

# U.S. Junior Amateur Championship

Friday, July 19, 2019

## Preston Summerhays

### Quick Quotes

**Q. When you're down, what's your mindset?**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: My mindset was just kind of keep on playing. I mean, it's just golf. There is going to be highs and lows. He had a good first seven holes, and I just knew that -- I mean, he's human. He was going to make some mistakes. I just tried to stay patient.

**Q. Is it different when you get on a roll in match play compared to stroke play because it's a one-on-one?**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: Absolutely. I feel like match play is a lot more about momentum, and I feel like as soon as it got from 2-down to all square it was a completely different game. I had all the momentum.

In stroke play it's kind of like you birdie two holes and you're just like, Okay, let's keep it going. In match play I feel like it makes more of an impact.

**Q. Coming into this, did you have expectations of making it this far? What were your thoughts?**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: I thought I could do well. My goal was to take it one day at a time. So just get through stroke play, match play, and take it one match at a time.

**Q. How much did that win yesterday mean for you with Akshay, winning like you did that way?**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: I mean, that one meant a lot. Akshay is a great player. He's No. 1 for a reason.

Yeah, just to be able to play him and win just meant a lot.

**Q. Probably feels like a long time ago now.**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: Yeah, seriously. It's been a long day.

**Q. How hard has it been to try and not worry about the heat or fatigue and keep in the zone?**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: I mean, it's tough. It gets hot. It's hot and humid. I just make sure I drink a bunch of water, eat a couple bars, and I stay pretty focused that way.

**Q. How much help has your caddie been?**



PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: I mean, he's a great caddie. He's one of my really good friends, and he just kind of keeps me upbeat and helps me have a good time.

**Q. We were talking about your expectations. Did winning the back-to-back Utah Amateurs and playing in national-caliber events -- it's been a really strong process for you the last year or so, right?**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: Yeah, absolutely. Felt like I kind of broke out last year with the State Am. Didn't do much before that. Took third at Junior World when I was 13. After the State Am I kind of just broke out and started playing really good golf.

**Q. Did you grow a lot between last year and this year?**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: Yeah, absolutely. Let's see, I think I've gained about 14 miles an hour club head speed and I've grown about four to five inches.

**Q. And weight?**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: Weight, I don't know. I might have been like 170; right now I'm 205.

**Q. Okay. How much further do you hit it to this year?**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: I would say 30 or 40 yards.

**Q. Was it hard to adjust to how far you hit your club?**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: It actually really is. It is tough. One week I'll be hitting my wedges, like my 60-degree wedge 90 yards; the next week I'll be hitting it 93; couple weeks from then I'll be hitting it 96. It was actually really tough to gauge.

**Q. How would you compare Inverness to the other courses you've played in competition?**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: I mean, this course is so good. It's a great place to have the U.S. Junior at. Super thick rough, small fairways. I feel like it is a ball-striker's course because the rough is so thick around the greens. You just need to be hitting fairways and greens, and I think that's great for a U.S. Junior course.

**Q. Your dad played in four of these. How much did**



**that help you in your preparation and knowing what to expect?**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: He's never really talked about the U.S. Junior, but his experience playing on tour, he's taught me so much about the game and how to work my way around a course.

So that was really useful.

**Q. Been asked a little bit about Tony Finau. Played with him a little bit?**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: Yeah. I've played with him so much. I think I've played with him around one, two hundred times.

**Q. Wow. What can you say about just having that opportunity to do that and what kind of guy he is.**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: I mean, he's an amazing guy. He's been one of my mentors and he's really cared about my golf game. Just playing with him really shows me what I need to work on to get to the highest level.

**Q. Who else does your dad work with on Tour?**

PRESTON SUMMERHAYS: He works with Hunter Mayhan, Wyndham Clark, my uncle Daniel, and that's all I got off the top of my head.