ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES
October 30, 2026

HENRIK STENSON (-7)

Q. Great round. Walk us through that stretch where it was nothing but birdies and bogeys there, some of the highlights.

HENRIK STENSON: Yeah. Got off to a good start and made a long, long putt for birdie on 2, hit it close on 3 and two-putted for birdie on 4. I had a good run early.

Then birdied 8 and birdied 10, so that was kind of nice, 5 under through 10. Then I hit a poor drive on 11, ended up behind a tree, didn't have much, had to bunt it in the bunker, made bogey. Then hit a good tee shot and a pretty good second shot and a good putt on 12, birdied that one.

Then hit the worst swing of the day with a 6-iron, just kind of blocked it right. Didn't really try to be cute out of this Bermuda. You've got to be reasonable, just wanted to get it back up on the green. It was so thick and hit it awful. In the end I'm standing there with probably a 12-footer for bogey, which I made, and I think that kind of to a degree saved the day because I feel like I would have been pretty flustered after just making a birdie after the bogey and then giving away a very sloppy double bogey on 13.

Yeah, bounced back with two straight birdies after that again, good approach shots. That was about an eight-footer down the hill on 14, and then 15, probably an 18-footer left to right, beautiful putt went right in the middle.

And then again on 18, didn't hit the best of shots but I was on the green. Left it short, but again tied it up with a nice putt from probably about, yeah, it was probably like 12 feet again, 10, 12 feet for birdie.

It was really the putter that made most of the work today.

Q. We were talking about the back nine. I mean, didn't see many pars, but I guess you're glad to see, you know, many birdies for sure.

HENRIK STENSON: Yeah, for the most part, even though I think dropping shots as a professional is always going to aggravate you a little bit, but it's easier to take a couple of bogeys if you make enough birdies to make up for it. I've heard from the guys I've seen that this is a low-scoring golf course with the greens being this pure. Saying that, you can end up in tricky spots and they're very fast, so you've got to be cautious. But they're super pure. They're some of the best greens that we've putted on. I'd say in terms of speed, it's probably only Augusta that comes to mind that's got quicker greens than this at times. So beautiful surface. If you hit good putts, you can kind of walk them in. You know three, five feet out if

it's on the right line with the right pace, they're not going to go anywhere but in. But give yourself plenty of chances and hit good putts, you'll have a good weekend.

Q. You obviously got a late start this year as far as playing not that many tournaments. Do you feel you're in a good spot right now just game overall not just for this first round but going in two weeks?

HENRIK STENSON: Yeah, I had an eight-and-a-half-month break leading into April this year with no competition and I wasn't playing -- not even say I played decent golf before that break.

Yeah, I was being realistic. I thought it was going to take some time to work on my game and get back in the groove of things. I just tried to stay with the processes. If you do enough good things over time, the results will come.

And I'm not planning on changing anything just because I had a good round here and not because I had a good tournament last week, I'm just trying to keep on doing the things that I know and want to do. There's still stuff to work on, but clearly we've had some good feedback on where we're heading with the game and what we're doing. We'll just plan on plenty more of the same and we'll see where it takes us.

Q. Did you think when you came out here that getting to Phoenix was a realistic goal?

HENRIK STENSON: Yeah, once you start playing, you always want to put good results on the board. I know with it being more volatile and more points up for grabs, these weeks clearly you can make a push. No different from 2015 and the FedExCup. I think I started 43rd coming into the first week and I ended up being second overall and almost won the FedExCup with three 2nds and a 10. Yeah, you can certainly get going.

Of course being in this position, yeah, I think it's a realistic goal and a goal to have.

But again, focusing on Phoenix is not going to get you to Phoenix. Focusing on the right stuff on the golf course is what gets you there. We have two more days to challenge ourselves and keep on doing good stuff.