## FINAL ROUND INTERVIEW August 5, 2018

#### **TOM LEHMAN**



### Q. Any chance this is the last time we see you in a professional round in Minnesota?

**TOM LEHMAN:** Yeah, I guess it's very possible, yeah. I don't know what the future is going to hold. Just don't know. I was thinking about that as I was over that 4-iron on the last hole. You know, this 195 to the front, if the wind's hurting at all this 4-iron's going to go splash. If it's helping at all, it's going to go perfect. I don't want my very last hole ever in Minnesota to end up in the drink. Crushed the 4-iron and it barely got to the front edge. I feel good about that. If that was my last hole every that I made a birdie, I feel good about that.

### Q. Was it in your mind at all today to really cherish this round?

**TOM LEHMAN:** I'm thinking more about trying to get something rolling and trying to move up that leaderboard. It would be a tall order to get near the lead. Wes gave it a good effort, certainly had my chances, but wasn't thinking too sentimentally, no. It was more about trying to finish this tournament off. But the last hole I did think about it, for sure. This could be the last hole of my career here in this state, so hopefully it's not, but it might be.

# Q. Pretty happy with the performance in general this weekend? I know you wanted a win, but you're up on the leaderboard.

**TOM LEHMAN:** Yeah, I was erratic with the putter, I have been. Yesterday I putted beautifully but I missed a birdie putt on 12 today when I'm really starting to get my round going. I just made a couple birdies, I had a two-footer and missed it. You know, it's like first and goal at the one and not getting in the end zone. It really takes away the momentum of the round.

# Q. Kenny has a way of taking over this course here. When he came in with that lead that he had today, what was in your mind today, what was the number you had to shoot?

**TOM LEHMAN:** I didn't think I had any chance to win. The way he plays with the lead, especially on this course, the way it suits his game so well, I didn't think there was any chance I was going to get within 7 or 8 shots of him. I thought he would shoot 65 or 66, 25, 24 under, something like that, and just win in a laugher. I don't even know what he's at.

#### Q. He was at 19 last I looked.

**TOM LEHMAN:** Kind of a slow start, but you can pick up shots in the middle of the round pretty quickly.

# Q. You sounded like a natural at the British Open. Is announcing going to be a big part of your future?

**TOM LEHMAN:** It could be. I think that would be something that I've been doing just to see if it's something I would like and if I would be good at it.

### Q. Do you like it?

**TOM LEHMAN:** Well, the thing that's nice about that as you get to stay connected to the PGA TOUR and to the young guys. You kind of keep that connection for a bit longer. You have a way to influence people's thinking about certain players, about the way they go about their business, about golf courses, about competition. There's a lot of responsibility that would come into play for a guy like Johnny Miller in his position, but there's also an opportunity to have a big influence on the way people perceive the game. That definitely appeals to me.

### Q. And what do you think the PGA TOUR stop will look like here?

**TOM LEHMAN:** Well, I think there will be huge crowds. I think Hollis has done a phenomenal job putting on events, so it will be a great event. I think it's up to us to make the course a fair test. I think it's still going to be low scores. I don't know that -- exactly what that many mean, but the way the young guys play, the aggressive style they play with, there's always somebody every week that is driving it great and putting it great and they're hitting it 340 and there's no defense for that out here no matter what you do, as there are at a lot of courses. The modern game is a different game. So I think it's our goal to punish bad shots and to reward good shots. Really a fair test of narrow fairways, thicker rough, make guys hit it straight and if you do there will be some low scores.

### Q. When's the last time you had your caddie carry the gopher bag?

**TOM LEHMAN:** Here, every year. It just comes out of the closet anytime I play here.

#### Q. Do you have any ideas what you want to do to this place as you're playing?

**TOM LEHMAN:** Yeah, all these guys have played here many, many, many years and they understand the strengths and the weaknesses of the course and what needs to change to toughen it up. So every time everyone has an idea and it's a matter of good ideas, whether those ideas will fit within our budget to make a long-term three, four, five years thing will be a lot different in the short term. The 18th hole will be significantly different. The rest of the course will be a lot narrower. By doing something small here we can improve it, by doing something big over here we can really improve it. I think once you get into a project, no matter what the plans may look like to start with, they always evolve and change and you find ways possibly to make a big difference by spending a little bit less money on this side so that you can spend more money to change something over there.

### Q. How much time do you plan on being here between now and then?

**TOM LEHMAN:** Well, it's going to be a rush job. It's two months. Probably of the seven or eight weeks that they are working out here, I'll probably be back three or four of those weeks. Although I can do a lot of the things in just a couple of days, when you're talking about changing fairway lines and where the bentgrass goes, you can accomplish all of that for all 18 holes in a matter of a day or two. Then it's just a matter of executing.

### Q. Any chance you would play in this next year?

**TOM LEHMAN:** If I was invited I probably would think about it, yeah. With that said, I've got to rethink that whole strategy of the renovation, give myself a chance. The beauty of it is those guys hit the ball farther than all of us do, so you don't need to change a lot of that so that falls right into my wheelhouse. I'm still going to have a wide fairway and those guys are going to have a lot narrower one. It is something to think about.