

U.S. Amateur

Tuesday, Aug. 13, 2024
Hazeltine National Golf Club
Chaska Town Course

Gordon Sargent, Birmingham, Ala.

3-under 69 (second round, stroke play)



Q. 4-under par for your last 15 holes today. Talk about your mindset after a tough day yesterday and then going and shooting what you shot on the tougher of the two venues?

Sargent: Yesterday I drove it pretty good. I couldn't hit my irons in the ocean yesterday, I was just all over the place. A few sloppy mistakes and just threw away a decent round. And yeah, came out today with a mindset of 'it'd be cool to go put up a good score,' and not necessarily try to hang onto anything and just play good golf. It's a tough track, but there are some generous pin locations that if you put it in the right spots, it's relatively gettable. I drove it really well today and didn't do anything necessarily stupid besides three-putting the 12th hole and then just kept it in front of me.

Q. Did the length of the course yesterday effect you at all, with it being so short?

Sargent: Not really, I actually drove it really good, just didn't hit my irons very well at all.

Q. Were you able to hit driver at all?

Sargent: I hit a decent amount of drivers, yeah. Just was not making very good swings, but I had a nice finish over there. Birdied two out of the last three and just kept trying to make good swings and play good holes.

Q. What does it say about your game that you were able to string together some birdies when you needed it?

Sargent: I think the biggest thing I need to work on is that when my game's a little off, just keeping it on the rails. Yesterday I played four holes in a row 5-over, so just eliminating that really. I know my good golf is good enough to compete so just keeping it front of me, tightening up some things and just playing good golf.

Q. Knowing that all the matches are going to be over here and putting together the round that you did today, does that give you some good vibes heading into match play?

Sargent: Yeah, it's definitely nice to play your way into some form a little bit. I haven't played a ton this summer honestly, so it's hard to really tell how your game feels at home just hitting balls on the range and stuff. Just getting some reps in and seeing good shots, putting them together and building some confidence.

Q. Did you just play the Palmer Cup and The Open?

Sargent: I took a little two-week break after The Open, reset a little bit. Tournament golf is just different. You can't really get that anywhere. So it's nice to play a few practice rounds, play a few stroke play rounds and then go from there.

Q. What do you do when you get away from golf? Did you put the clubs away for a while?

Sargent: Not much honestly. Usually just go play golf in the morning before it gets hot and then do anything not golf in the afternoon. I don't necessarily have too many hobbies, just kind of hanging out.

Q. Talk about how much this championship means to you and how much you've been itching to get passed that first round?

Sargent: It's tough. I feel like I've kind of fallen into a trap the last couple years just focusing way too much on the end goal versus just taking it step-by-step. So now I just looked at it as a 36-hole tournament the first two days and didn't necessarily play exactly how I wanted to but hopefully good enough to make it into match play. Then just seeing it as an 18-hole round and just going and playing some good golf.