

ROUND 2 QUICK QUOTES
July 24, 2026

MICHAEL KIM (-14)



Q. Michael, rounds like this can create a lot of momentum. How do you prepare yourself mentally for the weekend after such an emotional day today?

MICHAEL KIM: Yeah, going to have some lunch. I don't hit that many golf balls after rounds and if I do, it's probably because I played pretty poorly, but today I think I'm going to go out there, hit a few balls just to kind of wind down a little bit. Today was an awesome day, but still, I'm only halfway there so still need to kind of get focused up for the weekend.

Q. What does it mean to have your name in the record books here at the 3M Open?

MICHAEL KIM: Yeah, I'm one of 15 I guess or the 15th guy to shoot 59. I kind of remember thinking on 18 that you have to go for it, 60 or 61 doesn't really make too much of a difference. To shoot 59 today was pretty cool and feels like I'm part of the history books, which is great.

Q. (No microphone.) On 10, were you thinking 59?

MICHAEL KIM: No, no. I was a little disappointed that it said 71, not 70. I needed one less. Yeah, I was comfortable with a lot of the shots kind of on the back nine and yeah, I just kind of kept it going, I guess.

Q. Seems hard to believe to ask this after a 59, but when you got done, was there any anything that you felt you left out there?

MICHAEL KIM: I don't think so. Maybe a couple iron shots on maybe like 13 or 14. I putted awesome. I feel that I got just about everything I could out of that round.

Q. Michael, five straight birdies, seven out of eight, 12 total on the round, obviously it's a course record, tournament record. What was it like confidence-wise to have all facets of your game clicking at once?

MICHAEL KIM: Yeah, funny enough, some shots I didn't feel like supremely confident over, but that's kind of golf. I was kind of happy I got away with par on 13. But other parts of my game, like my putting felt fantastic. When you hit a putt and it does exactly what you kind of envisioned before you hit it, it's an awesome feeling. Felt like that all day out there.

Q. You said you're halfway there, so obviously two more rounds to go. What's the mentality going into tomorrow knowing that you had a round like this?



MICHAEL KIM: Yeah, I think it will be important for me to not compare myself tomorrow to today's round, just try to -- even if I get off to a poor start or just an OK start, to not be so disappointed that I'm not playing as well as I did today. We still have a long ways to go and that guy named Scottie Scheffler is probably going to throw up a good score today anyway. Nowhere near done and hopefully I can shoot a couple good ones for the next couple days.

Q. Can you describe your feelings on like 17 and 18, the shots you hit, the putts you holed on those two holes and then what it felt like and what emotions you were feeling when you walked in here and signed your scorecard? What were those feelings like?

MICHAEL KIM: Yeah, you know, when I play tournament golf I'm most proud of the moments where it's -- you know, this is kind of you have to step up, you have to take the shots, you have to make the swings and really go for the shots you're trying to hit and not kind of be too protective.

I made a really nice birdie putt on 16. It had a lot of break to it and it went in dead center.

There's a lot of water on 17 and 18 and I just kind of told myself like hey, this is the way -- this is the moment to get into the history books and let's go for it, let's not try to luck our way into it, let's try to step up and hit some really good shots.

To be able to make some putts, and the putts that I made on 17 and 18 is what I get most from PGA TOUR golf, from golf in general, so really proud of that. But then again, I still have 36 to go.

Q. When you holed that putt on 18, there was a lot of people around and we heard the roar from here. What was that feeling like for you?

MICHAEL KIM: Yeah, very cool. The crowd started building up maybe on 16 green and all the way on to 18. This is one of those tournaments where the local crowd really shows out for this tournament.

I wasn't even sure if I was going to play this week to be honest, but happy I came and shot a low score in front of the great fans.

Q. Michael, I thought I heard you say you didn't feel you were that far off the last three weeks even though you didn't make the cut. You did some work on the range yesterday. What have you been working on in that stretch?

MICHAEL KIM: Yeah, it wasn't much. I felt like kind of the blueprint and the base of what I'm trying to do with my swing, with my coach, Sean, has been laid. I'm just making some adjustments here and there.

Like yesterday I didn't like how I hit it when the wind was off the right, I was overdrawing it



too much, so I just tried to work on that a little bit, what kind of shot I'm trying to hit, what kind of swing I'm trying to make on those moments and it paid off today. I hit some awesome shots with the wind hard off the right on 3 and 5 and also 9. I was really happy with those. If only it had worked out that way all the time. Yeah, it was obviously a fantastic day for me.

Q. What did you see on the putt on 18? What did it do?

MICHAEL KIM: It was just really uphill. It didn't look there was a ton of break. I played it about a ball outside the left. I tend to leave those short when it's that uphill and I just, last thing was just get it there, just don't leave it short. It got there pretty easy.

Q. You said you almost didn't come this week. What was the thought process (inaudible)?

MICHAEL KIM: Yeah, I think starting U.S. Open, I don't think I've taken a week off. This is six in a row I want to say. It was just a lot of golf. But I want to make a run into the Playoffs and get to Memphis, get to BMW, get to Tour Championships. I felt decent energy-wise so I went home after missing -- I missed the cut at The Open, just spent a couple days relaxing and came up here and really happy I did.

Q. Before we let you go, Michael, one question. Was there any of the six holes where you made pars where you felt you made a good save to keep that momentum going?

MICHAEL KIM: Probably the par I made on 8, it was a nice eight-footer up the hill. Also the par I made on 13, it's a pretty tough par 3 there so I was happy to make pars on those. Yeah, anytime you roll a nice par putt, it's definitely a nice boost.

Q. And just for the record and the transcript, can we just run through your 12 birdies starting at No. 3?

MICHAEL KIM: The entire round?

Q. Yeah.

MICHAEL KIM: I'm not the best at recounting.

Q. Just the club you hit, what yardage you had --

MICHAEL KIM: Sure. So 3, hit driver, pitching wedge, rolled in a 15-footer from -- 15-footer for birdie, had like 150 yards for the second shot.

Fourth hole, had 175 down off the right, hit it about 168, 8-iron, had about 12 feet I'm going to guess up the hill, nice putt for birdie.

Driver into the fairway, had 124 yards. Hit a really soft pitching wedge. That was about three



and a half feet.

Par 5, driver off the tee, 6-iron layup. It was basically the same or very similar swing, I think I had 130 or something. It was a little more downwind so kind of made a similar swing, pitching wedge.

Driver off the tee on 7 just in the rough, drew a really nice lie. Had 120 yards, 115 yards I'd say. Hit a full gap wedge to about two feet.

Nine, I hit driver, hit a full 8-iron. It started to rain a little bit so I was worried it may not get there. I had like 163 but got to pin high, made a nice one there.

On 10, 7-wood off the tee in the fairway, hit a 9-iron from about maybe 140. I remember the swing I made, it was like a 140 swing. It was into the wind so it was probably about 135 yards it ended up being. It was probably one of my favorite swings of the day and it was like a four-foot downhill slider to the right.

Made par on 11.

Hit 3-wood off the tee on 13, 3-wood into the green. I thought I overcooked it so I said "sit," but it came up short. Got onto the green, two putt.

Fifteen, driver into the left rough. I think I had 150ish. Hit a pitching wedge downwind, rolled in a 15-footer.

Sixteen, hit driver into the fairway. I had 140ish. No, 130, 135 I think it was about. Chipped a 9-iron. Had about 15 feet for birdie, I made that.

And then on 17 was 190 to the pin, a little in off the left. I hit just a really good full 6-iron, made a 15-, 20-footer there.

Driver off the tee, just made the most bailout "don't go right" swing I made all week into the left rough. Hit an 8-iron to about 120 and I hit a hard 56 from about 120. Landed pin high and just missed it right and rolled in about a 30-footer for 59. There we go. I actually did a better job with that than I thought.

