

U.S. Mid-Amateur

Saturday, Sept. 21, 2024
Kinloch Golf Club
Manakin-Sabot, Va.



Connor Lyon, Canada

6-under 65 (first round, stroke play)

Q. Where would you rank this round?

Connor Lyon: "In terms of what I will remember from it, it's definitely up there. In terms of actual performance, I probably scored a lot better than I played."

I don't think if you were actually watching me hit the ball you would have thought that I signed for 65. I was making putts and getting up and down from areas that I need to so that definitely helped."

Q. Can you talk about the second shot you hit into the par-5 18th?

Connor Lyon: "My caddie (Ben) and I were figuring out what it (yards) was adjusted to. We knew we were uphill and into the wind. He was leaning more toward kind of a driving iron or 3-iron into the green but I saw there was a back stop behind it, so I said I will hit 4-wood and see how that goes. It settled to 18 feet and I rolled it in from there."

Q. What did you read on the eagle putt?

Connor Lyon: "He (Ben) said it was moving a fair bit and then when I checked it out I thought he was right, it was moving a little more than I initially thought walking up to it. I hit it a little firm and thankfully it was center cup."

Q. What was the best thing you did during the round?

Connor Lyon: "Without a doubt putting. Chipping, short game around the greens was a close second. Wedges were good. Basically everything working back from the green went from better to worse."

Q. Does your confidence level rise with a good start?

Connor Lyon: "It kind of goes the other way. Am I going to be the first guy to shoot 65 and not qualify for match play. It does help, maybe not put as much pressure on me tomorrow to go out there and fire at every single pin but at same time I want keep my foot on the gas."

Q. Can your goals change when you shoot a round of this caliber?

Connor Lyon: "My goal has been always to play as well as I could. Whether that means I shoot the best numbers I can and I don't make match play then sometimes it's not your week. Or maybe the scores I put up are good enough to give me a run into match play. My goal is really to go out there and hit the best shot I can."

Note – Lyon is playing in his second U.S. Mid-Amateur. He reached the Round of 64 in 2022 at Erin Hills, in Erin Wis. He hit a 260-yard, 4-wood on his approach shot to set up his eagle on the par-5 18th.