

# Zurich Classic of New Orleans

Thursday, April 24, 2025

Avondale, Louisiana, USA

TPC Louisiana

## Isaiah Salinda

## Kevin Velo

### Quick Quotes

**Q. 14-under 58, lowest 18-hole score here. Take us through your round. What was working best?**

ISIAAH SALINDA: Everything. No, we just --

KEVIN VELO: He played great. He made a ton of putts. He one-putted damn near every green it seemed like. Very easy to play when golf when you have a partner that's stacking it and making a lot of putts. A few really clutch par saves that he had on the back nine, and it was a very, very solid day, but overall we kind of fed off each other, and I kind of sprinkled in some birdies when we needed to, but pretty much I was on his back the whole day.

**Q. You guys were just talking about your similar upbringings. Korn Ferry TOUR together, now your rookie year this year. Talk about your friendship, familiarity and how much that helps for a team event like this?**

ISIAAH SALINDA: I think it helps a lot. I honestly think it's more important to play with someone you like and someone you enjoy playing with, one of your friends. It's really cool. We only get to play this format really once a year, and we've known each other since we were young junior golfers. We've stayed incredibly close friends since, and we've been looking forward to this event for a while.

**Q. Through 11 holes you had no pars on the card, just birdies and one eagle. Was it almost like an out-of-body experience? You don't see that often.**

KEVIN VELO: Yeah, I mean, it was out-of-body to watch him make as many putts as he did for sure. We had some very good momentum birdies. I feel like our birdie on 3, his birdie on 6, birdie on 9, the eagle on 7, there were these key shots and key putts that were made that really made a huge difference.

**Q. I think y'all made a 36-footer on one hole?**



ISIAAH SALINDA: Yeah, Kev made a nice putt on 9. I was just hoping we'd -- that's a hole you step up on, you're like, par would be just fine here, and he hit a really nice tee shot and made the putt.

**Q. In baseball when a pitcher has got a no-hitter going, nobody talks to the guy about the no-hitter. When you're going this low and the score is building like that, do you talk about it, or are you just trying not to even go there because you're just focus on getting another birdie or eagle?**

KEVIN VELO: Yeah, it was definitely a foot-down mentality, but honestly, the par that we made on 12 was a really good par, honestly. We both kind of hit it out of play off the tee or out of position I would say, and then we both gave ourselves a good look for par, and then Is made like a 12-footer. Yeah, we didn't really talk about it. The only thing we said is just keep pushing.

We honestly -- on hole 11 I kind of forgot where we were at. I really had no idea because you're never 10-under through 9. It was just something I wasn't used to. So I actually looked at the leaderboard on 11 and then I saw what we were at.

**Q. It's obviously great to have a low score in this format because everyone figures alternate shot is harder. What do you take from this into that?**

ISIAAH SALINDA: I mean, it's definitely going to be harder tomorrow, there's no doubt about it. But I think we know our games so well that we can kind of, along with our caddies, kind of coach each other up when we need to. We just know our games super well, and I think if we just keep playing solid golf, we'll be just fine. I actually was looking forward more to the alternate shot part of this tournament because we play together all the time.

**Q. You had very little wind early this morning and then in the afternoon it kind of kicked up a little bit. What would you have taken? What score would you have taken today when you teed off?**

KEVIN VELO: Probably 9 or 10 I feel like. To kind of be in



contention in this tournament, you've got to average around 9 in the best ball format. Obviously we weren't shooting for anything. We were honestly just shooting to have some fun.

ISAIAH SALINDA: Yeah, I would have thought anything under -- anything better than 6-, 7-under would have been a good day for us.

**Q. So you doubled it.**

ISAIAH SALINDA: Yeah.

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