

PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW
January 15, 2020



TOM LEHMAN

Q. We'll start off with how was your break? What did you do? Did you get some downtime?

TOM LEHMAN: No. We have a new grandchild, first one, so the break was kind of consumed with my daughter Rachael and her husband Lane having this first child of theirs. So yes, we had downtime. It was exciting and busy. Played the Father-Son with --

Q. Do they live near you guys?

TOM LEHMAN: They do, they live about half an hour away. That's kind of the big news for us. Christmastime and Thanksgiving time was mostly about all that stuff.

Q. And speaking of family, everybody was here with you last year when you won, I remember that was really special for you.

TOM LEHMAN: Yeah.

Q. Can you kind of go back to that day and that round and reminisce a little bit?

TOM LEHMAN: Yeah, the whole family was here. I think it was the first time ever that everybody had been here together. It was usually somebody would be missing either due to work or college or something. The whole family. My son-in-law was caddying, which he had never done before, so it was kind of a neat experience. It was special for him, but great for the whole family. But as you know this week is kind of about that for most of the players, there's really nothing quite like it.

Q. Who's here with you this week?

TOM LEHMAN: This week it's everybody except for Rachael and Lane and their new baby.

Q. Right. It's a long trip for a newborn.

TOM LEHMAN: Exactly. So we're here in force again.

Q. So you guys played a round yesterday. Are things shaping up a little bit about the greens maybe being a little slower this year?

TOM LEHMAN: Yeah, they are. I'm assuming they'll take them down a little bit to make them quicker. They are soft. The course is playing very long. I'm not sure if you've heard

that or not, but the course is playing very long compared to how it normally does. It's wet, the air is heavy, the ball isn't going that far yesterday. Of course maybe it is because of, you know, maybe it's not that long anymore, either. It could be just me. But the course is always good. It's going to give up birdies. The only time it gets difficult really is when it gets super windy and when it gets firm. So because it's not that -- it's going to be pretty soft I think all week, so unless the wind blows hard, I think the scores are going to be low.

Q. Did anything in your bag change over Christmas? I heard some guys talking, they got some new drivers for Christmas, or anything like that?

TOM LEHMAN: Well, I'm like them, I have some new stuff that I'm working with, see if I like. But I think tomorrow it will be the same old stuff at least for this week. It takes a while to -- you know, finding a new driver, it has to fit like a glove. Like the first swing is like, oh, that's perfect. If you have to work at it to make it work, it's probably the wrong club. So that's kind of where I'm at.

I've got a couple drivers that I like a lot which are close, but they're not 100 so I'm not going to put them into play until I find that perfect one. You know, you're always looking for that little extra edge. So for me it's more about what can I find to get the ball to go in the hole quicker. If you can buy me a new putter, maybe that would be a better thought.

Q. And obviously mentality this week is always to come back and defend. Are you going in aggressively or just kind of feeling things out?

TOM LEHMAN: No, I'm going into it with high expectations as I'm sure nearly everybody would be. You know, 60, 70, 61, so I don't want to waste my time, so I'm trying to make the best of it. I expect to play well, I'm committed to it. I think that's the biggest thing out here is if you're excited to play and you're willing to be committed to it, I think you can still do well for a long time, so that's my goal.