

FedEx St. Jude Championship

Friday, August 8, 2025
Memphis, Tennessee, USA
TPC Southwind

Kurt Kitayama

Quick Quotes

Q. What did you hit into 16?

KURT KITAYAMA: 16, I hit a 7-iron.

Q. Describe the day and what you felt like you did well.

KURT KITAYAMA: I just felt like I was a little more in control of the ball. Putted it really nicely. When I was out of position, kind of just took my medicine, tried to get myself around the greens. Felt like the short game was pretty solid.

Q. What's come on over the last few weeks of the season? Obviously the win at 3M and now playing well again this week. Has anything changed?

KURT KITAYAMA: Just a combination of things. I'm hitting it a lot better. I feel like my putting has really improved this last few months, since 3M -- well, John Deere, too. Just being more positive on strokes gained. That's been big.

Q. Three weeks ago you were like 131st in the FedExCup. What was your mindset then? Were you stressed about your position? Did you feel like good golf was coming?

KURT KITAYAMA: I tried not to stress about it. I felt like I was playing good. You just kind of try and take it week by week and trust that what you're doing is working and seeing the progress.

So yeah, just trying not to put too much pressure on yourself. If I didn't make the Playoffs there was still the fall to move myself up. That's kind of the big thing is just not putting that pressure on yourself too much.

Q. You were still exempt from Bay Hill, right?

KURT KITAYAMA: Exactly, that helps, too. Even if I did



finish outside the 100 this year, I still had another year, so that helped with the pressure.

Q. Are you focusing on position-wise where you are in the FedExCup this week, knowing getting in that top 50 is a big number?

KURT KITAYAMA: Yeah, I feel like everyone is for the most part. But you can't control what everyone else is doing. If you play well, it's going to take care of itself. That's kind of my mindset. But yeah, I'm peeking over quite a bit at the scoreboard.

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