

U.S. Girls' Junior

Wednesday, July 19, 2023
Colorado Springs, Colo., USA
Eisenhower Golf Club, Blue Course

Audrey Rischer



Q. So you just beat one of the top-ranked players in the world, what was your mindset going into the match?

AUDREY RISCHER: I've been hitting the ball really well all week, so I was just thinking about having the same swing thoughts and playing my own game, and whatever happens, happens.

Q. Did you take an underdog mentality playing against someone who has that kind of reputation?

AUDREY RISCHER: Yeah, I've played with her before, and I knew that she was a really good player. I was just thinking, 'I'm just going to go out and do what I can and hopefully it's enough.'

Q. Where had you played with her before?

AUDREY RISCHER: I played with her in an AJGA event.

Q. Would you consider this one of your biggest wins as a young player?

AUDREY RISCHER: Yeah, it feels good.

Q. What are some of your career highlights?

AUDREY RISCHER: I won an AJGA event last year in Illinois, and obviously qualifying for this event, making match play and winning my first match. That's a huge deal, this is my first USGA event, so this feels pretty good.

Q. How did you treat coming in as a first timer, what kind of expectations did you have?

AUDREY RISCHER: I've been playing really well recently, so my goal was just to make it to match play. Not get ahead of myself, but now that I'm here, just keep winning.

Q. In terms of the course, how did it feel today compared to some of the other rounds?

AUDREY RISCHER: Pins were tough, quite a few tucked pins, as you can see. It felt like it was in great shape, greens are firm so you have to keep that in mind, and there's a lot of break, so just getting really good at lag-putting, not really hitting it to go in but just hitting it to get close when you're far away from the hole.

Q. Was there a key moment in the match where you started to feel like you were taking control?

AUDREY RISCHER: Yeah, so, I made the turn at 2-up, I birdied 9, and then I also birdied 10, so then I was 3-up, and I was more comfortable. Made a few mistakes, lost my lead a little bit, but coming into 18 my heart was racing so fast, so I was just thinking, 'just play steady golf, play smart golf, don't do anything stupid'.

Q. When you got to 3-up did you feel like you changed your approach at all?

AUDREY RISCHER: A little bit, yeah. Because I went for it on 11 and I hit it in the water because I didn't have a great lie in the fairway. I was like 216 [yards] out, so I really wanted to go for it, which I probably wouldn't have done if I wasn't 3-up. But that's about it, I tried to play the same as I would.

Q. Do you think you found something about yourself in these last couple of days?

AUDREY RISCHER: Yeah, definitely. I think my mental approach is a lot different now, I feel like I can tell myself I belong here, and I'm good. Just

changing that mental switch where you just believe in yourself a little more, that's happened a lot.

Q. What's your mindset going into your next match?

AUDREY RISCHER: Just not really focusing on what anyone else is doing. I can't control what they do, so just do my best and play my own game.