

THE CJ CUP Byron Nelson

Friday, May 2, 2025

McKinney, Texas, USA

TPC Craig Ranch

Sam Stevens

Quick Quotes

Q. Sam, just to start, can we just get some general comments on your round today?

SAM STEVENS: I played well today. I teed off early. I teed off a long time ago, but we finished.

I drove the ball a little bit better today. My swing has just felt okay yesterday, but today it was pretty free and hit a lot of nice shots.

Yeah, made a few putts. I putted really well yesterday. I didn't putt quite as good today, but I still putted well.

Yeah, it was good. This course, there's a lot of birdie opportunities, and I've done a good job of not making any mistakes, no bogeys through 36 holes.

Just take advantage of the gettable holes and kind of stay clean with the card, and you can have some good rounds out here.

Q. On a day like today, do you look at the leaderboard and see where you're at or just keep chugging along?

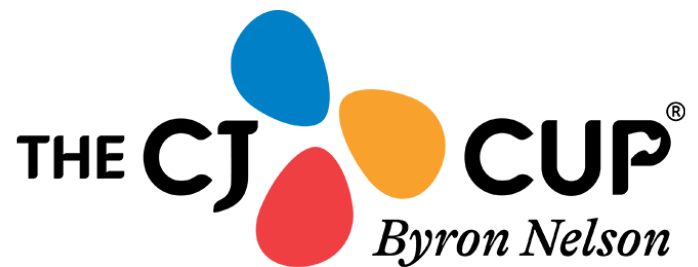
SAM STEVENS: I mean, you can catch a glance of it. It really doesn't matter much at this point.

I will say I was on 15, and I was at 9-under, and Scottie was already at 15-under or something. Not that there's any pressure with three holes to go on Friday and you're in second, but it's like, okay, I need to make a couple more birdies. If he's at 18-under and I'm at 9, that's a lot of ground to make up on him. He's already better than I am, so I don't need to spot him nine shots going into the weekend.

Yeah, a little bit of leaderboard watching, but not for any particular reason other than to pass the time.

Q. What did you do during the delay?

SAM STEVENS: Literally nothing. I ate some lunch, and I sat in the locker room for two hours, and I went to my car



just for a change of scenery. Called my wife. Took a nap. Came back into the locker room for another hour. It was a long time.

I mean, there was just nothing you can do. You're hoping that the storm kind of breaks up, and it just kept building up and building up. That's how you sit around for six hours, I guess.

Q. We've seen you in contention dating back a couple times since the fall. What do you take away from finishes like Diamante and the Farmers that you can bring into this weekend?

SAM STEVENS: We're still a long ways from kind of that -- those clutch time moments, but I'm confident. Getting off to a good start this year is nice, and it's kind of freed me up to play some pretty good golf.

Even though maybe I don't feel like my game has been as good as I'd want it to be, I've been playing pretty free and getting a lot out of it.

As far as being in contention, like I said, there's so many birdies out here and there's so much golf to be played, I need to keep my head down, and if I get in a situation where I'm in contention with nine holes to go, then I have some memories to draw on. Hopefully I can keep playing well.

Q. This is your eighth tournament in a row on the road. You had a similar stretch earlier this year. Do you feel that toll? How do you keep the energy levels up?

SAM STEVENS: Well, I didn't play the Masters, so this is 8 out of 9 maybe. I've played a lot of golf this year so far.

Yeah, I'm a little tired, but it's all right. It's just golf. It's not like playing playoff basketball or anything like that.

Yeah, I just kind of -- I've got my routine. I do a lot of practicing. Haven't quite practiced as much this week because I was a little tired Monday, Tuesday. I'm a little beat, but it will be all right.



