

# 2015 US Open Championship

Thursday, June 18

Quick Quotes

## Ben Martin

Quick Quotes From:

BEN MARTIN

**Q. Well done, Ben, congratulations. Talk about the way you played today.**

BEN MARTIN: The round in general? I think this U.S. Open setup, it tests every part of your game. You have to drive it well, hit your irons well, your short game has to be on. And I just came out and felt like everything was kind of firing on all cylinders, so I got off to a great start, 3-under through 3. Made a bogey and bounced back with another birdie, and rolled in a long one on 16 to get it to 4-under. Kind of just was keeping it simple, hitting it in the fairway, hitting it on the green and making a few putts and playing golf like you want to play it.

**Q. You've played in a couple of these before, but it's been a few years, best U.S. Open round ever for yourself. But you played well this year, you had a win and bunch of top 5s, big tournaments and players. Talk about your mindset coming into this tournament.**

BEN MARTIN: This is my first U.S. Open as a pro. The two others I played as an amateur. And I've had some good finishes in big time events. And theoretically I like to approach this as any other tournament. It's a little bit different. I've never showed up to a tournament on Friday, the week before. But I think so far that's paid off, getting to learn the course a little bit more. But my game -- I had a couple of good weeks in a row and didn't play so good at the Memorial, my last event out. I like this golf course. I like when it gets firm and fast. And usually the more you can enjoy the type of course you're playing, the better you can play.

**Q. You dominated that back nine. What were your thoughts on playing that side, why did you do so well?**

BEN MARTIN: Yeah, I rolled in a nice birdie on 11 and kind of got some confidence with the putter and had a 12-footer for eagle on 12 and rolled that in. I think I hit the shots where you're supposed to hit it. And out here you're not going to be able to hit it close on every hole. And I made a few long putts. Just kind of a combination of keeping it in the fairway, hitting some



good shots and rolling the putts in.

**Q. Did it play pretty similar to the practice rounds?**

BEN MARTIN: It hadn't changed a whole lot. And I played on Saturday. Over the course of the last five, six days, it's pretty much been the same.

**Q. What are your initial impressions when you got here, and did it remind you of any place you played before?**

BEN MARTIN: My initial impressions were that I liked the course a lot. It was more so the conditions, like the firm and fast conditions. I think if this place was soft, I don't think -- it's playing like it's designed to be played. And I enjoy being able to use the ground and use the slopes and have a little imagination. And I think it's perfect right now the way it is. I'm sure over the weekend they could get -- probably are going to get a little firmer and a little faster, but hopefully I'll be able to adjust to this.

**Q. There were some guys that had a much tougher round. For you what did it mean to have such a good start?**

BEN MARTIN: I just got off to the start that I wanted to. Anytime you shoot under par the first round of a U.S. Open, it's going to be a good day. But we've got three more days to do it. Tomorrow is a new day. Hopefully get a good night's rest, be up early and be back out tomorrow and do it again.