

U.S. Girls' Junior

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

Yana Wilson



Q. Strong start to your title defense, you didn't lose a hole, you only had one bogey. How did you feel out there today?

YANA WILSON: It felt good, I was just trying to hit fairways and hit greens, that was my main thing. My [future] assistant coach at Oregon, she told me to just wear my opponent out by hitting fairways and greens, so I just tried to do that and take what I learned from my loss two years ago against Rose Zhang and just try to play like her.

Q. Have you been getting a lot of advice from your soon-to-be college coaches?

YANA WILSON: Sort of, they kind of give me a lot of advice that I already know. My [future] assistant coach has a lot of good advice to give, but they really just told me to hit the fairways, hit the greens, stay patient and stay strong. Keep my head even.

Q. Did it feel any different or were there any extra nerves stepping up to the first tee today as medalist?

YANA WILSON: Not really, because being the defending champion this week, I was reminded of it a lot this week. So, my nerves just kind of weren't even there for that [tee shot]. Being medalist, to me, was a reflection of how I played in stroke play and kind of an upper hand or an advantage for my mindset I guess.

Q. I remember yesterday you mentioned wanting to play more aggressive, is that something you felt like you did today?

YANA WILSON: I was just trying to [play] off of what my opponent did a lot of the time, but I also just wanted to play my own game as well. Every time I play a round of match play, my goal is always to shoot 5-under, because if you shoot 5-under, it's

pretty hard to lose. And if you do, then what can you do? But yeah, I would say that was my approach to it. I wasn't trying to force anything or force any birdies, just play golf.

Q. Now that you've finished up your round early, you're going to be able to leave the course a lot earlier than yesterday. What are your plans for recovery?

YANA WILSON: It feels alright, I wish I had played more holes so I could see more of the golf course a little bit more. But it gives me a lot more time to practice on what I need to work on for tomorrow. I'm going to hit the range after all the tee times go out, chip and putt a little bit, get everything prepped and prepared and then eat and sleep.