

ROUND 2 QUICK QUOTES
May 22, 2026

ERNIE ELS (-4)



Q. Ernie Els here, Round 2. Ernie, 5-under 68 today. Take us through the round, where were you comfortable most?

ERNIE ELS: Yeah, I was good today. I feel a little annoyed with myself, I know 5 under's a good score but I left some out there. At least I played good golf. I think I'm finally over the jet lag like most of the guys and kind of the body feels normal.

Today it was really scoring conditions. The flags were down at the bottom, yesterday they had the flags on the tops. I hit a lot of good shots. I think I'm going to be a little bit too far away, but I'll try to shoot a good one tomorrow.

Q. And you've spent a lot of time at this course. Talk a little bit about the conditions here this week. How can you compare the conditions this week to the times you've played in past years?

ERNIE ELS: The past couple of times we were here we played in their winter, so the air was a lot cooler, the ball wasn't really going far. The ball's going a lot further this week. They've had to put a lot of water on the greens because of the heat.

The golf course is in absolutely pristine condition. The greenkeeper and his staff must get a lot of credit, it's truly been wonderful to play this golf course. It's a tough golf course and yesterday the wind was really up. I've never seen the wind blow like that. Challenging.

Q. It's the 50th edition of the Trophy Hassan II. What do you like most about coming back here as a previous winner here throughout the 50 years, just what do you like the most about Morocco?

ERNIE ELS: I came here for the first time in 2008 and I played then and then next time I came back was last year, then this year. I had great times here. Played this golf course the last couple years. Obviously never been down to Marrakesh, but I've been invited to tour the country. It's a wonderful country, wonderful people. The hospitality is just unreal. We couldn't come to a nicer place.

To have the 50th anniversary, imagine that, Morocco to have 50 years of professional golf, that's quite something so they should be very proud.

