

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
August 14, 2021



STEVE FLESCH (-11)

STEVE FLESCH: Had a good chance on the back nine to shoot really low like I did yesterday, but just kind of misread, mis-hit a couple putts. I'm happy with 65. Everybody can say they left a couple out there, but playing better, putting better, doing a lot of good things.

Q. I think it kind of goes into my following question for you, Steve, just in regards to where you're at now. It kind of seemed like a battle for a lot of you golfers with the conditions, the weather changing and you name it. Just kind of take me through what was that like and kind of just toughing it out through the last few holes?

STEVE FLESCH: You know, the golf course is playing drastically different than it did the first couple days not only because it's 25 degrees warmer, but actually the greens were a lot firmer on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday. They put a little water on them Friday, which I think made them a little more receptive is why you're seeing so many good scores. Still tough out there. You still have to dive the ball in the fairway to be aggressive because there are some holes, some pin placements that are kind of in corners. You know, a lot of good scores out there and I anticipate tomorrow's going to be kind of another, not so much shootout, but you're going to have to shoot a good score to win tomorrow.

Q. Seems like you kind of put yourself in that position, definitely in the mix. Feeling comfortable with your game heading into the final round?

STEVE FLESCH: You know, I took a month off after the U.S. Senior Open in Omaha just to kind of take a break, just kind of get my juices kind of rejuvenated for the rest of the season, and I needed it. So I'm fresh this week, I've got a better attitude, I'm not as tired and I'm playing good, so that's all I can really ask.

Q. Two years ago you were leading, right, after the second day. What do you like about this course and playing up here?

STEVE FLESCH: I'm really comfortable off the tee here. I love that it calls for a lot of little right-to-left bleeders. I hit low kind of cuts off the tee that chase out a lot and it's perfect on a lot of holes out here. I don't know why, but I putted well here a couple years ago, too, so maybe I'm just comfortable on the greens. This year I'm just hitting my irons a little better, so maybe I can draw on some of that and come out on top tomorrow.

Q. It's quite a logjam on top of the leaderboard. What's it going to take to rise above and win tomorrow?

STEVE FLESCH: You know, I fully anticipate it's going to take another round of 5, 6 under

to even kind of have a chance. A lot of guys played good out there. The par 5s are reachable, the greens are perfect, so if you get a feel for the greens, you can make a lot of putts. It's just going to take another low one. I wouldn't anticipate anybody's going to go out there and shoot just a couple under par to win.