

# U.S Junior Amateur Championship

Thursday, July 22, 2021

Village of Pinehurst, North Carolina, USA

The Country Club of North Carolina

## Jackson Van Paris

### Quick Quotes

**Q. Not the kind of finished you had hoped for. I know you hoped for the fairy-tale, to have a few thousand people here following you on Saturday afternoon, but describe your emotions for the week, how this all went down, just being able to play on your home course.**

JACKSON VAN PARIS: Yeah, it was a really incredible week. Playing a U.S. Junior on a home course is something that .0001 percent of golfers get to do. I'm just really lucky that I belong to this great club and I'm able to play in such a good event.

It's not the way I wanted to go down, missing that short one on 17, but that's the way golf is.

**Q. Was that a birdie putt on 17?**

JACKSON VAN PARIS: Yes, it was.

**Q. About how far?**

JACKSON VAN PARIS: About six, eight feet.

**Q. It seemed like putting was the -- I know you missed one on 9, too, you had a chance to tie the hole and left it short. I guess I heard your dad say you lipped one out on 8.**

JACKSON VAN PARIS: Yeah, honestly I didn't feel like I hit that many bad putts, just nothing went in. I thought that I -- I just didn't have my best stuff this afternoon. I didn't make a bogey. I made 16 pars and one birdie, but on that golf course and playing a player as good as Luke, you're going to have to do a little better than that.

Yeah, when I had an opportunity I couldn't really -- it was really my ball-striking. I didn't give myself enough looks. I ended up having so much pressure on the looks I did have that I was almost suffocating myself trying to make something happen.

Luke didn't give me any breathing room until 15, and I was



3 down with four to play, so I kind of needed it.

Yeah, it was a -- I wouldn't place the blame on one particular thing, mainly just everything -- nothing was as sharp as it usually is. That's just the way golf is.

**Q. I think he only won the par-5s, right? Three wins on the par-5s? That was the difference?**

JACKSON VAN PARIS: Yeah, that was the difference. Just not giving myself looks on -- they were pretty gettable today, and I didn't give myself enough looks on those or didn't play them the way I was supposed to.

**Q. Obviously Luke is playing with some momentum, to knock off the two players he knocked off today.**

JACKSON VAN PARIS: Yeah. That's a pretty good day. He's a great player, and he's definitely a guy that you go into the match knowing you have to play good to beat. He's not going to lay over. He's not going to -- he's a great competitor. I have no doubt that he'll continue playing well and keep it going for the rest of the week.

**Q. He could have your housemate next.**

JACKSON VAN PARIS: Yeah, he could. That would be a fun one to go watch. Hopefully Gordon can pull through. I think he's 1-up through 16, so hopefully he can move on and keep it rolling.

**Q. What's next for you? Are you going to take a few weeks off?**

JACKSON VAN PARIS: I'm going to the Western Am. I'll go up there, leave I guess in a few days for that. Yeah, and then I've got a few weeks and then I go to college.

**Q. Excited about that I'm sure?**

JACKSON VAN PARIS: Very excited, yeah. Sad that junior golf is officially over now. Sad that it's over, but yeah, looking forward to the next step.

**Q. Would you even think about playing this next year even though you're eligible?**

JACKSON VAN PARIS: I would, yeah. It's a U.S. Open



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exemption if you win. That's a pretty good deal. But yeah, I'd definitely think about it. It's one of the best amateur -- even though it's a junior, it's one of the best amateur events in the world. Yeah, if the dates work out and everything checks out, I'd love to play next year.

**Q. It's Bandon Dunes, too.**

JACKSON VAN PARIS: Yeah, exactly.

**Q. Did you play the Amateur there last year?**

JACKSON VAN PARIS: Yes, I did.

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