

# PGA Championship

Friday, May 19, 2023  
Rochester, New York, USA  
Oak Hill Country Club

## Phil Mickelson

### Quick Quotes

PHIL MICKELSON: It's a great setup. It's one of the best I've seen.

#### **Q. What makes this golf course so hard in your mind?**

PHIL MICKELSON: It's just a good, hard, fair test. What I really like about it is a lot of the greens are open in front. You can run a shot up if you get in a little bit of trouble, which I think makes it very fair. I think it's an incredible test.

#### **Q. How would you assess your round after doing so well at the Masters and now here?**

PHIL MICKELSON: I came in here very optimistic. The first two days I've played terrible. I've driven it poorly. I've not felt good with the putter. I haven't chipped great. My irons have been average. It makes me optimistic that I still made the cut playing as poorly as I did, and I think if I can get it turned around, I can make a run.

#### **Q. Did you see this coming from Bryson?**

PHIL MICKELSON: Yes.

#### **Q. Why?**

PHIL MICKELSON: It's a lot like Winged Foot, open fronts, hit it long, advance it on the green, and he's been playing well.

#### **Q. Do you reflect back and knowing that 28 years ago you were here with the Ryder Cup? This might be among your last competitive rounds here.**

PHIL MICKELSON: No, I think this has been a very special place. I had a chance -- this was my fourth championship I've played here. Playing a Ryder Cup here and having it be my first one was very special. It's just a great golf course and a great place to play. I really enjoy it.

#### **Q. What happened on No. 6 there? We saw you take a couple drops.**



PHIL MICKELSON: I ended up hitting it in the hazard and took line-of-sight and came back. I didn't know that they changed the rule this year, whereby you normally could take the point in line and then you have that two-club-length semicircle, and I guess in January they changed that to where you just only get line-of-sight, so the guy came over and saved me a penalty because I had dropped it in the ruling under last year and didn't realize it had been changed, and he came and saved me a stroke, so I was very appreciative.

#### **Q. What's making that hole so difficult today?**

PHIL MICKELSON: I think 500 yards into the wind with water up the right and by the green, it just makes for a tough hole.

#### **Q. Is it hard to drive it straight here anyway? It doesn't seem like the driving stats for anybody are that great?**

PHIL MICKELSON: The fairways are repellent, but that doesn't -- the rough is fair, and the fairway widths are fair. You've just got to hit good shots. I'm just a fraction off. This is as bad as I've played in a long time, and yet I'm still here on the weekend, and I have a chance to turn it around.

If I get -- the course is there to have a good low number if I play really well, like you saw Patrick Cantlay and he shot 3-under and he could have been another four or five shots lower. I think if I can get -- it's not far off. If I can just get it to click, I have a chance to make a run, but I'm going to have to go work on it right now.

#### **Q. Is that unusual for an official to come over? I thought normally they wouldn't come unless you called them.**

PHIL MICKELSON: I don't know. I don't know.

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