

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES

October 24, 2025

STEVEN ALKER (-11)



Q. Steven, great first round here again, second year in a row with an awesome first round. Just sort of walk us through some of the highlights and then maybe what you like so much about this place.

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, I just kind of felt like a bit of deja vu. I got there on the back nine and started making a couple birdies through 13 and 14, I was like this could be a nice round.

Just kept the momentum going. You never think you're going to shoot 61, you just don't see it coming and that was really nice to keep momentum. Finished I think with six birdies in a row. Doesn't happen very often so it was very pleasing.

Q. And then just what is it that you either like so much about this place or --

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, obviously the golf course is in fantastic shape and you get it in the fairway and you can attack the pins. Then the greens are just so good. This is probably the best putting surfaces we putt on all year. You know, you get to feel your speed and away you go.

Q. Can you walk me through that easy bunker shot on 18?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah. Well, first of all, it kind of surprised me where it finished because I didn't see it bounce. You know, I didn't know. So to have a 5-wood from like 240 kind of land on the face and stay there, it was a bit surprising.

I had to identify it first. That's how deep it was, I had to identify my ball, see if it was mine. It come out nice. I just tried to hit it as hard as I could, that's all you can do with that shot.

Q. Looks like we're going to get some weather earlier tomorrow, kind of like last year I think.

STEVEN ALKER: Exactly. Just be prepared for what's coming in. If it doesn't happen, that's great, but I think the golf course will hold up. I think that's the biggest thing. The greens are so good, they're sandy and it's not going to get too wet so you can kind of stay aggressive and stay positive.

Q. Speaking of bunker shots, walk us through 14.

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, it was just a nice yardage actually. I didn't have too much of a lip, it wasn't too much of a bunker. So the yardage was like 150-yard 9-iron, it was kind of just

perfect really so I could just go ahead and hit it. I wanted to be pretty aggressive, I didn't want to leave myself left there so I had to putt over the hill, so I just tried to be aggressive and it kind of worked out nice, I putted it.

Q. And the par putt on the back nine that kind of spurred everything?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, on 12 there? Yeah, I missed the green in the bunker short. That was a huge putt, just a momentum builder just to keep things going. That was huge. I hit some nice iron shots coming in and I got the putter going. Yeah, those putts, those holes just kind of can change a round pretty quick.