

**ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTE**  
**August 9, 2024**

**WOODY AUSTIN ( -6)**



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**Q. Woody, 6 under start, nice playing today. What was the key to your round?**

**WOODY AUSTIN:** Just made a few putts, that's all. Played really solid. Three-putted the first hole right out of the gate, but then just played -- I think I might have hit two bad shots all day.

Made bogey on 2. I hit it just a hair fat, hit in lip of the bunker, rolled back in the bunker and didn't get it up and down. But I think that was pretty much the only mishit or really bad shot I hit all day. Just played really solid.

Then hit two of the par 5s, had two eagle putts inside 15 feet, two-putted both of those on 18 and 1. Just played really solid. Made a couple 12-footers, which those are the hard ones for me.

**Q. You've played really well here in recent years, especially in the first round. Safe to say you really enjoy this place?**

**WOODY AUSTIN:** Yeah. Like I said, I like old golf courses, I like places where you have to drive it somewhat straight. I like here, I like next week. I like it when you have to ball strike it a little bit. The golf course isn't hardest obviously, so there's always some good rounds out there, but you do still have to drive it straight. I don't think I missed a fairway today, so that's pretty important. The fact -- I think that's the first time in a while I haven't missed a fairway.

**Q. Is it starting to firm up out there?**

**WOODY AUSTIN:** Not enough, not really. I mean, the greens are -- the crazy thing is the greens are real inconsistent. The fairways are still soft, but the greens are still inconsistent. The first hole the ball plugged. The second hole, No. 11, No. 11, that back left flag you can usually never get close to. Boo hit it -- Boo Weekley hit it like six inches and I hit it about seven, eight feet. You can normally never carry it on there and keep it on there, and I flew it on there and it stopped.

Then you turn right around and you go to 13, the par 3. I hit a beautiful high -- well, it landed pin high and it was over the green in a heartbeat. You're like, wait a second. They're very inconsistent, but the fairways are still pretty soft. It's still playing pretty long.

**Q. As it stands, another first place finish from the first round. What is just the mindset going into tomorrow?**

**WOODY AUSTIN:** Just need it keep doing what I'm doing. It's been a rough go the last two and a half years. I'm just trying -- I'm trying to turn the corner and find my game again. I'm really starting to play better, the golf swing's getting there, but I've got to get the ball in the hole, and today I got the ball in the hole. If I can do that more often, I'll be fine.

**Q. Have you put a finger on that, what it's been?**

**WOODY AUSTIN:** It's the really bad name that you don't like to talk about. I mean, last year -- put it this way, last year I averaged over a three-putt a round. Do you know how hard that is to average over a three-putt a round? That's how bad it's been for the last little bit.

I had tournaments where I would have nine and 10 three-putts in just a couple days. You can't play golf that way. It's been a bit of a struggle. Then that crept into the golf swing because now you feel like you have to knock the ball in the hole and I put too much pressure on the swing. Every shot was almost like a live or die because if I didn't hit it close -- it's not like if I hit it 20 feet I was OK, I was worried about three putting from 20 feet. Like I said, I've just put so much pressure on the game to hit it so close and I just shot a lot of bad rounds.