

## **Gianna Clemente – Round 2 Stroke Play - 2023 U.S. Women's Amateur**

**Gianna, start by taking us through the round today. You had a bogey on No. 11 and after that bogey free. Was there something that clicked after that second hole of the day?**

I started off with a bogey yesterday as well on my second hole. I think just reminding myself that there's a lot of golf left. There are a lot of birdie holes left. I know that in my opinion, starting on the back is a lot more difficult. Obviously, starting with the 10th hole is very difficult in itself and the back nine, the finishing holes are a lot more tough. So, just reminding myself that there are a lot of birdies left on the front. My goal was just to get through the back nine, which was our first nine, at even par and then really start firing at pins on the back. That's pretty much what I did. I mean, I made birdies on Nos. 17 and 18 right here, but that wasn't expected, you know, I wasn't by any means trying to force in the birdies. Those just kind of came and then the eagle on No. 1 was pretty big to kind of keep the momentum going. To go to 2-under to 4-under pretty fast. That's a pretty big jump. So, yeah, just reminding myself that it's ok to make a couple of bogeys. These holes are tough out on the back nine. Just reminding myself of that and just trying to stay in the moment.

**Do you switch your mindset starting to prepare for match play or do you kind of view it in the same way as stroke play?**

I think it might be a little bit different. Just depending on the small things like wind direction or pin position or maybe where somebody else is. Obviously, it's different playing one person versus an entire field, but other than that, I really don't think it's that different. I'm a fairly aggressive player as it is. I'm just going to keep that going and firing at pins and trying to make as many putts as possible.

**Four years ago, you qualified for the Women's Am at 11 years old. How's your game evolved and matured over that time to where now, you're going to go into tomorrow as one of the top seeds?**

Yeah, I mean, when I played when I was 11 I don't think there was much expectation. It was just kind of a surprise to qualify. I definitely was not expecting to qualify. I remember going into the qualifier, my dad was saying, you know, let's just play and let's see what happens. Now, I mean, I've changed as a player and as a person so much. Definitely a lot better than I was when I was 11. I think the amount of experience I've gained since then has been really big and I've played so many USGA events since then. I've done so much and played so many professional events and amateur events that, yeah, it feels like a completely different person for sure.