

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES
January 29, 2026



JUSTIN HASTINGS (+1)

Q. One over on the South Course, how would you assess your opening round?

JUSTIN HASTINGS: Yeah, I'd assess it better than the score shows. I think I executed at a pretty high level. Putts just seemed to glide over a lot of edges. Hard to hang my head on a day like that I think anyway. We executed at a high level on a really hard golf course and even hit a lot of really good putts. They'll go in tomorrow, that's the mindset we're going with.

Q. Typically South Course plays harder than the North. Why do you think that is?

JUSTIN HASTINGS: The easiest answer is just the length. The conditions are relatively similar. You've got a little bit of difference in the greens, but when you add 600 yards to a golf course with rough as penal as it is out here, and with fairways as small as they are just makes it that much more difficult.

Q. And as an Aztec alum, how many times prior to today or this week do you think you played this course?

JUSTIN HASTINGS: My four years at university, I think I played this golf course one time, maybe twice.

But like I've said all week, you're so familiar with it watching it on TV every year and experiencing kind of how this tournament goes just being in San Diego at the time, I wouldn't say anything really totally surprised me. But yeah, never played it too much in college.

Q. What's it like to have family and friends and probably a gallery cheering you on this week?

JUSTIN HASTINGS: Yeah, super exciting. You can feel the love, for sure. I'm really appreciative for it and yeah, hopefully give a little more to cheer about tomorrow.

Q. Also playing with Johnny Kieffer, did you kind of pick his brain as someone who has done a pathway here to the Tour?

JUSTIN HASTINGS: Yeah. He's been amazing the last year and a half. A think a lot of guys on the Korn Ferry Tour and myself look up to him and are trying to follow in his footsteps obviously.

Yeah, I wouldn't say so much picking brain. We talked about some of the Korn Ferry events I've got lined up, and I was obviously asking a little bit about how Tour life is. Yeah, watching



him hit the golf ball, he's an unbelievable player.

Q. And finally, had an exciting finish on the Korn Ferry Tour a couple weeks ago. What has that kind of done for confidence and how you're feeling with your game?

JUSTIN HASTINGS: Yeah, for sure. I feel good. That was a solid week. It was kind of one of those weeks where feel like a lot of things did go my way kind of contrary to today. I would say I executed better today than I did last week, but golf is so much about those little breaks that you get that could end up costing a shot and a half here and there.

Yeah, I definitely was on the right side of those breaks last week, and knowing that I executed at a high level, I was feeling pretty confident coming into this week.

