

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES
August 28, 2026

PADRAIG HARRINGTON (-7)



Q. Padraig, we were in the locker room Wednesday and you come walking in and tell me how much you don't like this place.

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: I didn't say I don't like this place, I said I don't play well here.

Q. What was today?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: Yeah, you know, it's not that I can't play well. I obviously, I played reasonably well and I holed a few putts, so I ran with it. I said I find it hard to hit the fairways.

But I think it's interesting, it's firmed up a lot so I can be a bit more conservative off the tee and it's working nicely. I hit a lot of 3-woods, a few 5-woods off the tee. You hit the fairway, it goes out there forever.

So I think I really didn't get myself in many places like 18, where I think 18 and maybe a little bit on 10 where I'm in the rough and I'm blocked out. That's the problem here, when you hit it in the rough, it's generally a tree between you and the green and with things being as firm as they are, it's difficult to control it. I kept it in play very nicely today.

Q. Is that a strategy you put together during the pro-am?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: Yeah, I think our general strategy, which wouldn't be the norm, is to be as conservative as possible off the tee. Normally I'd be all gung ho and trying to take advantage of it. But there is no advantage, the ball is rolling so far, the short hitters can hit it miles out here. So it's just a question of getting it on the cut grass. You don't have that much of a chance into these greens, they're releasing so much. If you're in the rough, you're in real trouble.

Yeah, you've just got to avoid that with the trees that are in the rough, the firm-ish greens with the ball running, certainly releasing, you've got to keep it in play even if it means being a bit further back, which you're not really because if you hit the fairway, it runs out a long way.

Q. Is that hard for you to dial it back like that knowing that you do love to go for it?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: No, no. I like to hit the right shot at the right time, that would be my attitude. They're all subtle doglegs here, they just change direction. So it definitely has been easier for me on holes like 6 and 15, I hit 5-wood and 3-wood. You know, yeah, it's been easy to hit those fairways and shape the ball with those clubs necessarily right to left,

and maybe in past years I've been trying to cut the corner with a driver and shape it, that's never so easy.