

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES
August 6, 2026

SAHITH THEEGALA (-8)



Q. Sahith, that was your 500th official round on the PGA TOUR and it was an interesting one, 62, eight birdies on the front, eight pars on the back. Just talk a little bit about the tale of two nines.

SAHITH THEEGALA: Yeah, pretty wild. I've never had a round like that. I think historically I've always struggled to start rounds really well, so that was the first time I ever started a round with six in a row. That was an incredible start. It didn't feel like a fluke or anything either.

I made one really, really nice putt on 3 that was kind of a bonus, but other than that I just felt like I was plodding along, hitting fairways, which is so key out here.

Got to the back nine and just stopped hitting fairways and really that cost me a lot of opportunities. I think after hole 11 I don't think I hit a fairway after hole 11. I might have hit 13 actually. That was really my only birdie chance on the back I felt was 13.

Yeah, it was an interesting round. I really didn't feel I played poorly on the back, I just couldn't quite hit it in the fairway and it's tough to score out here from the rough. I think that's why it's such a great golf course, you can tear it up in the fairway but not from the rough.

Q. Have you had six in a row before?

SAHITH THEEGALA: I have had six in a row before. I think I've had maybe once or maybe twice on Tour before, but never to start a round. I want to say both times might have been at Kapalua.

Yeah, obviously such a hot start.

Yeah, I've never made seven in a row period in my life. I definitely thought about that on 7 tee. That was the only time I really thought about any of that and sure enough it led to a bogey, so it's all good.

Q. What's the inner monologue like when you turn in 28?

SAHITH THEEGALA: Sorry, what was that?

Q. What's the inner monologue like when you turn in 28?

SAHITH THEEGALA: Yeah, like I said, I thought about it for a second on 7 and it cost me



the hole. Just kind of let myself get back in the zone on 8 and 9.

As a golfer, you don't really get in that zone too often. You try to prepare yourself to be in that zone as much as possible, but realistically I think guys out here will say you're only in that zone two, three, four times a year. To turn that round into a 62 was really nice.

There's times where you play that well and still shoot 64, 65 which out here these guys are all really, really good so you've got to really take advantage of the days your game is feeling great and the breaks are going your way, too.

Q. You had a nice U.S. Open. What have you seen in your game the past couple months as you try to sort of reclaim that form?

SAHITH THEEGALA: Yeah. I was talking to Bill over there, I really haven't played poorly. I made a ton of cuts, just haven't put together good weekends. I've played a lot of golf this year, more than I've wanted to especially coming off an injury last year, just because I wasn't in the majors, I wasn't in the signatures, so I really had to play a lot to make sure I was in.

And I wasn't comfortably into these events so I kind of had to play leading up to those. Yeah, I felt like my game was good but I wasn't quite 100 percent physically or mentally. No injuries or anything, but just started getting fatigued, so much golf.

Yeah, these last two weeks were a blessing, that's why I took both these weeks off and try to hit these to next three events really hard and make a push for Tour Champs. I feel great mentally and physically.

Yeah, the U.S. Open was really nice. The U.S. Open and The Open, it's a little different, it's easier to reset and forget about all the golf we've played because that's what we play for is those majors. A little easier to reset, so it was good to see a really nice result there, kind of be in the mix.

Q. How many more tournaments have you played than you were sort of targeting?

SAHITH THEEGALA: I think mapping it out at the start of the year, I wanted to play 22 including Tour Champ, but obviously my status is really poor and I didn't want to count my chickens before they hatched, so 22, 23 would have been a sweet spot. I've already played 22 and that's with taking the last two weeks off.

Obviously I'll never say no to making a cut, but there's been a lot of times where I'm just grinding my butt off to make the cut and felt like I didn't have too much energy left on the weekend. I've had a lot of 50th place finishes recently, which has been pretty frustrating because the game feels good and those are only two or three shots away from a 25th. A lot of the times you finish 25th and you can take a lot of positives out of that.

Yeah, I definitely played a few more, but honestly I feel great right now. The two weeks off,



it's pretty rare you get to take two weeks off in the middle of the season. I get why all these top guys do it all the time.

Q. Sahith, you're 43rd in the FedExCup. I know your goal is to get to East Lake, but 50 is a huge number as well. Is that something you're thinking about as well to solidify your spot there?

SAHITH THEEGALA: For sure. I think in the past whenever I think about a certain expectation, I never do too well. Obviously at the start of the year that was one of my goals. I got off to a nice start so I kind of changed my goal to get to top-30 instead of 50.

I guess a similar euphemism would be if I shot 4 or 5 under the first round and all of a sudden you're thinking about the cutline instead of thinking about shooting another 5, 6, 7, under par round to get in contention.

It's kind of how I feel I am in the FedEx right now. I certainly am not guaranteed top-50 and I know I need a couple good weeks. I think I'm pretty secure, but you never want to have that attitude. So I'm kind of just focused on how can I give myself the best chance to make Tour Champ.

Yeah, we're not blind to it. Top 50's obviously huge, it's a big deal. Top-30's also just as big of a deal. Yeah, I'm just excited, I feel good. Hope to keep this play going.

