

**ROUND 2 QUICK QUOTES**  
February 20, 2026

**XANDER SCHAUFFELE (-9)**



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**Q. Xander, played a lot of golf already today. How are you feeling?**

**XANDER SCHAUFFELE:** I'm tired, man. Yeah, I'm looking forward to laying down at some point. It was nice to put some good golf and some holes together, but definitely on the tired side.

**Q. And how did -- how is the course playing, I guess? It seems like it's a different challenge than we see it sometimes.**

**XANDER SCHAUFFELE:** Yeah, you're definitely committing to something that's very different than normal. Usually you're trying to play up to certain holes. Now out of the rough you're like, oh, this is a jumper, it might fly the pin, and you're like that's actually pretty good because it's going to plug. Sometimes it's hard to commit in that sense to fly it all the way to the hole to those sort of back pins out of the rough or even out of the fairway.

**Q. Is there a term for this type of golf and conditions? Like what would you call it if you had to --**

**XANDER SCHAUFFELE:** Damp. I don't know. Yeah, yeah, I mean, I can pull a few more out of the hat if you'd like, but yeah, damp is where -- I'm going to die on that hill right now.

**Q. You've been contending a bunch in 2024. Last year had a solid year but didn't give yourself a ton of opportunities to win. Now through two days you're right there. Do you relish these opportunities any more given you weren't there a ton last year?**

**XANDER SCHAUFFELE:** Yeah, I mean, you and I have different definitions of solid years, I guess. Definitely didn't do a whole lot last year for several different reasons and it was nice to end the year with a win. And yeah, it definitely feels like I'm trying to prove something to myself again in '26. Good start to a tournament here.

**Q. Do you pay attention to the world ranking number next to your name at all?**

**XANDER SCHAUFFELE:** Yes and no.

**Q. Does it affect you?**

**XANDER SCHAUFFELE:** My caddie will remind me sometimes. I don't know if it really affects him that much. It's just, it really is just a number. I think I know what I'm capable of doing, and as I get older, obviously want to win and compete in every tournament you play



in, but that's sort of still how I feel now at 32 years old.

**Q. And going back to the damp comment, are you in the group of guys who would like to see this tournament played late July, August, Playoffs, better weather?**

**XANDER SCHAUFFELE:** I don't really care. I just love playing here. If it's damp or dry or moist, yeah, I'll be here to compete. I enjoy playing Riviera. Unfortunately we got a big storm that came through that kind of dampened our west coast, but for the most part I enjoy being here and I'll always come to compete anytime of the year.

**Q. When you missed that par putt on 15, why did you shake your head? Was it just the miss or was it something about commitment or what?**

**XANDER SCHAUFFELE:** I hit a good putt. If you leveled it, it probably would have said right to left. I thought I fixed the spike marks decent enough, but it kind of went right towards 16 green.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**XANDER SCHAUFFELE:** Yeah, just on some footprints. I think I've been pretty diligent, really it's kind of a pain obviously to like eyeball an eight-footer where you're like looking at every sort of spike mark that you're going to try and fork, but I tried my best to do it for the entire day and I thought I did a decent job there and obviously didn't.

**Q. You play poa on the west coast, spongy, and you play spike marks, but do you ever have a combination where it's spongy and it's this quick?**

**XANDER SCHAUFFELE:** Yeah, Doug, when it's damp, it --

**Q. Spongy.**

**XANDER SCHAUFFELE:** Spongy, sorry. Yeah, it is what it is. Pebble was almost good prep for here being even sort of wetter and spongier and --

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**XANDER SCHAUFFELE:** They were not, this is a lot scarier. But in terms of like committing to putts that look dodgy, it was good preparation.

**Q. Is there -- you know, obviously the scoring is one thing, but is there a feel or checkpoint that you have where you kind of feel like OK, I'm swinging the club the way I'm supposed to be or the level that you expect of yourself? Is there something that is kind of like --**

**XANDER SCHAUFFELE:** Yeah, you definitely feel -- I wouldn't say I felt extremely



comfortable even yesterday or today, but able to make some putts and kind of get some things going. Yeah, it's nice to sort of put a run together when you're not feeling amazing.

