

U.S. Mid-Amateur

Sunday, Sept. 22, 2024
Kinloch Golf Club
Manakin-Sabot, Va.

**Andy Butler,
Philadelphia, Pa.**

**3-under 68 (second round, stroke play)
Championship – 66-68—134 (7-under)**



Q. Do you have a feel for the speed of the greens?

Andy Butler: “Coming from Independence, which is Bermuda, I came out here last night and hit a bunch of putts to just get dialed in on these greens. I thought I did a pretty good job.”

Q. Did your start today take any pressure off?

Andy Butler: “It didn’t hurt to birdie the first hole. I hit a good iron shot to 5 or 6 feet and knocked it in, so I think that definitely helped. I just kept it in front on me the rest of that nine. I birdied the holes you think you would birdie but just played smart golf. All of the sudden I was 3-under and kind of cruising.”

Q. You drove the ball well today?

Andy Butler: “I think [hole] 9 was the only one [fairway] I missed and I made a good par save there. But otherwise I think I was in every fairway.”

Q. Do you feel comfortable on this course heading into match play?

Andy Butler: “There is a lot of space off the tee but you do have to hit the fairway. Driving is probably the strength of my game so that sets up well. The whole place is pure and you can make a lot of putts on the greens. Overall, it feels pretty good.”

Q. What did you learn playing in your first Mid-Am that is helping you this time?

Andy Butler: “It’s the experience of knowing what it takes to make match play. I made a couple of really dumb mistakes, a couple of three-putts [last year]. Looking back, I realize if I just play my game, play well, make smart decisions, then I am right in it. Just knowing that helped a ton. This year my game is also sharper too, which helps. Also just knowing what to expect in general, with registration and the whole production.”

Q. Have you played a lot of golf this summer?

Andy Butler: “I have played a decent amount between PA (Pennsylvania) and the GAP (Golf Association of Philadelphia). Probably more than I should. I am waiting on that tee time tomorrow and figuring out when I can work just to keep things rolling.”

Note – Butler is competing in his second U.S. Mid-Amateur and failing to advance to match play last year. An All-Big East Conference performer at Villanova University, he won the 2022 Pennsylvania Mid-Amateur.