

KORN FERRY TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP
presented by Virginia's Richmond Region

ROUND 3 QUOTES
October 10, 2026



COLE HAMMER (-5)

Q. Cole, 1 over on the front, 3 under on the back. How would you assess your round today?

COLE HAMMER: I would assess it as two completely different nines. I really got off to a slow start on the front nine today. I was not hitting it very well, just tried to simplify things going into the back nine. I knew that if I continued playing the way I was on the front nine, I'd probably shoot myself in the foot for the rest of the tournament heading into tomorrow. So I really just tried to put my head down and do everything I could to hit the best shot that I could. I'm very proud of the way that I handled the back nine today and gave myself a shot at tomorrow.

Q. What have you learned about yourself this season?

COLE HAMMER: I think it's been kind of an accumulation of everything over the last few seasons. I think I've just proved to myself that I'm a fighter. I'm going to do everything I can to give myself the best chance to succeed. Early on in my career I might have shrunk away from the big moments and now I feel like I'm a little bit more equipped to handle it.

So yeah, I don't know. I think I'm a little bit more comfortable in high leverage situations now, definitely more comfortable than I was a couple years ago, and I learn something new every day. I feel like as long as I'm progressing in my own world, then I'm extremely happy with that.

Q. Did you feel that comfortability coming into this week or did this week kind of give you some nerves?

COLE HAMMER: I definitely was a little bit nervous coming into this tournament more so than the rest of the season just because there's finality attached to it. I've just been doing my best to have good perspective on the week. I'm really relying on my faith and Jesus this week. I really want to go out there and give it my all without holding onto whatever outcome that I think I need to achieve because I know He's got a better plan for whatever it looks like.

Q. What's been your self talk out there on the course?

COLE HAMMER: I think it's been if you put a microphone inside of my brain, you might pick up some funny things being said in there, but it's definitely been an internal battle. It's like



the angel on one shoulder and the devil on the other, and thankfully the angel has won a couple more times than the devil has.

There's definitely been a couple learning moments out there just with the amount of patience that I'm able to portray.

So I think going into tomorrow, if I can be as patient as possible and just rely on all the experience that I've had looking back over the last couple years of barely keeping my card to stay out here, that's just all stuff that I've been able to build on. I wouldn't trade anything for those experiences and I feel like I'm here right now because of that.

Q. When did you feel a momentum shift out there today?

COLE HAMMER: I thought I felt a huge momentum shift after my tee ball on 10. I'd really been struggling with my swing and finally hit a good one. That's a hole that you really want to take advantage of, and I managed to make a par from 6-iron in the middle of the fairway on a par 5 so that was a little bit of a bummer.

Then hit a wedge shot to tap-in on No. 12 and that was kind of what spurred me on. No. 13 was playing a tough par 4 today and I just felt like I did a really good job of trying to chase birdies versus trying to protect against par.

Q. Looking forward to tomorrow, how aware are you of where you sit on the points list, what you need to do tomorrow, and then where Yuta is?

COLE HAMMER: I'm very aware of where I sit on the points list. I think it's almost impossible to not look at the leaderboard. In the past I've tried to convince myself to look away from leaderboards and I honestly feel like that just makes me even more uncomfortable, just the thought of not knowing what's actually going on. I want to be able to step up in a big moment and hit the shot that I see.

So yeah, I'll be looking tomorrow. I can't control what Yuta does and I don't want -- I'm going to go out there and control what I can control. Hopefully, that leads to a great round of golf. And if not and he plays great, hats off to him.

There's some other guys that could go out and have a great finish. I know it kind of looks like there's a match play battle going on between us, but we're not throwing punches out there, it's just golf. I'm going to do my best to do what I can and we'll see who comes out on top, I guess.

