

East Lake Cup Men – Stroke Play
October 27, 2025

MICHAEL LEE
Virginia



Q. I'm here with Michael Lee. Just made a par on 18 to get in at 3 under, leader in the clubhouse for stroke play. What's it like playing in these conditions after a delay and in a very unconventional nine-hole format?

MICHAEL LEE: First time ever playing nine holes in a tournament like this. It kind of threw me off a little bit but for me there's kind of this line where you've got this, there's one side of the line where you're too focused and there's one side of the line where you're too relaxed, you don't care enough. That weather delay and just waiting in the clubhouse with my other guys and the teammates, like we were kind of relaxed. Let's go out, have a fun day. We know the stroke play is like go explore the course, it doesn't matter too much if you win, get ready for match play. For me, that set in my head early about what kind of mindset I was going in with. I was like, all right, let's just have some fun, weather's going to suck and it's cold, but went out there, had some fun. That's all we did.

Q. Did you have any discussions with strategies with the cold and the wind?

MICHAEL LEE: Not too much. It was just do normal calculations, you've got your wind, you've got your lie, you've got your pins. I mean, other than that, you just add three to five yards and you just swing it.

Q. What's going through your head when that putt on 18 almost goes in?

MICHAEL LEE: Please go in, just go in for the camera, like please. It's whatever, stress free 3.

Q. And just as a freshman, how's it feel to be the first out on your team and be clubhouse leader in stroke play at East Lake?

MICHAEL LEE: It feels good. It's an honor just to be here. It's a privilege, it's an honor. Seeing the guys, the guys on Tour that come out here and play the Tour Championship, I'm like, well, I get to see my own game against theirs on a great course.

Conditions are good, it was just pouring for hours but they're still good. Greens are good. They're still firm, fast. I think it's a great experience just to be out here so I'm just happy. Clubhouse leader or not, just happy to be here.

Q. Last question, what's it like playing with your brother?



MICHAEL LEE: Great question. There's a different sense of passion. There's a passion that you want to win obviously when you're on a team. You've got your brothers as your teammates, but for me to have your little brother, thankfully we have a great relationship. I get along with him very, very well. So just to kind of be on the same team, be on the same side and fight for that almost kind of family passion is very different. I really, really like it. So I feel like I've got to live up to it and follow him, so he's doing great. Just trying to do a great job as well.

