

# WM Phoenix Open

Thursday, February 6, 2025

Scottsdale, Arizona, USA

TPC Scottsdale

## Matt McCarty

### Quick Quotes



**Q. Matt, first round kind of in this tournament as a PGA TOUR member. What did it mean to you to play out there in front of your local --**

MATT McCARTY: Yeah, it was fun. It was awesome. A little bit of a chaotic start but we battled it around all day and kind of got some birdies coming in, so it was nice.

**Q. How does it feel -- on the first tee, what were you thinking about? Did you allow yourself a moment to take it in?**

MATT McCARTY: Yeah, it was cool. Walking to the first tee it was awesome, and just growing up wanting to play out here, just kind of stick with what I know I'm doing. Just another round of golf. But yeah, it was definitely very special for sure.

**Q. At any point throughout the day or this week in general, any memories from being a kid that popped into your mind?**

MATT McCARTY: Yeah, yeah, a lot of just kind of like walking around and watching a lot of golf shots out here. It was kind of like that all day to be honest with you. So it was fun.

**Q. Who do you have coming tomorrow? What's the fan club?**

MATT McCARTY: Same. Got a lot of family, a lot more buddies are taking off work tomorrow so they'll be out. But yeah, it's just a lot of support, so it's been great.

**Q. Are there any group chats from childhood friends that have been fired up?**

MATT McCARTY: Yeah, we've got the college one going, all of our high school buddies. Gave them a little bit to cheer about later in the day today, so it was good.

**Q. Was there any comments that you heard from the crowd, like my random thing that people screamed at**

you?

MATT McCARTY: I mean, not much. Obviously Wyndham was doing great, too, so there was -- and Akshay played great, so there was a lot going on in the group. A lot of "Matties" going around, and it was a lot of fun.

**Q. When would you have first met Wyndham?**

MATT McCARTY: On the first tee today, so it was cool.

**Q. Anything that impressed you about his game?**

MATT McCARTY: Yeah, he just hit it really nice, putted great. 7-under out here today is perfect. It was good.

**Q. Can you talk through your experience on 16 today and being in that atmosphere?**

MATT McCARTY: Yeah, it was fun. I think making that shot on 15 kind of calmed me down a little bit. But yeah, I hit a really good shot, wasn't really surprised that it went long, being a little amped up, and hit a really good putt, really wanted to make it, and kind of dripped on the low edge. Yeah, it was awesome.

**Q. Did it live up to what you expected it to be, that atmosphere?**

MATT McCARTY: Yeah, 100 percent. This place is nuts. It's a lot of fun out here, and it's crazy. It's quite the atmosphere, so it's awesome.

**Q. Do you change your yardage by a yard or two on 16 for adrenaline?**

MATT McCARTY: Yeah, I mean, I probably -- like 162, I'm never hitting a wedge that far. I was thinking about it, but if I get a little left with that, it's short. So I just hit 9, but wasn't surprised that it landed pin high and went 20 feet long.

**Q. What would you as a kid have thought about being out there today?**



MATT McCARTY: I mean, would have just been super proud of all the work to get to this point and being able to be out here, and honestly after kind of how I started today, to be able to kind of calm myself down and kind of get back in a rhythm a bit, I think got a lot to take into tomorrow, and I think I'll be a little bit more comfortable after being my second day out here. It was good. It was a lot of fun, and despite not playing the best I wanted to, I enjoyed myself, so it was great.

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