

Cognizant Classic

Friday, February 28, 2025

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, USA

PGA National Champion Course

Rickie Fowler

Quick Quotes

Q. How would you assess the round today and compare the golf course from yesterday?

RICKIE FOWLER: All in all, it was a good solid day. Similar to yesterday. Really just one swing that cost me two today. Yesterday it was only one.

Happy with a lot of the stuff out there. Felt like I drove the ball well. Maybe would have been nice to get a couple more, but it was playing tougher today. The course dried up quite a bit from yesterday morning, and the greens were a little quicker, a little more breeze today. Still not the PGA National we're used to.

I don't know if we're supposed to get much wind over the weekend, but if it continues to dry out, it'll still be a good tough test.

Q. Can you talk us through your 15th hole and how that affected, if anything, your last couple holes?

RICKIE FOWLER: Well, 15, just kind of luckily didn't really affect much. I hit some great shots on 16 and 17 and birdied 18. But yeah, 15 was kind of just a funky number, and with a left pin, I tried hitting kind of a soft 6-iron in there and just really didn't move through it well, kind of came out of it in a way.

In hindsight, yeah, it would be nice to go back and hit 7-iron, but it was really either one. I just needed to step up and hit a good golf shot. The one swing I didn't execute well today, and that's where this golf course will jump up and get you. There's not many spots you can just bail out and be okay. There's a handful where there's water in play, and you're not exactly dropping by the green.

Q. What's the game plan going into the weekend?

RICKIE FOWLER: Just continue doing what we've been doing. A lot of good stuff out there. I feel like I'm fairly stress-free other than the two swings that got me out of position. Other than that, there's been a lot of good stuff. I'm looking forward to it. It's fun. We've won here. I've had



some good finishes, as well.

Definitely comfortable around this place, and this is where the game has been heading. It's about time we start taking advantage of some opportunities, unlike the last 18 months or so.

Q. The field list just came out for next week's Arnold Palmer and you weren't granted a special invitation. Just wanted to get your thoughts on that.

RICKIE FOWLER: Well, at the end of the day, play better. It would be a lot easier just having played well last year and earned my way into these events. Been very fortunate and very thankful to Steve John at Pebble and AT&T to get a spot there and Tiger and Genesis to get the one at Torrey. But it's tough to try and get all of them. Being able to get some of them is great.

Yeah, it is what it is. Like I said, at the end of the day, play well and that'll take care of it. Obviously I'm bummed that I won't be there next week. It's a special event, and obviously I had a very special relationship with Mr. Palmer. But we'll see. We'll see if we can get a trophy this week, and that would take care of that.

Q. 20 years since Tiger's '05 Masters win and the iconic chip-in. Wondering when you were growing up what that moment meant to you and where you were watching it and if that is possibly your favorite Tiger moment of all time?

RICKIE FOWLER: When you look at -- I know I played with the guy who runs Nike Golf, and I know that was a pretty special moment for them because that was basically a commercial for them with the ball going in. Definitely an iconic shot.

For me going back, it's either him winning his first in '97. That was a special one, and him breaking the scoring record there. Then probably his last in I believe that was '19. He's had multiple, so it's hard to maybe pick just one.

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