

RETIEF GOOSEN PRESS CONFERENCE (POST ROUND 1)

SANFORD INTERNATIONAL – FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2025

Retief, an opening bogey-free 65. One birdie on the front and then four birdies on the back. Can you just start by talking about getting your round kick-started at the turn?

Yeah, it was very windy the first few holes. The wind on the back nine seemed to have died down a little bit, especially in the last six holes. But yeah, the front nine was a bit iffy. I didn't hit a lot of fairways, I only hit four fairways today, but I hit four of them that I hit it down the middle of the fairway and it ran out by a yard at the other end. So, coming out the rough with these greens so firm, it's not really easy to get close.

You talked about the wind for a little bit. Can you just discuss the course conditions in general today?

The course is in great shape. It's firm and fast, you know, especially the fairways. And with the wind, it was tricky, some of these fairways to hit. I've hit some good ones down the middle that didn't stay in the fairway, but I've hit some really wild ones too. So hopefully tomorrow, I can get it going. My putter seemed to be behaving a little bit better today compared to last week when I couldn't make a thing. And so, put a new putter in the bag this week and so far, I've made a couple, so it gives you a bit of confidence.

What's the new putter that you're using now?

It's an Odyssey, Square 2 Square ones they call it. But I modify my putters a bit, so it's not like how they bring it out. But yeah, I'm very happy with the round. You know, some of the guys got off to a great start early on. I thought early on that 7 under was going to lead and then, the guys said there were a few holes they said were playing tricky with the wind. Coming down wind, even these easy, short par 4 and 16, you know, it's tough to keep it on the fairway and even hold the green.

Was the wind the trickiest part of the morning?

Yeah, I would say definitely from about the 12th hole onwards, it seemed to start dying down a bit, especially coming in these last few holes, it definitely died down a bit. But the forecast is for some more wind tomorrow and Sunday, hopefully the rain stays away.