U.S. Girls' Junior

7/16/2025
Johns Creek, Ga., USA
Atlanta Athletic Club

Asterisk Talley

Q. Strong win today, how do you feel like this helps prepare for the rest of the week?

Talley: It gives me a little confidence going into tomorrow's match. It's been hot all week, so trying to stay hydrated and ready for the next hole and the next match. It's just hard coming from runner-up [last year] and starting all the way over this year, but it's good to get through the first match and take it one match at a time.

Q. Coming into the championship as last year's runner-up and having such a great performance. Do you feel like you're applying learnings from last year?

Talley: I feel like being good at match play is something that I always take with me to these kinds of events and trying to take it one shot at a time, because anything can change in a match, so just trying to stay in the moment and not get too much into myself.

Q. You went 3 up in the outward nine – talk about those last three holes on the front and what started working there.

Talley: I was playing pretty good all day and just made a couple of birdies to start and then she made a couple of birdies back and it was just a good fight all day. I mean I didn't have any bogeys on the day, so it was minimal mistakes out there and I made a few birdies coming from the front and a few closing ones, so I felt pretty good all day.

Q. Speaking of those birdies, I know you made one on No. 14 to further separate yourself going to No. 15. Can you walk me through that hole?

Talley: Yeah, the tee was moved way up and usually on that hole I just lay up, but it was playing only 250 as a par 4, so I just tried my 3-wood up there. I knew my driver would probably go over the green, so I just tried to hit a 3-wood. It was pretty close to the green. I just chipped up to around eight feet and then made the putt. She had a similar shot, just a little behind me, and I saw she chipped it pretty far around like 12 feet past and then ended up missing the putt, so I just tried to put a good stroke on it, and if I was 4 up then it was going to be a good match. It was just good to get that confidence going into the last hole.

Q. Any special putts, drives or anything from today that stood out?

Talley: I just feel like it was a couple of holes where I struggled all week, like I doubled No. 9 yesterday, and I went into the rough today, so it didn't start too well, then I just hit the green and made a two putt to tie the hole. I feel like that was a pretty good momentum switch just going from her winning the eighth hole and then me putting to tie the ninth hole and stay 1 up. That was the first par I've had on that hole all week. It was pretty nice just getting that little extra push, and then seeing my approach shots were pretty on today. I hit it three feet from the green on hole six, the par 3 was pretty close, and then I hit it like 2 feet on No. 10. So I feel like I was pretty much on my A game today, and I'm pretty confident going into the rest of the week.