

April 28, 2019 – Kelsey Chugg, 27 of Salt Lake City, Utah and Julia Potter-Bobb, 31, of Indianapolis, Ind.

Q: How did today go for you?

Chugg: I haven't been feeling very well. I was a little tired and knew I would probably be good for only a few holes, but we really ham-and-egged it today. She had a stretch on the front nine that wasn't so great, and I had same type of thing happen on the back nine.

Potter-Bobb: We're good enough partners and strong enough partners to be able to pick up the slack when one or the other isn't playing to the best of their abilities at that point. For me, I just wanted to make sure my partner was doing OK. Even when she's sick, I know that she can still make par. And she did, she came up clutch at some huge moments, both on front and on the back.

Q: Often there is a point where a particular hole or a putt helps keep things going. Was that the case today?

Chugg: It had to be No. 14. We both hit into the fairway bunker to the left, and we both kind of chunked our approach shots to 50 yards short of the green. Her approach shot didn't check and that left her with a 25-30 footer and she missed it and made bogey. I had maybe a 20-footer, and she helped me read it and I rolled it in. That was really nice, to keep our par streak going at that point.

Q: What will change for you going into match play tomorrow?

Potter-Bobb: Going forward, I think our biggest goal will be par. Our plan is to make you make birdie to beat us. It's a tough course that was getting even tougher with the greens not holding as much and a little more breeze. To walk away with no bogeys when neither one of us were really playing our best game, that makes us feel good going into match play.

Q: How did things change so dramatically from yesterday to today?

Chugg: I think from Saturday to Sunday, the greens got faster and everything firmed up. Those little short shots you have around the green are just running out that extra few feet, and that's making a huge difference. And you need to be a little more tentative on the 30-footers; you can't just ram them in. We didn't make any long putts yesterday, but it seemed like you could be more aggressive with them.

Julia: It was very important to be on the correct side of the green, to not leave yourself a 50-footer. We did a really good job today of making sure at least one of us was on the green and always having a potential birdie opportunity. So then par was hopefully the worst we were going to walk away with.

Q: When you're playing match play and your partner hits a bad shot, the pressure on the other player is unspoken but you've been rolling with that.

Potter-Bobb: I've played enough rounds of golf with Kelsey in match play and in stroke play to know that, even when she hits an errant shot, I still know that par can be in the bag for her. The pressure isn't so much there for me, because I know how good she is at recovering."

Chugg: I feel the same way. We approach match play the same way; we are just trying to make par and if we make birdie we're most likely going to win the hole. We want to make people try and beat us. We're consistent, and usually if our ball-striking is good we're going to be hard to beat.

Do you think your combined experience in match play is going to be an advantage, considering the success that both of you have had in the U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur?

Potter-Bobb: I'd like to think it would be. I get told so many other times my age is a disadvantage, I'd like it to be helpful at some point (laughing). While four-ball match play is new to me, match play isn't and I have a partner in the same situation. We'll talk about some ideas for tomorrow, but I don't know if just hitting the middle of green is really going to do it. I think it's going to depend on who's hitting into the green first, where we're at, all that. We're smart enough players to know when to go for it and when to lay back and we'll definitely keep that in mind. We know we're not playing the course anymore tomorrow, we're playing the opponent. And that's what will guide us through the round."