ROUND 2 INTERVIEW February 17, 2018



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Q. Amazing stuff right there, Steve, another amazing round. I just heard all 18 rounds on the PGA Champions Tour have been under par. I'm sure you're not too surprised by that. Great 63, bogey free. What do you attribute that to today?

STEVE STRICKER: You know, I think staying patient. Yesterday I wasn't very patient, and I let a couple slip away that I should have had. On the par 5s on my second nine yesterday, I walked away from a couple pars, and that was frustrating. So I kinda let that get to me.

Today I was a lot more patient, and I felt it on the greens. When you're patient on the greens, you tend to roll the ball a little bit better, and I rolled a lot of nice putts in today, which I haven't been doing so all in all a better round today.

Q. That patience mindset, when you come from the regular TOUR you played the last two weeks, how is the mindset over there as far as from a patience standpoint, compared to when you are only playing three rounds over here on the PGA Tour of Champions?

STEVE STRICKER: You nailed it right on the head. You can be a little more patient on the big TOUR, because pars sometimes are good scores. Out here you need to make some birdies and when you see guys running away, that's when you lose your patience, at least I did yesterday, anyways. But I knew I had a good round in me here. I had some opportunities, like I said, yesterday that I didn't take advantage of and today I did. I need to do that again tomorrow. There are some good scores out there and some guys that can come from behind

Q. Do you think the greens sped up just a little bit today than yesterday? Seemed like they were a touch faster.

STEVE STRICKER: They were and the fairways were a little bit faster. You could get it out there on some of the holes and have some shorter irons in there if you wanted to take some chances, but the greens are in great shape and the course is in great shape, and that's why you're seeing the scores you are.

Q. What was the key? You said you were patient and just got some -- took advantage of more opportunities today?

STEVE STRICKER: Yeah, and holed some putts, putts that I hadn't been making, you know, too much of lately. So it was good to see the ball go in on some of those mid-range putts. I gave myself some opportunities, and I took advantage of most of them. I let a couple slip away, but I took advantage of a lot of them today, too, so all in all it was a good round. I put the ball into play, got it on the greens and gave myself some chances.

Q. You've been close, in your, I think, six events you played last year. What would it mean for you or how much are you trying to get a win?

STEVE STRICKER: That's why I'm here, to try to win the golf tournament. You know, it's -- one of them slipped away from me last year at Tucson, where I had control of the tournament. Tom Lehman played great and came back and beat me. It's a little bit of a learning curve out here and you have to understand a few things. One of them was yesterday for me when I didn't make some birdies and lost my patience and tried to force a few things here and there. It's hard in a three-round tournament when you see guys shooting low right away.

So I needed to come out today and put a good one up to get back into it and fortunately I did.