

U.S. Girls' Junior

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

Clarisa Temelo



Q. How does it feel getting your first match play win, ever?

CLARISA TEMELO: I'm very excited. It was a very tough match for me. I started with a birdie, and after three holes I was 2-up, and I made, on No. 5, I made a double after losing the hole before, so we crossed the first nine even. Then on No. 10 I won the hole, and I was making a lot of up and downs to save par. On hole 16 I made a big putt for birdie, from about 10 feet with a big break, and so did my opponent. Then on 17 I had an 8-foot putt for birdie, and I made it.

Q. How did you feel the momentum shifted between you and your opponent throughout the day?

CLARISA TEMELO: Yeah, starting by winning the hole was a big momentum swing for me to start off. And then being able to go 2-up in three holes was also amazing. But then after that there was a huge shift because the match got to even. After the rain delay I just tried to get my momentum back and continue fighting until the end.

Q. Did the rain delay affect you at all?

CLARISA TEMELO: Yeah, because at the beginning of the rain delay I was kind of exhilarated. But as the time passed and I had my AirPods in, I just started chilling again.

Q. When you went back out, did you find it challenging mentally or physically?

CLARISA TEMELO: Physically, not really. I went to the driving range for five minutes, and with the walk back to hole 11 I got warmed up again. But mentally, I think that I stayed the same. I had just won hole 10 before the rain delay, so when I got back I felt like I had my momentum back.

Q. In a broader aspect, you're the only Latin American to make it into watch play. What does that mean to you?

CLARISA TEMELO: I always feel very proud to be representing Mexico, and now that I'm the only Latin American girl left in the field, I feel that more.