe until I've got to tee it up again.

No, I'm just happy to get off to a good start here at the Procore. Just trying to keep plugging along and hopefully I'll have a chance on Sunday.