

U.S Junior Amateur Championship

Thursday, July 23, 2026

Bethlehem, Pennsylvania, USA

Saucon Valley C.C.

Noah MacLauchlan

Quick Quotes

Q. What a win today.

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yeah.

Q. You know, to knock off the co-medalist.

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yeah.

Q. You're 2047th in the world and here you are in the quarterfinals.

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yeah, it was a ride, man. I'm super tired. Kind of emotional. Actually the putt on 16, wasn't really expecting to make that. I guess that kind of restored all the confidence I had back in myself. Yeah, been a wild ride to this point.

Q. Playing 16, was that a par putt or birdie putt?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yeah, it was like a 40-, footer50-footer for par.

Q. Wow.

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Had like a (indiscernible) in the rough for two shots and just made like a double breaker, center cup. Didn't really expect it to go in. That was crazy.

Q. When a putt like that goes in, does it maybe feel like maybe it's my day?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yeah, I mean, at that point I don't really have any other words for that. I mean, there is nothing else to explain. It's just your day at that point.

Everything is going in. So, yes, sir.

Q. You're 18, correct?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yes, sir.

Q. So make the quarterfinals you get exempt for next



year, but you aged out.

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yeah, unfortunately.

Q. Were you late to get into the field?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yeah, it was super weird. I got an alternate spot in my qualifier. Had something weird with the exempt list. Then I got a call two days later saying I had -- a spot had opened up in the championship.

So pretty special from that point on. It's been weird.

Q. So you didn't even know you were going to be playing here?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: No, not officially, no, sir.

Q. So when you're a first alternate, what are your kind of emotions?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yeah, just depends on the year. Sometimes alternates get in; sometimes they don't. To be honest, I just expected to come to a 50/50 chance, and then especially after stroke play I was like, it's going to take a little bit to get to match play.

Q. Was your brother in before you then?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yeah, he was actually the medalist at our qualifier, however this works.

Q. He's not caddieing for you?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Oh, he is, yeah. Yes, sir.

Q. When did he pick up the bag then?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: He picked it up first day of match play.

Q. Once he was eliminated?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: He missed the cut for match play unfortunately, and then I asked him to hop on the bag and it's been pretty good so far.

Q. How much does it help to have somebody around



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that knows your game so well? Does it bring you an extra level of confidence?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yeah, yeah, absolutely. We play golf together every day so he sees the shots I hit and the lines I take. He's actually caddied for me two times before this year. We're 2-0, medalist local U.S. Am. So the vibes are there and they're certainly there this week again.

Q. Did you qualify for the U.S. Am?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: I got past local medalist there but I missed final.

Q. He caddied for you at the local?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: He did, yes, sir.

Q. Okay. Long day today. How are you feeling? You possibly got two more rounds tomorrow.

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yeah, I got some rest to do. Definitely got to get some calories in me, stay hydrated. I think I'm just kind of tired from the sun, being in the sun all day. Body feels okay. Just kind of drained at the moment. Yes, sir.

Q. Is this your best finish, best result in a big time event or have you had some others?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yeah, I've had some good finishes the last two years. I won an AJGA earlier this year. Actually lost in a playoff in an Invitational in May. I got third at another match play event up at Bethpage earlier.

Q. So that helps.

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: I think that helped for this, just kind of similar course and everything. But as far as USGA event goes, yeah, so far this is my best finish.

Q. Have you ever played one before?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: I played the Junior at Trinity Forest last year, but I missed the cut.

Q. You missed the cut.

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yeah, unfortunately.

Q. So this is a little better result. A little different player from 17, 18?

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: I would say so. I kind of matured

just in my overall game I would say. Not just one area. I've matured as a player, as a competitor, and learned that it's never over until it's over, especially in match play.

So I've just had that mindset just throughout the matches I played.

Q. You like to be the underdog or kind of a guy that maybe nobody realizes is this good when you're 2047 in the world and sneak into match play? I think you struggled in the first round, too.

NOAH MACLAUHLAN: Yeah, yeah, I think when you come into this field, obviously with Miles and a couple other kids, I'm definitely the underdog. But that doesn't really stop me from knowing when I'm playing my best I can beat anyone.

I just got to continue to keep the pedal down and hopefully it takes care of the rest.

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