

ERNIE ELS PRESS CONFERENCE

SANFORD INTERNATIONAL – THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 11, 2025

We are now joined by Ernie Els here at the Sanford International. This is your sixth appearance here. You have top three finishes in two of your last three appearances here. Just to start, how great is it to be back?

Yeah, I know, it's good to be back. You know, I'm becoming a veteran out on this tour now. As you said, it's my sixth time here, I've enjoyed every time. This morning, playing the pro-am with the local people is brilliant. The golf course is in good shape. It's going to be, I guess, a little windy this week, so it's going to test us a little bit. The golf course is playing quite firm, so let's see what the weather throws at us. But it's really nice to be back and playing in Sioux Falls.

This is your 20th start of 2025. You're number five in the Charles Schwab Cup standings. You finished in the top five in three of your last four starts. Just tell us how your game's feeling coming in this week.

Game's feeling okay. You know, I played good in Michigan, I didn't quite finish it off there. Last week, you know, the golf course, I was a little all over the place. But I've been playing good all year, I've been pretty consistent. I've got the one win, I'm looking for some more wins. You know, I need to get some wins to make a jump up the Charles Schwab Cup race, so that's why I'm playing quite a bit. I'm playing this week, I'm playing next week, so I want to try and get myself in better position.

What is it about playing here at the Sanford International that you love coming to every year?

The people are great. You know, last night we played in a skins game that we don't really do on the tour. A lot of fun at dinner with some friends last night in the clubhouse and you know, the food we get out on the course every third hole, it's great. It's really a great community golf tournament, a lot of people come out. It's probably the best support we get all tour, so I think that's why a lot of the guys come back.

How do you feel like your game is playing entering this week?

I think it's going okay. You know, I'm striking it quite well. My body feels okay, that's very, very important for us out on our tour is to be able to move. My game's kind of there, I just got to stay in it, stay patient and just wait for my chances to come.