

Third-Round Transcripts | The Panama Championship | Saturday, February 5, 2022

Andrew Kozan (-7, Co-Leader)

City Plays From: Palm Beach Gardens, Florida | Turned Pro: 2021 | College: Auburn University
Exempt Status: Qualifying Tournament Finishers 2-10 and Ties (thru 2022)

On his round and the course playing tougher with the windy conditions...

“I didn’t think the course was too terrible the last couple days, but definitely today with all the wind – I think it was blowing 20-25 (miles per hour) out there – the greens got super firm, super fast, and made it really tough. All these tough pins, really close to the edges, you have to give yourself chances when you can and take advantage of it when they come. It was a solid round, just stuck through it the whole round. Had a little hiccup on No. 7, made double (bogey). I knew it was playing tough out there and everyone would have the same mistakes. Not too bad.”

On what worked best today...

“I was putting really well. Missed one short putt, but other than that I had two or three putts over 20 feet, a couple good par saves, good wedges into the greens, just giving myself consistent 10- or 15-footers for birdie. The odds are pretty much in your favor at that point.”

On Panama Golf Club...

“It’s a great setup. The greenskeeper did a great job getting it set up. Real challenging. The greens are rolling good, really fast, which is what we like out here.”

On being a Korn Ferry Tour newcomer...

“Feels great. College does a good job getting you ready for the environment. They’ve all been saying all the young guys are ready to come out here and make a splash. I’m excited to have a chance tomorrow.”

On if he’s had a chance to do anything fun in Panama...

“Go to the casino. Pretty low key, playing a lot of golf, trying to save energy for the next couple weeks.”

On what he will do tonight...

“Watch a movie.”

On handling the heat and wind...

“After I hit the shot, I pretty much have a towel over my head the whole round. So sweaty out there. I’m so hot. I’m from Florida, so I’m used to it, but it’s a little different down here.”

On what makes it so difficult this week...

“A combination of everything. If it’s just the heat, it’s already tough. If it’s just the greens, it’s already tough. If it’s just the wind, it’s already tough. When you get all three of those together, it’s a whole trifecta. It’s close getting tough to the greens, and you barely miss a green and it’s a tough up and down. Those three make a tough combo.”

On his pathway to Q-School...

“I graduated end of May, stayed amateur for the summer for three months, and played the U.S. Open as an amateur. Then turned pro for Q-School.”



On Q-School...

“I won First Stage by two or three. Second Stage, I made it on the number. That was pretty stressful. I felt like most of the stress was gone once I made it to Final (Stage). I was able to go in there with a good mindset after that.”