

The title "Subpar" and the meta prompt asking for a "professional athlete" should have gotten you thinking about golf! And indeed there were three golf scores that took center stage in this grid: BIRDIE, EAGLE, and ALBATROSS. A birdie is one stroke under par, an eagle is 2 strokes under par, and an albatross is three strokes under par. So, how did this help you find the meta? All you had to do was look for "par" by moving up the same number of rows as hinted at by each one of the scores. So you were looking for the letters immediately above BIRDIE, two rows above EAGLE, and three rows above ALBATROSS. Those resulting letters spelled out **BROOKE HENDERSON**, who is indeed a professional athlete and our meta answer.