

The Presidents Cup

Friday, September 25, 2026

Medinah, Illinois, United States

Medinah Country Club

Justin Thomas

Xander Schauffele

Press Conference



THE MODERATOR: Good evening, everyone. We are joined by Justin Thomas and Xander Schauffele.

Q. For either of you, today did not go like you hoped, but what is the message from your captain at this point about what comes next or maybe how to move forward?

JUSTIN THOMAS: I haven't seen him since I finished. I got done and came inside and hit some putts and hit some balls, and then I got in a cart and hopped straight here.

I don't know exactly what the number is; what are we, 30-ish percent along? There's a lot of golf obviously. There's no scenario where you ever want to get swept, but if we're going to do it, I would say Friday sounds a little bit better than any of the rounds tomorrow.

Yeah, I'm not sure how everybody played, but just one of those things. We got beat today. Get back to it, and we've got a long day tomorrow.

Q. Do you guys feel like there's momentum throughout a session where what some guys in one group are doing affects how guys play in other groups behind them? I guess, if there is, how did that play today, and how would that play on a day like tomorrow?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: For sure. We look for red on the board. It's definitely nice to see a lot of red. There was splashes of it early, and then the board turned yellow or orange pretty quickly.

I'd say pretty much everyone on our team will look, and if we don't see a board, we'll ask sort of how everyone is doing. Obviously we're trying to take care of our own business, but when you're going, you're going.

They played really well today. If you look through their alternate shot, they were 4-under, 5-under through a lot,

which is some really good golf today with it a little bit cooler and some really tricky pins.

It felt like an uphill battle for us from early. Luckily the session is over, and we've got 70 percent of the points in front of us.

Q. Xander, you've played a lot of foursomes. Your record with Patrick in it is good, but the Americans have been struggling with this here lately, the Ryder Cup, the last couple Ryder Cups, today. Any explanation for why the format has been so elusive here of late?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: It's such a small sample. Yeah, give me 200 looks and let me know what my record is after that. I'm going to die before that happens, so unfortunately, we're not going to get that look.

You do feel, whether you put pressure on yourself to make something happen or a couple weird things happen on the course, you've only got 12 holes to like regroup and try to get something done. There's something to be said about getting off to a good start and being in sync early and then kind of riding the wave through.

There's also something pretty satisfying from clawing your way back in and coming from behind and getting it done that way too. So current -- call it tough stretch, but not too worried, to be completely honest.

Q. JT, I know the totals are a little different, but can you pull on how the U.S. Team responded last time after losing 0-5 on Friday and the way you played the rest of the week?

JUSTIN THOMAS: I was not there, so I obviously can't speak to the specifics of it, but I watched a lot of it and they seemed to do a great job. I hope we do more of that. Xander could probably speak on that better than me.

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Like I said, bouncing back, having trust in what you do. As all of us individuals, all of us have been on cut lines, all of us have been back against the wall. This whole team has, captains included.



It's super early. I think we're very aware of what the score is, but at the same time, it's a long week, and we're just trying to make sure we stay in our lane. Good things happen when we do that. The I don't think anyone's getting too eager.

Montreal, it was sort of similar messaging. We've got to do what we can do, control what we can control, and that's what we did.

Was that better? I liked your answer, JT.

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