

# NBA Finals: Celtics vs. Mavericks

Tuesday, June 11, 2024

**Boston Celtics**

**Kristaps Porzingis**

Practice Day



**Q. In layman's terms, what happened and how does that affect your availability for Game 3?**

KRISTAPS PORZINGIS: What happened? I mean, the tweet that we put out was pretty explanatory. It's kind of a random situation. I felt something, and now I have to deal with it.

As we said, yeah, it's going to be day-to-day, and I'll see how I am tomorrow, and obviously I'm going to do everything I can to be out there tomorrow, and we'll see.

**Q. Are you optimistic?**

KRISTAPS PORZINGIS: I am, of course. I have to be. I'm optimistic, and as I said, I will do everything I can to be out there tomorrow. Yeah, we'll see.

**Q. What would you have to endure when it comes to that? Is it just a pain threshold? Could you do for damage to it if you play more in these Finals?**

KRISTAPS PORZINGIS: I don't know. I don't know the specifics. But that's something I'll leave in the medical staff's hands to determine whether I can go or no. But from my side, as I said, nothing is going to stop me unless I'm told I'm not allowed to play. That's the only reason I would not be out there.

**Q. How much of this is just kind of another thing for you, unfortunately. You had that injury several weeks ago and now this. Are these stacking up on your mindset?**

KRISTAPS PORZINGIS: No, no, I don't care. I've been through some stuff in my career, and obviously this is a rough patch coming back and having something happen right away again. It's tough. It's very -- just a tough moment right now.

But I'm feeling pretty good. I'm feeling pretty good. Mind is good. We'll see tomorrow.

**Q. The press release said this is unrelated to what happened in Miami. Is it anything you've done before this injury?**

KRISTAPS PORZINGIS: No. I don't know. To be honest, I don't know. It was kind of a random situation. It wasn't like I was limping or something I did before this. I was good, and then this happened. I don't think it's anything related, and I don't know, either. The medical staff would know better.

It is what it is.

**Q. You said you would die out there to play. Does that still apply?**

KRISTAPS PORZINGIS: Yeah, I'm living by those words. Of course.

**Q. You literally will die on the court?**

KRISTAPS PORZINGIS: I mean, I hope not, but if it comes to that to win, yes.

**Q. Have you been able to nail down when it happened?**

KRISTAPS PORZINGIS: Yeah, I was going for a rebound at the free throw line. Just kind of pushed in Lively's back and we bumped knees and something happened. I just kept playing for a while after that. Obviously towards the end my movement was affected a bit. Joe took me out.

**Q. It's kind of strange how it's worked out, you haven't actually played in a game in this arena. Have you given any thought to how the fans will react?**

KRISTAPS PORZINGIS: Some black magic, no? No, I'm joking. No, the first time I came back, I was not playing that game, I was with Washington, and I had a warm welcome here. They even did a tribute video, which was very unexpected for me, but that was very nice. I think the organization, the people on the inside appreciated my time here, and that was very nice. Obviously, I have completely no bad feeling about this place. I love this city, love the



fans, and it just didn't work out. I definitely don't expect a comeback like I had in New York. But we'll see tomorrow.

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