

ROUND 3 INTERVIEW
June 23, 2019



KEVIN SUTHERLAND (-13)

(In progress)

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: Some days I did not hit the ball very well but I putted very well, and today I hit the ball and I still putted well. So I got off to fast start. I hit it close on 1, made birdie; made a good birdie on 2 and 3, and all of a sudden you start having a little bit of confidence. I hit a lot of good birdie putts today, a lot of good looks and I hit a lot of good putts. Bogey free, nine birdies is a good day.

JACKIE SERVAIS: Do you think it takes two rounds for you to kind of get into a groove? That seems to be a trend with you lately.

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: I don't know. At Des Moines I played very poor the first day, but the second round I actually played pretty well, and obviously the last round was just unbelievable. So it was a little bit like that this week. I didn't really do much the first two days, I was just so far back. Even around like today, I mean, it gets you back into the tournament but it's not going to win.

Q. What is the key to playing (inaudible)?

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: You know, well, one of the keys is obviously trying to keep your clubs dry, keep your clubs and your hands dry. That's really the key and that's where having a good caddie, having a good bag really helps.

For us, though, it was only about a hole and a half. It rained pretty hard, but it wasn't like we were playing out there for like two or three hours. When it gets like that it becomes very difficult, because I'm sorry, eventually everything starts getting a little wet. But that's one of the keys is just trying to keep everything dry.

What was the other question? I forgot. Oh, that was it, okay.

Q. As far as the round went today, was there anything that got you going early that got you in that rhythm?

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: You know, I hit it very close -- I hit a good tee shot on 1 and I hit it to like three feet and made birdie. Then I actually didn't play the second hole that well, but I ended up making about a 15-footer for birdie and then I make a 20-footer for birdie.

Sometimes the putter -- I was hitting decent shots but the putter kind of gives you momentum. As a result, I started actually hitting it better. As the round went on, I started

hitting it better so I started playing with more confidence because I started making some putts that early in the week I was making but most of them were for par, so today they were for birdie and it was all good.

Q. Are you a fan of -- I mean I think Triplett said this is a 5-under-a-day tour. Having to go 8, 9 deep to really make a dent, that's got to be -- it's got to have its highs and lows. You're obviously good at it, as Jackie said, but at the same time it's a lot of pressure every day?

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: Well, you can't make mistakes. And he's right, this is a 5 -- because almost every week 15 under is the score that wins. Occasionally a 10 will win, there's occasionally a 20 will win, but 15's about the number about every week.

For me, I guess when I get it going I just kind of just keep riding it. I was able to just keep making birdies. But it can be -- it can be difficult if you start putting too much pressure on yourself to make a lot of birdies. A lot of times you make birdies because you're just playing golf. If you're out there thinking I've got to keep making birdies, I've got to make this putt, things like that, that's when things can seem very difficult. I think the key is just to go out and play golf, and if you're playing well, you know what, you're going to make some birdies.

Q. As the weather was turning a little bit, did you think about if I can get to a number? You know what I mean? I know you just said 13's probably not enough, but with the rain and wind.

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: I mean, you don't know. If it was to rain all day, that would be a different story. I felt at the very minimum I would need to get to 15 and I'm not sure that would be good enough, especially if it's like it is right now.

Honestly, trying to guess scores can be really tough. Even at Des Moines I'm not sure that at the beginning of the day it was 17 I think it was -- is that right -- would have been good enough. But, you know, you just never know.

Q. You had about 60 feet on 18. Did you think it had a chance?

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: I did hit a really good putt there. I mean I hit an amazing putt. It looked like it had a really good chance. I hit the wrong club into the green. Into the wind and that shot's uphill, it's just -- after it rained, the air was so heavy, the ball just didn't go anywhere. As soon as I hit it I was like, oh, that's not even close. But I hit an unbelievable putt. It looked like it had a chance. I don't know how close it came, but it was a good two-putt.

JACKIE SERVAIS: Awesome. Thank you, Kevin.