

U.S. Mid-Amateur

Sunday, Sept. 22, 2024
Independence Golf Club
Midlothian, Va.

Segundo Oliva Pinto, Argentina

5-under 65 (second round, stroke play)
Championship – 68-65—133 (8-under)



Q. You are leading for medalist honors. Thoughts on possibly getting that honor?

Segundo Oliva Pinto: “It would be a great honor. It would be my first one if I got it. Hopefully, [my 36-hole score] will hold.”

Q. You have won some big stroke-play events, including the 2021 SEC title at Arkansas and the 2019 CAA title when you played at UNC-Wilmington?

Segundo Oliva Pinto: “I won a couple of good ones. It’s been a minute. I am glad to have my game back again. I think I brought my ‘A’ game this week, so I feel like I am in a good place.”

Q. The round today, you had a five-hole stretch from No. 9 where you made four birdies. Can you talk about that nice run?

Segundo Oliva Pinto: “I am just trying to play dominant golf out there. When I am feeling good, I like to push it. I feel like that is the mentality that helps me get better...Nine, I made a nice bomb. Tough par 3. I would say around 30 feet from the fringe. Then 10, I saved a good par. Eleven, I made a nice 10-footer and on 12 I also made a 10-footer. And on 13, I made a big bomb, which was like a 40-footer.”

Q. Were you feeling like a real low number was coming, even though there were only five holes left?

Segundo Oliva Pinto: “I was aiming at it. It didn’t happen. I didn’t get that 62 or 63 that I would have liked. But I am very happy about my performance.”

Q. You just turned 25, correct?

Segundo Oliva Pinto: “September 1.

Q. You graduated from Arkansas in May of 2023 with a political science degree. Are you thinking about turning professional?

Segundo Oliva Pinto: “At some point, I would like to turn pro. I want to get my game better first...Just keep improving and get more results. I have no rush right now. I am working with my [older] brother [Tobias]. We opened a brand-new company called Hangry King. We sell barbecue kits. We’re going to start selling in November on Amazon here in the States. [Tobias] is an engineer back in Argentina. Between me and him, we designed this concept for a barbecue kit with a cooler in it. It’s pretty nice. We have all the prototypes and the pictures. We’re aiming mid-November. We’re excited about that.”

Q. And the 2025 Latin America Amateur Championship is in your home country in January. I would imagine you want to play in that event?

Segundo Oliva Pinto: “It’s in Buenos Aires and I am from Cordova, but it will be nice to play as a local.

Q. Have you been playing much since graduating from Arkansas?

Segundo Oliva Pinto: “Every day. I am doing like a pro-amateur type of deal. I play in as many tournaments as I can get my hands off. (Won the Argentina Mid-Amateur last week)...I flew from Buenos Aires to here. I wanted to get a tournament under my belt before I came here.”

Note – Best finish in the LAAC is T-8 in the 2024 event; Youngest player in this year’s U.S. Mid-Amateur. Exempt into field based on his No. 203 spot in the World Amateur Golf Ranking®/WAGR®...Advanced to Round of 16 of 2020 U.S. Amateur; missed cut in 2024 U.S. Amateur.