

Africa Amateur Championship

Quick Quotes

Wednesday, 21 February 2024

Ivan Verster



R&A
AFRICA AMATEUR
CHAMPIONSHIP

Q. Can you give us a reaction to your performance today?

IVAN VERSTER: Oh, just pleased to get out of the sun. It's an absolute scorcher out there today. I'm happy with my round. Putted really nicely. My putting has been a bit up and down the last couple months, so to get a few rolling in is really nice.

Q. Talk us through the highlights of the front nine. You made four birdies. Which ones were you most pleased with?

IVAN VERSTER: I think the one on 2, I hit the second shot just short of the green, hit it about 10 foot past and made the putt. Made another one on 4. Hit a nice drive on 6 to about 15 feet. Unfortunately missed the eagle putt. Hit a 9-iron on 7, hit it to about 30, 35 foot, made the putt. When I was there, I knew I had a good chance at shooting a low one today.

Q. You started the back nine with further birdies and then one right at the end there. How did that feel?

IVAN VERSTER: The one at the end -- my brother told me the other day, if you're at 18 and you have more than 8-iron in, don't go for the flag because -- especially to that back flag, if you can hit it short, it's fine, but if you pitch it at the flag, it's just running into the water, so I'm really pleased to hit a good shot in there and just 10, 15 feet before the hole. Unfortunately missed the putt again, but happy with a birdie, and to shoot 66 on this course any day is a good score.

Q. How much momentum does that give you? I know there's a long way to go, but how much momentum does that give you?

IVAN VERSTER: Big confidence. Like I said, my putting was really good today, so I made a few good par putts, especially in the first couple holes. There's still plenty, 54 holes left, so anything can happen, but it's a good start to the week for me.

Q. Just talking about your confidence and all your

performances coming into the championship, are you feeling in quite good form? Are you sort of looking to get into contention this week?

IVAN VERSTER: Yeah, definitely. I didn't have my best. We played Houghton last week. I didn't have my best there. Finished off I think 20th or whatever. I don't even know. But yeah, I've worked with someone over the weekend, helped me a bit out, and that's really nice, so just excited for the week ahead.

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