ROUND 1 INTERVIEW September 13, 2019

DARREN CLARKE (-5)



Q. Five under, that's a real good start.

DARREN CLARKE: Yeah, nice start today. Pretty tough conditions when we were going out there, breeze was up. But we all started off really well, made a lot of birdies early and then we all sort of lost our way a little bit and then I got some back there at the end there. So it was pretty nice, 5 under's a good score around this golf course. It was playing long today. Course is a little bit wet after all that rain, but in great shape. So it was nice to make the most of it. Took some opportunities, had a lot more, missed a few, but overall pretty pleased.

Q. Good finish, too, right?

DARREN CLARKE: Yeah, nice to hit a decent tee shot up 16. I hit my 3-wood 292 or something over the back of the green and a nice chip, so I got up and down, and then nice to make birdie there on the last as well. Food always tastes a little bit better when you finish well.

Q. They were showing one on TV, the par 3, it was off the tee.

DARREN CLARKE: Yeah, I was going to hit a hard draw in there but got ahead of it and blocked it straight into the trees and got lucky. Got a good break there, come back in the fairway and then nearly holed the chip. So sometimes you need a good break, and that was probably the only real poor shot I hit all day, so got it way with it, but you need that at times.

Q. It looked like a lot of us guys playing in the media out here in the pro-am.

DARREN CLARKE: There was a lot of good as well. We're allowed to have the odd bad ball.

Q. It was fun?

DARREN CLARKE: Yeah, we had a good group today. All the caddies all know each other really well, so we had a good laugh and really enjoyed it today.