

U.S. Girls' Junior

Tuesday, July 17, 2023
Colorado Springs, Colo., USA
Eisenhower Golf Club, Blue Course

Logan Hale



Q. What's the biggest learning experience that you're going to gain out of playing this championship?

LOGAN HALE: This was a cool experience, being in this field and being surrounded by so many good players. It's such a cool feeling, and I was just happy making it here. I obviously wanted to play a lot better, but it's a tricky course and I would say if you don't have your 'A' game, or at least your 'B' game, it's a really tricky course to put up a good number or even a solid number. Yesterday was kind of a grind and then today I just fell out of that rhythm. But every time you play it's a learning experience, and there's definitely a learning curve. So, there were a few shots I had that were pretty good, but overall, just going to try and stay calm and collected and move forward.

Q. Looking at the bigger picture, competing in this event for the first time, what was the experience like overall?

LOGAN HALE: It was just a super cool experience. Playing with two really good D1 collegiate athletes was a really cool thing, and they were really awesome to play with. They were just two really good players, so that was a fun experience. It was a good experience.

Q. Whether it's the mental toughness coming out of this or just learning some things about a USGA setup, how is this going to make you a better player?

LOGAN HALE: I'm coming off a really good stretch of golf, I would say, and golf is a roller coaster. Your swing is always going to go up and down, you're going to have your highest of your highs right next to the lowest of your lows, so I think just coming out of it know that preparing myself to understand that I can have really good scores one day and then really bad scores the next day, just mentally moving beyond that.

Q. Was there a lot of pressure with you being the only Colorado native in the field?

LOGAN HALE: Yeah, I mean I knew that going into it, but it was also a really good support system. Everyone was coming up to me and saying they were proud of me and supporting me. So, it definitely was pressure but it was also just a nice feeling knowing that so many people were supporting me.

Q. You were in decent shape going into your fourth hole, then you had a three-putt from around 6 feet. Did you feel like you lost your focus there?

LOGAN HALE: No, I think on my first three holes, when I parred there I don't think I hit the first green. But, right from the start, my swing was just a little bit off. I don't know what it was because I didn't have any different swing thoughts than yesterday, but that's just how it can be sometimes. After the three-putt I was still staying calm, I tried to stay calm the whole day, I wasn't standing over any shot completely freaking out or beside myself. So overall, I think I stayed calm all day, but it's really hard not having an exact swing thought or really any confidence at all. But yeah, I would just say after that my mindset changed to 'Okay, let's make birdies,' instead of just 'Make pars and keep it calm.'

Q. Did the putter let you down?

LOGAN HALE: Yeah, it definitely wasn't as good as yesterday. Instead of letting the birdies come to me I started trying to force it. Yeah, the putter wasn't working and it was just more of a mental blockade in terms of putting today.

Q. After the double on 13 did you feel like you had to press and get a little bit more aggressive to make the cut?

LOGAN HALE: I don't think so, I mean all day I wasn't really thinking about the cut. Once I started having some bad holes I was just trying to stay within myself. I wouldn't say I was super frustrated, I just got a little bit razzled.

Q. With the pace of play having to speed up your game, did you feel like you had to change how you were playing at all?

LOGAN HALE: I mean, pace of play, especially in bigger events where they're on you and you know you have that added pressure or you'll gain a stroke, is definitely a challenge. I would say all of us, we kind of started rushing, but that's kind of how you have to do it. You have to suck it up and kind of rush to your ball. Not rush your process – get to your ball as fast as you can but then not rush the process. I just wasn't confident, and that on top of being rushed just wasn't a good combination.

Q. What was your favorite part of the week?

LOGAN HALE: The girls I played with, that was such an awesome experience. Like, Lauren Kim, when I found out I was going to be playing with her, I mean I already knew her name, and both of those girls were such nice people, so I think having a good group and just playing with the best of the best was just a cool experience and something that I'll take away from it.