

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW**  
**August 3, 2018**

**JERRY SMITH (-8)**



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**JACKIE SERVAIS:** Welcome. Best start here at this tournament, best start this season. How are you feeling about it?

**JERRY SMITH:** Well, I feel very good how things went today. So yes, it's been a little while for me. I've been playing okay throughout this season, but I haven't really had any rounds like that today really probably since maybe the first tournament of the year or so. Felt pretty good.

**JACKIE SERVAIS:** Was there a key moment today that you think exceeded all the others?

**JERRY SMITH:** Probably. I mean, I birdied the first two holes. I started on the back, on 10 and 11. Didn't really hit anything very close there for a few holes, but I was hitting greens, so I was lag putting very well and two-putting some of those holes I wasn't getting very close. I thought on 16 I hit a poor shot into the green, which was probably a good 40, 45 feet, I two-putted there. Missed the green on 17 to the right and got that up and down for another par.

So right in that stretch there, there's four or five holes I didn't really hit it very close and really just making pars. Then I hit it on the green in two on 18 and made birdie and that probably calmed me down a little bit. Really the back side, you know, I birdied 1, I hit it very close. Made a good up-and-down on 2. I hit it just over the back of the green there. And then made a nice birdie on 3. Then just kind of got on a roll on 6, 7, 8 there. Made, again, another good two-putt on 9 from a good distance away.

So yeah, it wasn't an easy round. It wasn't a ho hum, stress-free 8-under par. I made a lot of good, like I said, lag putts. I hit a lot of greens, which makes it nice. But out here when you're 40, 50 feet away, you know, you've got to take care of business.

**Q. Only the second round in the 60s, did you feel a change coming on?**

**JERRY SMITH:** Not really. You know, I've always thought, you know, this (inaudible) here has always been a lot more than I would imagine it would be when you see rounds like 60 and 61s that have been shot out here. So yeah, it wouldn't necessarily be a course that I would be super comfortable with shooting a low score, but I know you have to and I was fortunate to do enough good things today to shoot one of those low rounds. I know to be in contention on Sunday you're going to have to just keep the pedal down. So hopefully I can do that. Like I said, it's been a few years that I wouldn't say I've struggled, but I just really haven't played, I thought, some of my best golf. So maybe this is the start of something, who knows.

**Q. Can you talk a little bit about your (inaudible)?**

**JERRY SMITH:** Well, I do feel like I am a good lag putter, long distance putter. I'm not uncomfortable having those type of putts. Where I do get a little uncomfortable is if I have to lag it up there a little -- as close as I would like it. The shorter putts sometimes have given me some problems.

You know, I talked to Kirk Triplett a little bit on the putting green the other day and just got his insight on what he saw and he offered a couple things. I probably tried to apply some of it out there today. Still not real comfortable for me, but it was on my mind. It's always nice to get somebody else with some eyes on you. Actually, I was up in Minnesota, Brainerd, a couple weeks ago and saw Chris Foley, who's a good teacher up there at Cragun's Golf Course and he gave his insight as well. I just sort of -- you know, look, if you're struggling or you don't feel comfortable, you need some help, maybe get some different eyes. So I think it's nice that guys will offer, you know, their insight when you ask them. Most of the guys out here are very good about that if you do it. That's one of the great things about this tour, the camaraderie amongst the players just helping each other, helping one another. You know, we'll see how it goes the next couple days.

**JACKIE SERVAIS:** Other questions? All right. Thank you.

**JERRY SMITH:** Thank you, guys.