

U.S. Senior Amateur

Sunday, Aug. 27, 2023
Martis Camp Club
Truckee, Calif.

**Matt Sughrue,
Arlington, Va.**

**2-over 74 (second round, stroke play)
1-over 145 (36-hole total)**



Q. 1-over tied for the lead. How tough is course playing?

Sughrue: “It’s a hard course. There’s lots of trouble out there. If you hit in the fairway just like anyplace you can avoid all that stuff and do OK. Shooting around par is pretty good around here.”

Q. How do you feel about your game after two rounds?

Sughrue: “I feel really good. I got into a nice rhythm. I had sort of one hiccup on the 10th hole today. Hit it underneath the lip of a bunker. But I played really solid the last few days.”

Q. Now everyone starts at Ground Zero in match play. Thoughts about going into knockout stages?

Sughrue: “I probably won’t change my strategy that much, if at all. But I have played enough USGA events to know that they will switch up the golf course a little bit in match play. You could show up on a tee box and go, ‘Wow, we’re up here today.’ And that’s just part of the excitement of the game. You just have to adapt.”

Q. Anything about today’s round where you felt like you kept the momentum going?

Sughrue: “I started out with a three-putt on the first hole. And I had a long putt for my third shot and that’s not a good feeling. But I hit a really solid drive on two, which is a tough driving hole, and I felt really good about that. Then on three, I knocked it to about 5 feet and I made 2. And then I was off to the races.”

Q. Thoughts about match play and who you might face?

Sughrue: “There’s so many good players in this field and some of them are going to shoot back in the pack, and they are going to make the cut. You’ve got to beat them sometime. My mentality is whoever shows up on the tee, I am going to play as hard as I can, and if they tell me to stop playing, that’s that, and if they don’t, then I get the trophy [on Thursday].”

Q. Do you use any of your sports psychology background in match play?

Sughrue: “You don’t want to overthink it either. You still have to play the game. You have to plan to play the course.”

Coming off a runner-up finish in the Virginia Senior Amateur. Lost to Scott Shingler in final. 2 days of stroke play and 5 matches to reach final. Lost on 18 in the final. In Virginia, the Senior age minimum is 50.

Fighting some back issues this summer.