

# Cognizant Founders Cup

Friday, May 13, 2022

Clifton, New Jersey, USA

Upper Montclair Country Club

## Paula Reto

### Quick Quotes

**Q. Here with Paula Reto. Nice little 5-under 67 to put yourself in the mix heading into the weekend. Had quite a few birdies on the card today; only 25 putts. Just kind of walk me through your round.**

PAULA RETO: Yeah, you know, it was a good putting day for are. Even show some of holes I was off the green I end up making them, which was nice.

And it's kind of good to be in the mix. Especially it's a hard golf course I feel like, especially off the tee you have to be sort of accurate.

But if you get yourself in a good spot and then get yourself onto the green and kind of see the putts roll in, that was pretty much most of today, and it was fun.

**Q. Started on 10. Had birdies on 12, 13, and 14.**

PAULA RETO: Yeah.

**Q. Just walk me through that stretch.**

PAULA RETO: Yeah, so kind of a rough start. Actually I was -- I saved a par putt on 10 and 11 and then hit the green in two, which I think is the next par-5. Yeah, so that kind of got the momentum going.

And then hit a good iron shot on the next hole and made the putt. So it was like, okay, cool, this is good. Then hit sort of like a pull wedge on the par-5 and made a really long putt.

I was like, okay, this is going to be a good putting day. Then I just sort of scrambled around today, which it was fine.

**Q. What have you been working on with your putting that's really helped you out here?**

PAULA RETO: You know, I always have the same sort of drills. It's kind of nice to see the lines sort of in the beginning of the warmup, and that gets me going a little bit.



And the speed of greens. So if I can match those up sort of like early in my practice routine I feel like I'll have a good day.

I just have the same stuff. Just make sure I hit my lines, you know, that kind of, yeah, routine I do.

**Q. Pretty average distance off the tee.**

PAULA RETO: Yeah.

**Q. Out here it's only playing 6,300, but some those tee shots are narrow. I would imagine being a little bit shorter you're more accurate. Do you feel like you can go at your driver a little bit harder here?**

PAULA RETO: Yeah. Some of the holes -- I did hit some 3-woods as well. You know, sometimes you just want to position yourself so you can have a shot to the green.

But, yeah, few holes I did guard my driver. I swung -- even if you can carry some of the trees I feel like you're fine. Even if you have a shot in the rough it's not too bad.

**Q. Just won medalist at your U.S. Women's Open qualifier; qualified for the second major of the year. What kind of confidence does that give you heading into this week?**

PAULA RETO: Yeah, that was good. It was such a good day. Playing 36 holes, obviously it's a lot of golf, but I had -- once again, that was a good putting day, so I feel like when my putting is on I feel like I do well, even though I can miss a few greens and fairways here and there.

So if I can get the putting rolling I feel like I'm good. But, yeah, good confidence heading into this week. I told myself it's just another qualifier. I'm just kidding.

Yeah, so, it's good to be back.

**Q. And there is nothing that's really been different in your putting the past -- I mean, having a few good putting stretched is a row is kind of good.**



PAULA RETO: Yeah, no, I did do a small change. I would say I sort of sometimes look at the ball a little bit before I putt, and it's key to stay within myself here.

I think I did that before the U.S. Open qualifier, the day before with my dad. Other than that, it was not too bad.

**Q. It's been a minute probably since you've been in contention on the weekend. How excited are you to go into this spot and be in this moment?**

PAULA RETO: Yeah, exactly. I'm just going to take it as another day. Just enjoy it and this is why we're out here. I want to be in contention.

But if I just stay within myself and enjoy the shot, the pre-shot routine, stuff like that, everything will work out. If it doesn't, it's good experience and just move on.

**Q. Final question: Couple little blips on the scorecard here and there. What positive are you going to carry with you from the first two days into tomorrow?**

PAULA RETO: Just good commitment. I really had good commitment. Even when I did miss the fairways, I mean the greens, I ended up having some good chip shots, which sort of helped me have confidence. Even if I do nice the green it's okay. Just try to make up and down and move on.

It's such a fun course and there are so many different shots. You're almost hitting every shot out here, so just sort of embrace that. Yeah, it's good.

**Q. Are you missing it in the correct spots? I feel like out here it's easy to get yourself short sided with some of the undulations.**

PAULA RETO: Yeah, exactly. I feel like today especially, even missing in the right spots and the driver sometimes it's better to go left side of fairway even if you're in the rough; you still have a shot towards the green.

Did a lot of that today. And then just depending, yeah, especially if you're -- you don't want to short side yourself on the greens because sometimes the greens have a little bit more of like a kind of kick and a run.

So, yeah, I did find myself a little bit more in the better spots, which sort of helped now that I think about it. Yeah.

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