

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES

October 24, 2025

STEWART CINK (-6)



Q. Stewart, great round, near the top of the board right now. Just kind of walk us through some of the highlights of the day and the finish there.

STEWART CINK: Thank you. Yeah, it was a good, solid day. I think that's one of the best things about a day like today is that there weren't any real highlights, like no -- I made a long putt on 15, you know, 30 feet, but it was just -- I took care of holes that were very birdieable.

And it was funny, I had a putt on 16 for par, about a five-footer, and I was thinking like this is to kind of keep a clean card and that's important. Well, I forgot I made bogey already on No. 5., but that's kind of where my mind was today. I wasn't too into like the results good or bad, I was very much into my own stuff.

Stuck to the game plan, a lot of patience and executed a whole lot of good shots. It was actually kind of a run-of-the-mill round for a 6 under.

Q. Do you look at the scoreboard and see Alker just going crazy?

STEWART CINK: No, I didn't, not until -- I saw that he was 7 under through 14, that was the first time I noticed that he had kind of pulled out in front of the other guys.

What, did he finish 11? Yeah, that's a spectacular round. That's just a -- that's -- he must think that there's no more golf being played this weekend. He got 54 holes worth of birdies in one round.

No, he's the kind of guy that can get on a streak. He can drive it on a string, he can hit his iron shots close at the flag all day and he gets a hot putter and he has like an elongated hot streak that a lot of guys don't have.

Q. Speaking of putting, these greens are a little trickier around the cup? Your ball was just going past edges instead of dropping?

STEWART CINK: Yeah, they're just really fast. There's some grain, but normally on bermudagrass we're playing for grain, but here the grass is so tight that the grain's really not doing much to the ball. So there might be some overplaying right around the hole. At the speed that they are, any little slope matters so much and you have to pay attention on everything.

It's a pleasure to play on greens like this. They're some of the best I've ever seen on any tour.

Q. Well, depending on the rain, how does that change those greens?

STEWART CINK: I don't think it will change the greens a ton. They're already holding pretty well, so you might get a little more backspin on some of your shorter irons, but they'll hold their speed. I have a feeling that they'll still be fast.

They're just in really great shape. The staff here the last two years has been just amazing. It's a fun course to play.

The rain will make it a little different. It will have a different type of challenge to it. I'm pleased where I am except that I'm five back. It's good to be only behind one guy, but it's not good to be five back.

Q. As a professional, do you prefer greens this fast or do you like them a little slower?

STEWART CINK: No, I think I prefer them fast. I think everybody generally thinks that the fast greens kind of like show -- they bring out a little bit more of your skill and imagination on longer putts when you have to go up and down ridges and you have up and down hills and all that. It's probably a little bit better test when the greens are fast, so I would say I prefer that.