

East Lake Cup Men – Stroke Play
October 27, 2025

PARKER BELL
Florida



Q. So obviously it was a very interesting day today but you still had a great performance, finished 2 under. What do you make of your performance today?

PARKER BELL: Well, I didn't even know if we were going to play like starting the day out. When they said we were, I mean I was prepared. You can look at it one of two ways. You can think like it's just going to be miserable out there, like I'm just not going to care. Only playing nine holes, it doesn't matter.

But I really tried to just focus on just trying to hit one good shot at a time. Was fortunate enough to start out with a birdie on the first, which always helps. I got under par and then just kind of cruised along. Then birdied the second par 5 and there was a short par 4, No. 8. Hit a good drive down there, good wedge and just kind of took care of the little things. I just didn't really throw away too many shots today.

Q. Yeah. And I noticed you guys didn't really get the opportunity to warm up on the driving range. What did that do for you? How did that impact your game?

PARKER BELL: Yeah. Well, we went to some like smaller range like nearby. Obviously like off mats, maybe not the best of range balls, so like definitely different. We came back here like an hour before my tee time. Usually I go straight from the range to the first tee, so that was definitely different.

Everyone had to deal with the same thing, so just like realizing it's not an advantage for anyone, it's just the same.

Q. And you played at the East Lake Cup last year. How did that impact your performance today just playing on a course that you had played at before in a tournament?

PARKER BELL: Yeah, definitely helps. And playing on TV too, like not everyone is used to that and the cameras were everywhere today. I don't know how many shots they recorded of our group but it seemed like it was a lot. Just getting comfortable with that. Yeah, just trying to stay, just trying to stay in the moment, that's just the key.

Q. And going off of that, you are one of the veterans on the team this year, so how did you kind of -- how are you a leader today especially for the guys that hadn't competed in this tournament?



PARKER BELL: Yeah, I'm a senior. It's crazy, time just flies by so fast.

Yeah, I didn't want anyone to -- I didn't want to have any negative body language today. If anyone was looking at me, even if I wasn't playing well, I at least wanted them to believe I was because on a day like today, if we all are just down in the dumps, we're going to play terrible. I felt like if I could -- being first out, if I could go ahead and set a good example and just watch my body language and try to build everyone up and give them a little hand raise if I made a birdie, and ended up making a couple of those today so that was nice.

Q. And then last question: What did you take from today that you bring into match play tomorrow and what are you looking forward to tomorrow?

PARKER BELL: Just that you can make birdies in these tough conditions obviously. I think just protecting the value of par, too. Like pars are really good.

I know that the next two days are going to be similar conditions to today. Just not giving away strokes to your opponent, today I felt like I did a good job of that. I had one bogey, it's probably going to be the hardest hole of the day. Just not giving away shots to your opponent, that's just the biggest key. Always applying pressure, hitting the ball in the fairway, hitting the greens. You kind of just force them to try to do something and then they make a mistake, that's the key.

