

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES
July 23, 2026

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER (-6)



Q. Scottie, when you've never played a course competitively before and shoot a bogey-free 65, is there almost a sense of relief and it's just see ball, hit ball, just go out and play?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah. I mean, it is a little different playing somewhere you haven't played before. My prep this week was a little shorter than it normally would have been on a new golf course. Yeah, I did a good job of giving myself some looks and holed some putts today.

Q. Speaking of the putter, anything that you found in the last few days that sets up to your eye differently that allows for the confidence in over 134 feet of putts?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: No. I mean, fresh greens is a little bit easier than like links greens. Part of playing links golf is the ball's not going to roll true every single time. Felt like I was just on the wrong end of that last week. Got here and made sure I was lined up where I thought it was and made sure I was hitting it on that line and that was about it.

Q. Fun family week. I know you said you've never been to Minnesota before. Got some time today. Is there anything on your to-do list or anything that you've done so far that you've gotten to check off for the 3M Open?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Not really, just get some rest. We went downtown on Monday morning, we got in and went to a coffee shop, had some breakfast and a grocery store. Outside of that not too much.

Q. Scottie, first official round in the books. You birdied five of the last 10 holes. What was working for you in the second half of the morning?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah, holed nice putts at 18 and 1. Yeah, really just capitalized I think on my opportunities on the back. That's really all it was.

Q. And your thoughts on 18 being the first time playing it?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Like the 18th hole?

Q. Yeah, 18th hole.

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Well, I liked it today, I was able to make birdie there, so I think it's great.



No, yeah, it's a hole where you get really rewarded for hitting the fairway because then you can get it on the green in two. Miss that fairway, then you're forced to lay up and the layup's going to be pretty far back. Really important tee ball and the second shot can be daunting, so you definitely want to make sure you make solid contact there.

Q. Wondering what your thoughts are on (inaudible)?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: On 18? If I had 285 I'd be laying up probably, but today I had maybe 260 to the hole and the wind was pretty much straight across. It was a little bit in between clubs for us, so ended up just obviously taking more club there because there's water short and was able to get in there for birdie.

Q. Scottie, you talked earlier this week about the key to this golf course is keeping the ball in play. After shooting 6 under today, did your game plan envision what you were able to do today?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah, yeah, I think so. I didn't hit a bunch of fairways early, but I was able to kind of manage my way around and get out of some trouble areas without making any bogeys. That was important keeping my momentum going. Once I started to hit fairways and gave myself some looks, was able to start making some birdies.

Q. Scottie, pretty large crowd for a Thursday morning. What stood out about the fans who showed up and followed around?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah, it was a ton of fun. Like you said, it was a really good crowd this morning especially for an early tee time. It's always fun getting to play in front of so many people. The crowd support for all three of us in the group today was really nice.

Q. Does that drive you when the more people show up?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: I mean, not really, but it's more fun I would say playing in front of the big crowd than if there was nobody out there. It's fun to get the support and to hear some cheers. Yeah, I wouldn't say it's motivating, but it's definitely a lot of fun to play in front of people like that.

Q. Can you sense a good putting day coming or is it not that predictable, like after a few holes?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: I would love for it to be that predictable. Actually missed a short putt on the first. I had like maybe an 8-, 10-footer on the first hole, it didn't go in but hit it the way I wanted to. Yeah, golf's funny. Some days you're hitting your lines and the line seems to be tracking toward the hole and other days it feels like you're doing the same thing and it kind of goes around the hole, but today was a day in which I was able to hole some nice putts and that's why I was able to make some birdies out there.

