# FINAL ROUND INTERVIEW March 3, 2019



#### JOHN SMOLTZ (+1)

### Q. One over for the tournament. What are your impressions after your first --

**JOHN SMOLTZ:** You know, I learned again some things that, whenever you're in this environment, you've got to get a couple reps under your system. I fell prey to a couple holes that got to me, but I learned a lot and I'm overall really thrilled with some parts of my game, and the other parts I've got to work on. My strength coming in was driver and it became my weakness, so that's a little bit of a bummer, but I learned again a lot of things. I felt comfortable the second and third day. Very close to putting up some pretty good numbers.

# Q. Did you take anything from your playing partners, any advice or any --

**JOHN SMOLTZ:** You know what, I watched three days of how to manage a golf game even if things aren't going perfectly. They lipped out a lot of putts. There weren't a lot of mistakes, they were all in the right spots for the most part, and today, honestly, I had one swing, and it was a really good swing and the ball flew over the green in the bunker, put it in a tough spot, and that was my only bogey. I made double bogey and that was it.

In my first tournament, I was literally trying to gauge what I need to keep working on and now I know, and I think I can get used to shooting under par in these conditions under the gun with great players.

# Q. What are those things you need to work on for the next time?

**JOHN SMOLTZ:** I think continuously getting in better shape. I got a little fatigued again. A lot of golf in this last 12 days and that's just the way it's got to be for me because my schedule doesn't allow me to lead up any other way. So I work for a week and then I'll play for a week. So I will go to work on some physical things again in the meantime, and I've got to make sure that every single shot has trust instead of some had hope.

You know what? I'm most proud of 9 and 18 today. Those holes have got me by the throat. I somehow mustered a par on 18, I somehow mustered a par on 9, and those holes were 5 over going into -- that's really my tournament. I'm 1 over for the tournament, but those two holes I was 5 over. So that's a big turnaround when you're talking about just bogeying them and that's a three-shot difference.

#### Q. Overall thoughts on the tournament, Tucson?

**JOHN SMOLTZ:** Yeah, it was fantastic. Everything about right at the course couldn't have been more stress free. People are awesome, and you know, the guys on this tour have

been very receptive to my playing in this field, so I've had nothing but encouragement. And, you know, I know this, everybody I played with, you could sense they wanted to at least have a better score, which I understand. It was awesome to play with the guys I played with. I've gotten to know some of them. I just -- this is their tour, and if I can be part of it in parts and I can qualify, that would be phenomenal.