

Cognizant Classic

Sunday, March 1, 2026

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, USA

PGA National Champion Course

Brooks Koepka

Quick Quotes

Q. What positive will you take from this week, your best finish in your return?

BROOKS KOEPKA: Yeah, I played really solid the last three days. Didn't quite hit it that great yesterday, but just controlling shots I think a lot better. Putter obviously has gotten better. I haven't looked at the stats, but just that little adjustment Thursday night made a huge difference. Finally found some confidence. I think that's the one thing that's been lacking.

Q. Your drive on 4 was amazing, and then to chip it in, that was great. Talk about the 4th hole.

BROOKS KOEPKA: Yeah, it's kind of a tough pin no matter where you are, and I actually got a good break by being in the first cut. It was an unbelievable lie because I was able to actually really nip it and put some spin on it.

I think if it doesn't hit the flag, it's still probably three feet by, but I'm still tapping that in. But it helped to be in the semi there. It was a very big break.

Q. You played three rounds with Ben this tournament. Talk about playing with him and --

BROOKS KOEPKA: I played all four rounds with him. I'm sure he's tired of me now. Yeah, he's a good player. I've known him for a long time. We've played a lot of golf together. He's a good player. I was happy to see him make the cut here. Unfortunately today he didn't have the day he wanted, but it was fun. I enjoyed all four days.

Q. You talked about how confidence was lacking a little bit until today. In your experience, how much does that carry over? How much does playing well yesterday and today, how much will that carry over to a week from Thursday?

BROOKS KOEPKA: Yeah, it'll carry over for sure. Honestly, it was just the putter. The putter, it felt like -- because I wasn't making any putts, I felt like I had to hit it to tap-in, so it was putting pressure on the iron play, maybe



being more aggressive off the tee. So it was kind of backfiring that way.

Just felt like I couldn't hit it to the -- I've always said, conservatively aggressive. I try to hit it 15 feet right and sometimes you just settle for par on a tough hole and you roll one in. 9 is a perfect example.

But to be able to make a few of those putts, you can kind of build a rhythm and build momentum. It was a huge thing. I think Thursday night was a bit of a breakthrough.

Q. What's your schedule the week of THE PLAYERS? Will you go in early?

BROOKS KOEPKA: What's early? What do you mean?

Q. Like Monday.

BROOKS KOEPKA: Yeah, Monday I think is fair. I haven't booked a flight yet. I would assume probably get up there Monday around lunchtime, would be my guess. I mean, it's a good week. It's fun. Probably just get acclimated to everything again. I don't know, have they overseeded? It's probably playing a little bit different than the last time I played. It would have been '22 maybe. I just remember it was blowing a hoolie that day. I remember going to 17 and debating about hitting a 5-iron. Hopefully it plays a little different this year.

Q. Trey Jones has got a couple nice recruits of late. What's he meant to you in your journey?

BROOKS KOEPKA: Yeah, Trey is an awesome coach. I think he's a good leader, good recruiter. I think he finds a way to turn boys into men, and I think he's done an unbelievable job of that. I think it says something. You look at the guys out here, Berger, Hank -- not just players, but they're good people, too. Luke. Everybody out here that's gone there is well liked, respectable men on and off the golf course. I think that's a lot of credit to him.

Q. Panther hockey, are they going to make the playoffs?

BROOKS KOEPKA: I hope so. It's going to be tough. I



think with three years in a row making the Stanley Cup, it's tough to stay healthy that long, and then riding a high of the Olympics, too. I hope they do, but I'll be there if I can. Don't worry.

Q. Now three events into your return, are you still kind of adjusting to getting back here, or is it just business as usual, you feel pretty comfortable?

BROOKS KOEPKA: No, I think a lot of that was first week. Once you get inside the ropes, it feels natural. I think it's easier once you get inside those ropes. Once the first week, doing all the media stuff and getting all that out of the way, it was a huge thing for me, and now it's just a matter of going to play and build a rhythm.

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