

# THE PLAYERS Championship

Friday, March 14, 2025

Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida, USA

TPC Sawgrass

## Jake Knapp

### Quick Quotes

**Q. What do you feel like you've done well in handling this place through two rounds?**

JAKE KNAPP: Scrambled really well for the most part. Haven't really gotten it off the tee all that well, so just did a good job of managing from the rough, getting it up around the greens or back in the fairway and then trying to do my best to make pars from there.

**Q. This place and Cognizant, good record there, you're playing well here through two rounds, is shorter a golf course laden with trouble wouldn't seem to fit a long hitter, what do you feel like you do well in these times of challenges?**

JAKE KNAPP: I think, you know, for the most part I like kind of keeping it low off the tee and just kind of getting it in play and that's what this place is somewhat about. But then there's still some holes that you can kind of take advantage of some length and I don't know, I think the course fits my eye in the sense that I think it narrows my focus, which I really like, and same thing with second shots, you have to be really precise so I feel like when I'm hitting it well I want the second shots to be as tough as possible.

**Q. You say your scrambling has been key. If you go practice today what do you feel like you'll work on in your ball striking?**

JAKE KNAPP: Just some tee shot stuff. I think my iron shots have been okay. I hit two kind of funky ones today, but yeah, I felt like I missed, for the first 12 or so holes I missed every fairway by a foot and it kind of just, one was right, one was left, so just clean that up a little bit. And then once I get into some more fairways I should have some more birdie opportunities.

**Q. 30-mile-an-hour gusts apparently tomorrow. What is this place going to be like do you think in that sort of weather, and especially for so many approaches you have to play them aerially, the island green you can't run it up. How do you combine controlling it in the**



**wind with also the need to kind of get it aerial?**

JAKE KNAPP: I mean it's going to be tough. I think it's just going to be one of those days you just have to take advantage of the downwind holes and when the course kind of gives you something. Other than that, just trying to keep it in front of you and really miss on the correct side of the hole, try not to leave yourself too many long par putts because it's just going to be a grind of a day so fairways are definitely going to be key tomorrow.

**Q. When you show up at a course that has a reputation of being difficult, and maybe throughout the front nine you see that guys are taking advantage of it, is it in any way inspiring, like, okay, it is playing easier today, I can get after it, or is it all like, crap, I got to keep up with these guys?**

JAKE KNAPP: No, I think it's, I think a place like this is like a true test of patience. I think yesterday when you look at the guys that played well, I mean, I didn't see everything, but I feel like there were a lot of chip-ins yesterday, there were a lot of eagles. There was a lot of that kind of stuff going on.

It's like, the first day is not always the most telling as to what the rest of the week is going to be, especially with the weather this weekend. I think if you start looking at the leaderboard too much and seeing guys making a bunch of birdies, you don't want to press on a course like this, you really can't, to be honest, so out here just try to be really patient, give yourself a bunch of chances and trust the fact that you'll just kind of get there inch by inch.

**Q. When is the right time to look at the leaderboard?**

JAKE KNAPP: I look at it all the time personally just because I like to know where I stand. I think really just like any time on Sunday I think it's appropriate to look at it for the most part, but also a course like this there's a little bit more of an option A, option B to a lot of holes where you can press it and push it off the tee a little bit or you don't need to. So if you're up around the lead maybe you don't need to, and if you need to make a few birdies maybe start pushing it.

**Q. What is your club of choice for keeping it low off**



**the tee?**

JAKE KNAPP: Everything. Driver, 3-wood, 5-wood. Doesn't really matter. I hit a lot of 3-woods and 5-woods out here, and then just really hit driver on a couple of the par-5s and that's kind of about it.

**Q. Do you ever force yourself to not look at a leaderboard --**

JAKE KNAPP: No.

**Q. -- for an extended period of time?**

JAKE KNAPP: I tried to when I was in college, I think, and I just didn't like it. Basketball game, guys are going to know if they're two or three points back with 10 seconds to go, so I feel like golf should be the same way.

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