

# Team Cup

Sunday, January 12, 2025

Abu Dhabi, UAE

Abu Dhabi Golf Resort

## Great Britain & Ireland

### Justin Rose

#### Quick Quotes

**Q. Many, many congratulations, your first experience as a captain and you've led your team to remarkable victory, really. Sum it up for me.**

JUSTIN ROSE: Huge honour. Loved the challenge of it. Loved the experience of it, and the lads have made me look incredibly good at it.

The way they played was first class. We had one clear message, which was to get on the front foot to try to be relentless to play wave after wave. Playing on a big lead, everybody felt like we could get the job done, but just to focus on individual and personal pride, kind of continue the message of the week.

The leaderboard early in the round was astonishing, really. Every credit to Continental Europe and Francesco himself and the team as a whole. The whole matches were played in great spirit but yeah, my team definitely holed the right putts at the right time and won most of those key matches.

**Q. 17-8 really is a dramatic victory. How do you explain that? We all expected this to be pretty close.**

JUSTIN ROSE: Momentum is a huge thing in match play. I think it came down to the putter. I think we were all very good off the tee this week. And we putted really, really well. We were maybe statistically .6 or .7 shots better per round putting than their team on average. Match play is a momentum game for holing the key putt at the right time. It's quite deflating for the other team, and obviously gets you momentum of your own. You could put it down to that.

The margins are always smaller than maybe the scoreboard looks, but I think it was an incredible way for us all as individuals to start the season. Playing match-play golf gets the juices flowing. Feels like you're in contention and simulates that, and it's a lot of awesome lessons for everybody going forward and hopefully in September.

**Q. Guys that played last time in this said it helped**

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them to get the flavour of what it's all about.

JUSTIN ROSE: Match play is unique. We don't do enough on it. You don't just turn that tap on immediately when you need it. Having opportunities to play it are important, and there are lessons in match play that you need to continue to remember.

You can't simulate the intensity of a Ryder Cup with the crowd and the energy. But at the end of the day, as soon as you put a crest here and you have ten mates right behind you, you want to win. Even practise rounds playing with our mates on tour, you never like to lose. So the intensity is there. The competitiveness is there. Just the environment is hard to simulate.

But like I said, I think that competitive match play is so valuable.

**Q. We're expecting that one day you will be asked to be Ryder Cup Captain, and you'll certainly be hoping so. How much have you learnt from this experience, and what have you learnt from this experience that you can potentially carry into that?**

JUSTIN ROSE: That there's a lot to think about and a lot of nuances a lot of detail; that you need to be well-prepared. I'm obviously basically being babysat, as well. Tried to give it my best with messaging and put my stamp on the team.

But to have Luke Donald and Paul McGinley as resources and vice captain, which are probably two of the best Ryder Cup Captains in history, and obviously José María Olazábal, having him here, as well, to learn from and lean on, has helped me so much personally and LPGA take with me into the future, whatever it may be.

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