

**ERNIE ELS PRESS CONFERENCE (POST ROUND 2)**  
**SANFORD INTERNATIONAL - SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 13, 2025**

**Ernie, a bogey-free 63 on moving day to get to 11 under. Tell us about your round.**

Thank you, it was an important round. You know, I kind of didn't quite finish it off yesterday. You know, I had it really going yesterday, but today I was really committed to get the round finished. So yeah, I had a good start, good front nine, and I felt good on the ball and on my iron shots. Listen, we've got a round to go and a lot of golf to play, but I'm in a good position.

**Tell us about the bunker shot on 12.**

Yeah, that was probably the shot of the day. I missed the fairway to the right on the par 5. I just wanted to get it over the hazard. I felt I couldn't get it over the bunker, which happened. I was in the bunker, but then I had about a good 30-yard bunker shot and hit it to where I tapped it in. So, that was the shot of my day.

**Was there a certain element of your game you thought was working better today as opposed to yesterday.**

It was very similar, you know, I kept it under control where I had chances. You know, I was squaring clubs closer to the flag, made some putts. I'd like to play the par 5s better. You know, I haven't played the par 5s all that well this week. But yeah, I'm just trying to keep it consistent.

**What's the mentality being at the top of the leaderboard going into Sunday?**

Well, it's [there for] anybody within four or five shots, you know, depending on weather. If the wind really blows, you know, anything can happen. Scoring conditions can be difficult, but I just got to go out there and try and make birdies, try and stay ahead. If I get behind, try and get ahead at the end of the day. So, you know, a lead really doesn't count at the moment.