

## ROUND 3 QUICK QUOTES

February 14, 2026



**COLLIN MORIKAWA (-17)**

**Q. Collin, 62 with a bogey, impressive. How did you play out there?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Great. I mean, ball was going where I wanted, putts were dropping when I needed them. It was just never got ahead of myself. This game is stressful enough and I think I make it even more stressful for whatever reason. But I was able to just really take it a shot at a time and just enjoy the round when I could.

**Q. Did the ball go where you wanted it?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** You know, honestly, the last two days it felt really good. I went into this year feeling really good about myself. You go out and play two rounds at Sony and I missed the cut and you realize, man, do I need to redo everything that you thought you were doing for the last two months.

That's not really the case. The problem is the results matter sometimes and for me in this world after the past, you know, year, three years, whatever you want to call it, I just haven't had the results I've wanted. But I know I'm making the right strides, I know I'm inching towards the right direction. It's just I just haven't seen this momentum to be able to go out and play a low round.

If you went back and was able to tap into my phone calls with Rick the past week and a half, a lot of it has had to do with being able to go low and just being able to continue momentum. It's very hard to replicate, it's very hard to do, but at the same time you've got to be able to play golf out here.

**Q. Best ball-striking round in a while? I don't know how you grade it.**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Yeah, I mean, for sure. I think I've had glimpses, and even yesterday, these greens are tough because any back pin, I mean you might land it too short, which is exactly what you're trying to land it, spin back to 30 feet. So the last two days have felt kind of like my old self in just being able to control the golf ball. I'm seeing a lot more pin high shots, which is great for someone who relies on their ball-striking. But it's nice to know essentially where your irons are going to start. For me, the start lines haven't been as good over the past handful of months.

**Q. Only 58 feet of putts made. What does that say about how close you were hitting it?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** I was really hoping for more. I looked at my amount of feet I've made

the last two days, not much more, but it's nice when you're hitting it that close.

Yeah, aside from that, the putting the last two days, yesterday and today, felt a lot better. Out here you just never know what bounce you're going to get. I mean, I got a lot of good bounces on the greens. It's funny to talk about that, but it's just what you have to do on poa. With some rain and wind tomorrow you're just going to have to hit good putts and just kind of be accepting with where they go.

**Q. Collin, can you convey sort of the multiple personalities of the golf course? I mean, obviously Pebble's been scorable the last couple days as you just showed. Tomorrow could be a lot different. U.S. Open comes back here next year --**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Yeah, the rain earlier in the week kind of took a lot of the life and a lot of the nastiness out of this golf course a little bit. I had a very favorable tee time I think when I started today, not a lot of wind starting on 1. I don't know what the guys later on had, but it was very, very mundane out there to start the day.

And granted, you have to start well. So it was nice to get off to a decent start and make some birdies. Was able to just find a rhythm on that back nine to be able to close it out.

**Q. As you mentioned, the results of last couple of years. How restless are you? You won a flurry of times there over a couple of years and now haven't won in a couple years. How eager and restless --**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Yeah, look, I'm very hard on myself. Like I think we all are, but I'm very, very hard. You ask anyone on my team, like I can get down on myself pretty quickly because I know there's just really fine margins out here.

And I want to go back not necessarily to the player I was but just kind of use everything I've learned over the last six, seven years and just put that into, you know, the golfer I am today. It's very hard to do, it really is, because if one thing's off, then it might lead you astray, you might work on one thing.

But I've been really focused on just trying to, you know, build this momentum, this idea of momentum and just making it myself and it's finally paid off today. We've got some work tomorrow, for sure.

**Q. One last provincial question. Does it feel -- I mean, you obviously played college golf up here, you played around here a lot in college. Does it feel -- is there a connection to northern California golf? Do you feel different? You won at Harding.**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Yeah, absolutely. It feels like a second home. You get a lot of "go Bears" out there, you get a lot of people that are rooting me on. Being a California guy, it's always really special to play out here.

You know, I would have never even dreamt as a small teen or kid that you'd be shooting 62 at Pebble Beach, so that's pretty special.

**Q. Who talked you off the ledge when you were feeling down after Sony?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Yeah, I don't think anyone ever has had to talk me off the ledge. Like I was never going to go in the deep where I was like, man, I want to stop this. There's always some answer that you can tell yourself.

I've had a lot of conversations with Rick. More frustration, right, of just I go out, and even on Thursday I think I had like three or four birdies on a course where I felt like I hit it really, really good.

It's just going out, and he reminded me yesterday when I first came out and turned pro, like I didn't care about honestly making cuts or top-20s, I came out to win.

When he told me that yesterday, there was that mindset switch going into today. I wanted to come out and win, win the weekend, win the tournament. Now we've given ourselves a chance.

It's a small mindset adjustment and without him telling me that, who knows what I would have shot today. But I'm out here to win. When you finish 30th, 15th, 3rd, at the end of the day like I want to win. I've got to set that mindset at the beginning of the day, at the beginning of the week and now I think we've given ourselves at least a chance come tomorrow.

**Q. Are you still unsettled on the putter?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Yeah. I think I might be for the rest of my career.

It's a very -- it's a comfort thing for me. I think I play a lot with my feel and I play a lot with my gut and unfortunately that changes a lot.

This putter I actually stole from Kurt Kitayama two weeks ago, we were at home. It's kind of settling nice to where it allows it to flow a little bit but it doesn't have as much toe hang as the neck assumes just because of the mallet look. So it's doing what I want. Hopefully we can start them online tomorrow and see if they drop.

**Q. Collin, when you were in a stretch of leading on results for good feedback, what was a good week? (No microphone.)**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** The end goal's to win, right? But like it wasn't like end all, be all. Like man, my life's over.

It can be, it can be. When you're finishing 40th every week and you feel like you're putting

your best golf out there and you can't figure out why.

I'm more talking about those results I think where there's a lot of positives to take I think from a top-10 finish. No matter what week, no matter what tournament, I can take a lot of positives out of those weeks.

And they're heartbreaking sometimes, but you live and you learn and you go on and you keep pushing. It's when you feel like I'm putting in my absolute everything, I'm missing the cut or I'm finishing 30th, and you're like man, what's going on? Because I know deep down inside me like I'm a competitor, I feel like I can play against the top players in the world, even a guy like Scottie Scheffler when he's playing great. Like, you know, I still believe that and until the day I don't, I'm going to keep going head on.

It's a very, very fine line to say, OK, you're a couple shots away from a great week or you really got to dig deep to figure it out.

**Q. Last one for me, when's the last time you played in the rain?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** I think we played in the rain in Japan a little bit.

**Q. Missed that one.**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** I'm pretty sure we played in the rain. I don't really remember. I don't remember what happened yesterday.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Yeah, it's a mindset. You know, I remember in college we would play in the rain and I would get so scared of playing in the rain, like not embracing, not just being ready to tackle the day.

It's going to be a different mindset. I've changed that mindset I think ever since I turned pro. It's going to suck out there. It's going to be cold, we're going to be wet. It's not going to be comfortable.

You've got to live with it. You've got to go out, like I've said, like I've put myself in a position hopefully within a handful of shots to just go out and be me.

**Q. Did you play here -- get down to Pebble much when you were at Cal?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** No. Stanford hosted their event at Cypress. That's the nicest event you could ask for. U.S. Am we played here. Played here a couple other times throughout, but not a ton.

**Q. What's your relationship like with the course? I know you played as a pretty young**

**guy in the Open in '19. I mean, your history here, nothing close to 62, I'm guessing?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** No, no. when we played the U.S. Open I thought me shooting a couple under was phenomenal. Very early stages of my professional career, like you said.

So yeah, and I think this is an iconic venue. I don't think anyone can take that away from it no matter how it plays, no matter how gloomy or rainy or sunny it is. When you stand there on 18 fairway, you look out, it's a lot of history right there.

**Q. Could you ever, even back when you were here in the U.S. Open, obviously the conditions are different in June, I know, but it probably doesn't feel like a course anyone could ever shoot 62, right?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Yeah, you know, I think soft greens change a lot of that. We've seen that over the last two, three years. We've seen that this week already. When Mother Nature comes and it rains and it makes greens a lot softer, it just takes the teeth out of it. Unfortunately that's just what's in front of us and we have to deal with it.

**Q. What was your reaction to the changes to the 10th green?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** Positive, very positive. You know, Pat and I putted, we both three-putted there. I think it needs a little time to grow. You could still kind of see some mow patterns that are a little weird. I'm not blaming my three-putt on that, like it's just poa, and who knows if I hit a bad putt or good putt or whatever. I think it allows that pin location to be there. I think the grass just needs to settle in a little bit, it's still looking a little rough.

**Q. Do you believe you can be a great putter?**

**COLLIN MORIKAWA:** I do, I do. I mean, even when I was first coming out, like I knew I wasn't the best but I think I can still be a very solid putter, a consistent enough putter to where when it comes down the stretch, you can make those putts. I've seen it in the past, I'm going to dig deep into those memory banks a lot tomorrow and we'll figure it out after.