

39th U.S. MID-AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP – Player Quotes

Sept. 14-19, 2019, Colorado Golf Club, Parker, Colo., and CommonGround Golf Course, Aurora, Colo.

Ben Warnquist, of Gaithersburg, Md.
(2-under 68, CommonGround Golf Course, Championship – 68-68—136)

On his round today...

“It was hard-fought. I was conservative on the front, felt like I was doing a lot of things right and shot over par. I figured on the back if I did the same thing and made a few more putts, I’d shoot a few [strokes] better so that’s what I was looking for.”

“Similar to yesterday, I got off to a slow start, 1-over on the front again. Then I actually three-putted [hole] 10 to get to 2-over, and then after that I kind of caught fire, making four birdies in from there.”

On being medalist...

“It means a lot. It’s not the end-goal, but it means a lot. My game’s been coming a long way the past couple of years and I’ve never done anything like this. I’ve always been a good two-day player. I’ve won a lot of qualifiers, nothing like this, but I’d like to extend and see if I could be a five or six day player and go a little deeper.”

On the finishing holes for match play at CGC...

“They’re great holes. You’ve got two par-5’s. [Hole] 17 is tricky because it’s 200 yards but you have elevation and way down hill, and some tricky breeze. So you’re hitting maybe a 9-iron from 200 yards, you don’t trust it and you see the water short, so what’re you going to do? That’s a great hole.”

“18 is just a good solid par-4 to finish. You can hit two good shots and maybe make a putt to win the match. I feel like a bunch of matches will come down to that.”

On making birdie on his last hole (#9) to finish at 6-under for the championship...

“Whatever it was, coming from Maryland to Colorado, anything inside 100 yards has been tricky. Whether it be the elevation or the firmness, I don’t know. But I haven’t been hitting them close so I was happy to hit one to inside 10 feet there and make the putt.”

“I figured I was close. I got an update that [the lead] was at like 5, 6, 7 [under], somewhere in there, so I was really grinding to try and finish strong.”

Notes: #9 (par-4) - Driver, 80 yards out to 10 feet, made birdie putt