U.S. Mid-Amateur

Saturday, Sept. 9, 2023 Sleepy Hollow Golf Club Scarborough, N.Y.

Brad Tilley, Easton, Conn. even-par 71 (first round, stroke play)



Q. Can you tell us about what it is like to play on your home course in this championship?

Brad Tilley: "I am really appreciative for the gallery. It's a great opportunity for me that the USGA brought the Mid-Am to Sleepy Hollow. I have been thinking about this round of golf for three years. What a great honor that I was player one and got to hit the first tee shot.

"When you think about a round for a long time it is a tough one. I had a little bit of a magical start, made about a 70foot putt to start the day. The course is playing tough. I thought the pins were tough, a little tougher at Sleepy Hollow than I see in general member play. But I am proud about my score, 71. Even par in a USGA event is great. It's a good start."

Q. Did you have to scramble to get your score today?

Brad Tilley: "It was a mix. It was like really pure golf with great looks. I actually three-putted one from 14 feet when I was looking at a birdie. I had a lot of birdie looks with some great shots.

"We had a lot of rain last night. There was quite a bit of mud on the balls and that didn't help me out on a couple of holes. I did have to scramble, made a few long putts. [I] made a long par putt on 11 and some great up and downs. The only mistakes were two three-putts. It was a solid round."

Note – In 2022, Tilley won championships on both U.S. Mid-Amateur host courses. He claimed the MGA Met Amateur, held at Fenway Golf Club, and captured the Westchester Open title at Sleepy Hollow Country Club.