

ROUND 3 INTERVIEW
January 18, 2020



ERNIE ELS (-14)

Q. Another 65 today. Is that what you had anticipated coming out this afternoon?

ERNIE ELS: Yeah, yeah, I thought something like that, as low as I could go. Then the wind started blowing so I had to kind of keep checking the leaderboard. I was trying to get to 15 on the back nine. A couple of putts here and there missed, but I had a chip-in on 16 which really kept me in it. I think 15 is going to be the number, but hopefully I can get in the playoff.

Q. Obviously an incredible first showing at your PGA TOUR Champions debut. Just thoughts on your first event and how it went?

ERNIE ELS: Well, from the first day it was pretty disappointing. I was almost last in the field. Then I got myself back up and played some really good golf. You know, I have a chance to win now, so it really changed the fortune in a couple of days and, you know, I'm really enjoying it. I've played with a couple of different guys, played with Freddie and Kirk Triplett and today with Marco Dawson. It's great to play with these guys. They can play and I'm enjoying myself.

Q. Does this bring back some good memories seeing guys on the leaderboard like Freddie and Bernhard?

ERNIE ELS: Yeah, it's good to see them, I just want to stay ahead of them. But it's been a good week and excellent always in Hawaii. So play with the guys that I played with as I grew up through the Tour, a lot of these guys were kind of my mentors through my time, so it's nice to come back and play with them again.