

STEVE STRICKER (-8)

Q. So really felt like -- a lot of guys have said it, it felt like it really changed out there when the wind picked up around 4130 or so this afternoon.

STEVE STRICKER: Yeah, you know, and there were some pin positions that were straight downwind, front pin locations, very tough to get the ball close. Even on the green, some of them.

Yeah, it became a little bit different golf course at times. You know, any course is tough when you add a little bit of wind. Yeah, it made things a little more difficult.

Q. So you were kind of cruising along until the 7th hole. You hit your tee shot and took a hand off the club. Did you just not feel right on that swing?

STEVE STRICKER: Yeah, I didn't hit a very good shot there, but I hit it on the green, and then hit a horrible first putt, blew it by. I've been struggling with the greens here a little bit. I make some good putts and then just -- you know, I three-putted that one and didn't really make much today. I made a nice one at 17, but it's a challenge. The greens are a little bit different speed this year. They're slow and you get -- it's hard.

Q. Even though they are slow, it seemed like you and Mark were both pretty kind of conservative when you're past the green on 18 there. Mark described it as kind of like no-man's land.

STEVE STRICKER: Yeah. The thing is, we know how fast that's been over the years and that's what's hard to get in your head. You have some putts that are makeable and then you don't get them to the hole, and then you end up blowing some by. It's hard when they're this slow. You know, we're above the pin at 18 there. Typically that's the last place you want to be, right? You know how fast it is and what do we do? We leave it short, then now you've got another downhill.

So that part's been a challenge and you've just got to hit it in the correct spot this year to give yourself an opportunity to get it up the hill instead of -- it's hard when you get above it because, like I said, we know how fast they've been and they're not that speed.

Q. Even though you've had some struggles today, you're only two shots back.

STEVE STRICKER: Right, that's the good thing, I'm only a couple back. Going to have to have a good round tomorrow, try to get in the mix. I'm hitting the ball actually very nicely, I'm hitting it on the button, doing a lot of good things and I've just got to get it in the hole.