

# U.S. Amateur Championship

Saturday, August 14, 2021  
Oakmont, Pennsylvania, USA  
Oakmont Country Club

## Nick Gabrelcik

### Quick Quotes

**Q. All right, he had it square on 8. Kind of what happened? I know what happened on 9. What were you thinking after 8. Where did you feel you were at that point in terms of your game?**

NICK GABRELCIK: Felt pretty good. After No. 8 I thought the momentum kind of switched and I was going to turn it on. Just some bad tee shots, bad iron shots put me in some bad positions, and I didn't really put enough pressure on James that really made him fumble or get in bad positions himself.

**Q. When it was a little softer than normal out here, did you think there was a chance to make some birdies or would you still have to just be cautious out here?**

NICK GABRELCIK: Definitely was a chance to make some birdies, but you definitely got to be cautious as well. If you're too aggressive on some holes -- and No. 8 going long, you just can't do that -- it's difficult.

No. 11 going long, it's just difficult.

So you got to learn how to try and go for birdies but also going for pars.

**Q. Did you notice a difference in pressure from earlier in the week to last night before this match because of what was on the line?**

NICK GABRELCIK: Yeah, a little bit more pressure. I tried not to focus as much as I could on the exemptions or what I could have got from this week. I think maybe I did a little too much and got a little antsy I would say.

That's just something I'll learn and get better at in the future?

**Q. Had you played with James before today?**

NICK GABRELCIK: No, I've never met James until today.



**Q. Talk about that run he made in the middle of the round where he won 9, 10, 11 and what happened there.**

NICK GABRELCIK: Yeah, he just played really solid. Parred 9, hit a great iron shot when he knew I was in trouble to put the pressure on me.

11 he made birdie.

12 he laid up, hit it close. Made me have to get aggressive. I didn't hit the greatest shot.

And then just after that he just had to cruise in and make pars and hope I didn't make birdies. The way it was going today, I think he kind of knew that was unlikely because my putter just wasn't there.

**Q. What was the feeling like out there with so many people? I'm not sure you played in front of that many people before.**

NICK GABRELCIK: Yeah, this is definitely the most people. I didn't feel any pressure with them. I'm one who likes the bigger crowds, and just knowing everybody back home was watching on TV, I actually felt quite comfortable with it.

Hopefully I have more opportunities to play with a bigger crowd.

**Q. Is it awkward at all, maybe a couple times late in the front nine when you guys got to a tee you pretty much had to wait for the fairway or greens to clear of all the people? You seem like a fairly quick player.**

NICK GABRELCIK: Yeah, I'm a quick player, but that doesn't really bother me as much as it may some people. I just like to talk to my brother, whoever is on the bag, just to distract me.

**Q. Brother talk back to you?**

NICK GABRELCIK: Yeah, tries to. Until I'm a little upset. Then he let's me have my space.

**Q. It's been a big year for you even coming all the way**



**this way. What do you take forward into next season?**

NICK GABRELCIK: Just the learning experience here, the competitive aspect, knowing my game is in somewhat of a good position heading into fall and my teammates are playing well right now.

**Q. Can you talk about the expectations you had going into your freshman year a year ago and how different they are now?**

NICK GABRELCIK: Yeah, my biggest goal freshman year was to win a college event. I eventually won three. Me and my coach have already talked about it. I was on the watch list for the Haskins this year, and I want to put myself back in that position. The biggest goal is to maybe win that title.

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