

ROUND 2 QUICK QUOTES
October 23, 2026

RUDY SAUTRON (-6)



Q. Rudy, thanks for joining us. You birdied three out of your last four holes to make the cut, congratulations. If we can get some comments on your play.

RUDY SAUTRON: Man, it was just a grind all day. I hit a lot of greens like on the front nine and couldn't get a putt to go in. I was very frustrated going to the back nine. Missed a shot on 10 and got me a bogey and I was like I need to give my all for the last seven holes to like try to come back because I knew the cut was going to be like 5 or 6 under, so I knew what we had to do. We just went for a pin-seeking mode kind of with my caddie. From there I put myself close to the hole a couple times and just make easy birdie from there. Yeah, man, it was just frustrating at the start and finally paid off at the end, so I'm really happy with that.

Q. In terms of pressure-packed situations that you've been in in your career, how does this rank and how much pressure were you putting on yourself?

RUDY SAUTRON: That was a lot. I would rank it like 7, 8 out of 10 for sure because, like I said, I was playing like OK for a long time and I was just frustrated that the putts couldn't go in. I knew I was like so close to be able to like make a cut on like PGA with like my C-game pretty much on the green. So I just put a lot of pressure.

But at the same time I did have fun today just like seeing the people playing around me and just making me realize I'm playing a PGA Tour event, like it's still special. Yeah, just to be the first one on the island to do it too is just like a crazy moment for me honestly.

Q. Take us through those birdies, three out of the last four starting on 15.

RUDY SAUTRON: So 15, hit like a 2-iron like middle of the fairway. I gave myself I think like 120-yard shot and hit that low 52 to like three feet, two or three feet. That was just a barely tap-in birdie.

Sixteen, I make a great up-and-down for par. I put myself in the bunker left of the green and had a good lie. Good flop shot to probably seven foot I would say. Make a good par putt here.

And 17, drive just barely in the rough right, 9-iron to 40 feet, two-putted, so easy birdie on 18.

I was just trying not to go in the bunker on 18. I know I put myself in position to probably make bogey if I was in there. Just stayed a little bit left and hit my driver just in the rough left. From there I had I think 117-yard and hit a three-quarters 52 to five feet and make the putt



for birdie there, too.

Just my wedging has been really good. I just took advantage of it like for the last four holes. Even under pressure I think there's wedge or not, like I'm not messing around with them. Like I hit a good shot, which I did and I'm happy with that, for sure.

Q. You mentioned it a little bit, but how much does this mean to you?

RUDY SAUTRON: Like oh, man, means a lot. Obviously like every time you go to a tournament you just want to like play the best that you can and try to go for a win like no matter what, but just to be able to get into that pressure situation again.

I've been like in a French Open, for example, on DP World Tour like three weeks ago. I kind of feel that again and it gives you like motivation and gives you like things to improve to be like at the highest level, and you like kind of notice that when you're on this type of course and this field, too, so just to be able to see that and compete with those guys. And even not playing my best too, that's like the good part.

Q. Seven back of the leaders, two rounds to go. What's your mindset going into the weekend?

RUDY SAUTRON: All I can tell you is the wind can change anything. You never know. I can say that seven shots back is a lot, but at the same time when you get to that Sunday, it's going to be blowing 35 and gusting 50. I grew up on an island. Not saying I've got the advantage, but probably a little, so yeah.

Q. I was going to ask you about that, growing up on an island, a pretty isolated place. Is there a familiarity to being here?

RUDY SAUTRON: So the island is more like -- there's more mountains. We have like two volcanoes so it's really kind of slopy and higher. Just being on the island itself, being around the ocean kind of like made me familiar with where I'm from. At the same time, the island is way different. We have a million people living on my island, here there's like 60,000 I think, so it's more populated out there. But the condition just being warm, the humidity, just with the wind, I think that's something that you don't find on every island, so it's pretty similar. And yeah, playing at sea level too I would say, just a lot of similarity.

Q. Is this your first trip to Bermuda and when did you arrive?

RUDY SAUTRON: Yeah, first trip and I arrived Wednesday afternoon. I was playing a tournament in Mississippi Monday and I got like trouble with my flight coming Tuesday. I had to like switch my flight for like Wednesday, and Wednesday afternoon here and walk like the back nine for two hours. Just got ready for the next day.

Q. Does that change your expectation of what like when you're preparing for a



tournament --

RUDY SAUTRON: Yeah, probably because like you just like keep playing like all the time. I've been like on the road for a month straight and I think you just go back and forth and you just know how your game is feeling. You just know you're like prepared in a way.

And to be honest, like when you get to the PGA Tour, I was disappointed to not be able to get in on Monday and take my time and see the course to be mentally prepared. But at the same time I came here freely, like my mind was free. Just getting on the golf course, I was like I'm going to aim there, hit that shot. If I hit that shot, we'll see where it goes. That was just like seeing what the course was about and that's it.

Yesterday was technically my practice round honestly, so I took advantage of that. Came here for my second round and just played my first round --

Q. I believe you played in the U.S. Amateur, right?

RUDY SAUTRON: I did.

Q. What was that experience like and how do you feel like that compares to a PGA Tour event and how will that stead you for the weekend?

RUDY SAUTRON: I mean, U.S. Am is just really hard in general. The field, 300 more people to I think it's what, 64 it goes into. I think the environment of the U.S. Am is comparable to a PGA Tour event; media, cameras around, people following, too.

Honestly, like the players, too, you've seen like in the past there's like more and more like top amateur golfers on PGA Tour and all that, so you see the level is getting more competitive.

So yeah, when you go in the U.S. Am, I didn't really think about making the cut, I was more thinking about just winning that tournament, winning match play because I'm still against amateur, I'm not against pro. So I'm more like I have my chance to get those guys.

When you get here compared to pros, you're like, oh, like now we're talking. If I make the cut here, that means a lot. So I'm comparing like I think the field is really good as a U.S. Am and really good as any PGA Tour event too. I just have to say that the top amateur event like prepare you for like this kind of moment. I think it's really comparable.

Q. It looks like you're going to be one of three amateurs that make the cut here this week with Miles Russell and Kihei Akina. How well do you know them? Is there incentive for you to have a little competition over the weekend to beat them?

RUDY SAUTRON: Funny thing is I don't know any of those guys. I mean, I know the name for sure, but never really talked to them. I say hi to Kihei yesterday and barely talked to me.



And after that Miles, I didn't meet him in person yet.

So yeah, I'm happy to be against those guys. I know they're like top-20 in the world, too. Miles is probably like top-5 and Kihei like probably top-15 or something. Just (indiscernible) them next to this guy too is really, like it's just, I don't even have words for it. It just feels good to be able to say that I'm next to those guys' level.

