U.S. Girls' Junior

7/15/2025
Johns Creek, Ga., USA
Atlanta Athletic Club

Athena Singh

Q. 3-under today, another hot day, can you walk me through the round?

Singh: I had a rough start, I hit my first drive in the rough on the par 5, then I had to punch out and had over 200 yards for my third shot. I hit my wedge really close and made par. Basically, I saved all of my pars, no bogeys, so that was good. I hit my wedges pretty close on a few holes for birdies.

Q. So you'd say your approach play was the best part of your game today?

Singh: Yeah, my long irons especially – surprisingly my long irons went better than my short irons, so I think that really helped, as this is a long course.

Q. Any highlight shots with those long irons?

Singh: Not really, but I did have a hybrid that I hit really close on No. 2. I had maybe 198 [yards] to the pin and hit it to around 8 feet.

Q. This is your third Girls' Junior – how do you feel like that experience is helping you this week?

Singh: I definitely feel more comfortable this week. Last year I went -4, +4, so I'm glad this year I was able to play my game both days. I think that past experience has really helped me stay comfortable and stay focused on my game.

Q. How much has heat been a factor?

Singh: It's been a slight factor for me, I just try to stay hydrated. Yesterday was a lot worse, because I had an afternoon round. I feel like after 12 o'clock, the greens get a lot firmer, so that was a factor yesterday, not so much today. It was rolling out a lot yesterday.

Q. Do you feel like you were able to take advantage of those conditions? Softer greens today, attacking more?

Singh: Yeah, especially with my long irons. I was able to stop it on the greens, and it was easier for me to judge things based on my carry number.

Q. You had a great run at Oklahoma City Golf & Country Club during the Women's Four-Ball in May. Can you talk a little bit about it, your experience since then and how that might have also helped prepare for this week?

Singh: I think playing in the [Women's] Four-Ball really helped me get comfortable with the distance. That really helps here, I knew which irons I was going to have, what kind of shots I'd have to hit, like from the the bunkers, avoiding the bunkers. It's a similar type of course, and I definitely feel like I'm getting more comfortable with the USGA setup.

Q. From practice rounds to these last two rounds of stroke play, what's been your impression of this golf course?

Singh: I feel like around the greens, the false fronts, it's pretty tight, so in the practice rounds I tried to get as comfortable with those chip shots as I could, and I think that really helped me today. I was able to save some really good pars from short of the greens, so that really helped.

Q. You've gained some good experience in USGA championships over the last few years – did you have any goals or expectations coming into the week?

Singh: I'm just trying to play my own game, trying not to think too much about a target score or anything. I just wanted to go out and play the best I could. One of my goals was just to make it to match play, so we'll see from there.

Q. Anything you're looking forward to in particular this week?

Singh: Yeah, I'm looking forward to getting to spend a lot of time practicing at this facility. It's really nice. Also, long par 3s are always a surprise. It depends on how you hit it. So, I'm looking forward to it.

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