

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW**  
**September 20, 2019**



**KIRK TRIPLETT (-4)**

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**Q. Kirk, what were some of the distinguishing features of being out there today? Obviously it was a little windy?**

**KIRK TRIPLETT:** It's windy, but if you played a practice round on Tuesday, it's the exact same conditions we had on Tuesday except the course is a touch firmer. So 20 miles an hour out of the south with some gusts. So some really hard holes, but some other holes are playing easier as well.

So the key to my round is I made some nice par saves kind of in the middle of the round and then really a 30-footer for par on 13, which really kind of kept me in the game, and then two birdies coming in.

**Q. I guess just speaking for the whole field, what were some of the real challenges today for everybody?**

**KIRK TRIPLETT:** Well, I think, you know, there's some gusty winds, there's some very exposed holes. No. 7, the green on No. 7, the greens on 14, 15, 16, really easy to kind of lose your balance when you're trying to hit a shortish putt. I would say the major difficulty is how do you keep your balance on those short putts and what's the wind going to do to them. Is it going to break according to the green or is it going to break -- be affected by the wind?

**Q. I know that this week you had some things you were working on earlier in the week, I talked to you about them, but did you feel like you had things together today? Obviously based on the score, you did.**

**KIRK TRIPLETT:** I hit a number of nice tee shots. This course affords you the opportunity to hit a lot of nondriver tee shots on par 4s, so I was able to sort of take advantage of that. I sort of feel like a driver's kind of a weak spot for me at the moment.

I was really happy to kind of see the putter turn around over the last couple months. I haven't been making as many as I was making, but I was making a lot at the start of the year. So it all kind of evens out if you keep going with it. So I'm most happy about making some putts.

**Q. And the one on 13 there would be kind of the one that sent you --**

**KIRK TRIPLETT:** Right, yeah. I'm just trying to make sure I don't do something stupid and walk away with a six. I hit a mediocre tee shot and then a poor second, but on a hole that's playing very difficult. I mean, if you make a five there, you're only giving up half a shot to the

field. I ended up in a bad position by the green, tough pitch. Hit a decent pitch, but it was 20, 30 feet past the hole. Yeah, just kind of lobbing it down there and it went in. Felt pretty good about that.

**Q. You've been in Sioux Falls quite a few times. I know that you used to come here for the deal after the 3M. What's this community like? Have you kind of got a gauge on the personality of the city?**

**KIRK TRIPLETT:** Well, I think you can tell that people are excited about this tournament. I mean, we had awful weather last year and they came out in droves to watch.

And they're very excited and you can tell out there today. It's a nice day and people of packed in around that 17th hole and same on 18. Just hope we can give them a good show. I think they're happy to have us here and we're very happy to be here.