

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
March 10, 2018

SCOTT McCARRON (-7)



Q. Good round today, got it tied for the lead a couple times?

SCOTT McCARRON: Yeah, I just made too many mistakes. One of those golf courses, you miss a green, tough to get it up and down because you've got to chip it real close, because anything outside three feet, even two feet, on these greens is very difficult. You hit some good putts and they don't go in, and then you maybe hit some bad putts and they do go in. So I'm waiting for that to happen. Just made a couple mistakes coming in. Disappointed with the way I finished, but all in all it was a good day.

Q. We didn't see 18, we were here. You parred 18?

SCOTT McCARRON: I did. I had a really good drive and 3-wood that came up well short of the green, I had 70 yards to the pin. That's a hole I can reach almost every day and it's playing so long right now. Hit a good shot in there about 12 feet just left of the hole and didn't make it.

Q. Seemed like even though 17 was playing up today, a lot of guys were having trouble picking the right club?

SCOTT McCARRON: Yeah, it was tough, and I just birdied 16 so I was the guinea pig. And the wind's coming in hard out of the right and I was trying to hit a little cut up there, and I took a lot of club to use that slope and I just -- I didn't make a good turn, and when I do that, I pull it and I just pulled it left into a bad lie and didn't get up and down.

Q. The guys hitting 9-irons weren't getting there.

SCOTT McCARRON: Exactly. I think it probably would have been just a good 9-iron for me at that point. I tried to hit a little easy 8-iron. It's not my forte, going easy.

Q. You played here a couple -- how familiar are you with this course? You played in this tournament several times?

SCOTT McCARRON: I played -- this is my third time playing this tournament.

Q. You played pretty well here?

SCOTT McCARRON: Yeah, I played well here, yeah. I played years ago in the Taco Bell Invitational when I first got on Tour in '95, I believe it was. I know this course a little bit, yeah.

Q. So last year you had the kind of year that could be -- that would normally be considered a real standout year, and of course Langer had that --

SCOTT McCARRON: Yeah, he had a great year.

Q. -- monster year.

SCOTT McCARRON: Yeah.

Q. But are you playing now the way you were playing last year when you won --

SCOTT McCARRON: Well, you know --

Q. -- four times?

SCOTT McCARRON: -- golf -- that's a difficult question to answer because it's week to week. Some weeks you play well and some weeks you don't play all right. We've only played four events. I've got two top-10s. And Tucson, I've never played well at Tucson. It's just one of those courses that just doesn't fit my eye even though it should. It's got five par 5s and I've just never played well there. I finished 50th last week.

So I would say I'm playing well. I haven't been putting as well as I did last year and that's the biggest thing. I was second in putting last year behind Langer and I don't even know what I am, 50th right now, so I haven't been making the putts.

But I'm hitting the ball well and I hit the ball well the last two days. Again, just haven't been really making a lot of putts, but neither is anybody else.

Q. Do you feel okay putting and the ball's just not going in?

SCOTT McCARRON: Oh, yeah. I mean these greens, like I told them on TV last night, it's seaside poa annua, and when you do that, basically hit it and close your eyes because you have no control over it after you hit it. That's the way it is. But I grew up on this so I'm used to it. And again, that's the thing that makes this golf course very difficult, very fast and tough greens to putt.

Q. Did the rain do anything to the greens?

SCOTT McCARRON: Well, it softened them up just a little bit and maybe made them a little slower. They were about eight inches to a foot slower today than they were the last couple days.

Q. But they were still taking pretty big bounces on that first --

SCOTT McCARRON: They were, yeah, absolutely, but they weren't as hard as they were yesterday.

Q. But you're in good position going into tomorrow?

SCOTT McCARRON: Yeah.

Q. Only one Bruin ahead of you?

SCOTT McCARRON: Yeah, exactly. So I'm looking forward to tomorrow, should be a great day. Hopefully the sun will come out and we'll get a lot of people out here. This tournament raises a lot of money for the hospital, for Hoag Hospital and we want to get as many people out here as possible.