

# U.S. Amateur

Monday, Aug. 12, 2024  
Hazeltine National Golf Club  
Chaska Town Course

**Sohan Patel,  
Weston, Fla.**

**3-under 69 (first round, stroke play)**



## **Q. A 15-year-old goes out and shoots a 69 on a course playing with a stroke average of 76?**

Sohan Patel: "It was good. I played good. I tried to focus on playing one shot at a time. And that's what I did...This course has proven to be really tough, so at any time you can really have a hole that takes you out of it."

## **Q. How many greens in regulation?**

Sohan Patel: "I couldn't tell you. Anywhere between 12 to 14."

## **Q. Were you playing mostly from the fairway?**

Sohan Patel: "I hit my driver pretty good today. There were a couple I wanted to hit a little bit better. Nothing to complain about."

## **Q. First USGA event?**

Sohan Patel: "I played the U.S. Am last year. I have not played the U.S. Junior...I didn't play that good last year. I shot 2 over on the other course (Colorado Golf Club), but Cherry Hills was just brutal. They were both tough. Any course the USGA sets up is always tough."

## **Q. Are you in awe at all over the great players in the field or the venue?**

Sohan Patel: "I've gotten to play with a lot of those really high-level juniors and they're pretty special. It's always an honor to beat them in one round, but I've still got to keep it going."

## **Q. What's the difference between Sohan Patel of 2023 and Sohan Patel this year?**

Sohan Patel: "Really, game wise, obviously made a pretty big job. But really mentally I've made a big jump, not getting down on myself, being more positive on the golf course. And that's really helped me."

## **Q. What's your mindset in approaching a venue like this?**

Sohan Patel: "It's just like an honor to be here. I am not trying to get too down on myself because I know this course has some teeth and some players are struggling. But if I just stay level-headed, I should be good."

## **Q. How will you approach Round 2 on what is statistically a much easier venue?**

Sohan Patel: "Still the same thing. The other course is still no bargain, especially with how the USGA sets it up. I've got to play my good game to keep where I am right now."

**Note** – Rising sophomore at American Heritage High School in Plantation, Fla. Graduates include Luke Clanton, TJ Vogel and 2020 U.S. Amateur champion Tyler Strafaci attended the school, along with past Curtis Cupper Lindy Duncan. Went through both stages of qualifying. Playoff in local. Won co-medalist at final qualifying at PGA National.