

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
August 14, 2021



STEPHEN AMES (-11)

Q. We'll get started with Stephen Ames. Just some overall thoughts on your round today?

STEPHEN AMES: I got off nice and warm, which was nice. It was a good front nine and then I kind of faltered on the back nine a bit. I think probably the pace of play kind of got me a little bit, we had to wait a few times on the back nine, but no excuse. But at the same time, it wasn't actually ball-striking, it was actually putting. I three-putted twice. So I think overall the day was a good day. I kept myself in it and I'm still in it obviously. 11's only leading, so I'm still there, which is nice.

Q. Did you scoreboard watch throughout the day?

STEPHEN AMES: Oh, yeah, for sure. I always do it, without a doubt, yeah.

Q. How special would this mean to you to win this?

STEPHEN AMES: Yeah, obviously a hell of a lot. Yeah, it would be very special. Second win for the year, but more importantly the fact that it's my home background, you know. Been here for 25 years. Not here anymore, but been here for 25 years, the faces are all very familiar. So yeah, it would be very special.

Q. Did you stay even keeled through what was such a high rise and then a bit of a level off?

STEPHEN AMES: I would say I was pretty level most of the day. I hit the ball close on the front nine, hit some great shots. My numbers were great. The back nine, like I said, the pace of play might have got me a little bit and I started maybe overthinking a little bit some things. And then I hit some -- overall I think I had one bad shot, which is the par 3 on 16. Other than that, I enjoyed the way I struck the golf ball. Putting was my downfall of my two bogeys, unfortunately. Other than that, it was a good round of golf.

Q. So you said you scoreboard watch. What were you thinking when you were five up at one point?

STEPHEN AMES: I didn't see that part. Obviously I missed it. No, I was actually -- I was thinking everybody else was right there with me. I was just trying to get in front, you know, a little bit. I didn't realize it was going to be that far in front, which is nice. I did falter and come back to the field a little bit, but you're watching everybody. I'm watching Mike to see how he's doing; he faltered himself today. David played well. I'm looking at the Canadians. Billy's

playing nicely as well, so it's nice to see that, yeah.

Q. Just in regards to how the event went, or at least this afternoon. It's kind of more of attrition where who can resist or battle towards the end, much like you did, and hang on is going to be the one that wins it. Is that how the course played or was weather a factor?

STEPHEN AMES: This year's different because we haven't played in dry conditions for quite a while here, so the golf course tends to be a little bouncier. Harder to keep the ball in play obviously on the fairways because they're bouncing. So if you haven't got the right line or the shape to the hole, you're going to be going through the fairways, which is what the nature of this golf course is. When the course was wetter in the past two years that we've played it, it's a little easier because the ball don't bounce as much and of course you don't have to worry about going through. In this case, yeah, it's a little firmer. Nice to see. I think overall the golf course is playing -- I think it's playing great right now, to be honest. I'm loving every minute of it.

Q. The best part is you got a bit of a test today so tomorrow's conditions, you might be able to fight that a little easier?

STEPHEN AMES: Well, we know what to expect tomorrow unless the superintendent's going to throw a ton of water on it tonight, which I doubt very much, but I think overall the golf course is playing -- we know what the golf course is going to give us tomorrow and we're not expecting any rain, so it's pretty much going to be the same tomorrow as it was today.