

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
August 31, 2018



KIRK TRIPLETT (-6)

JACKIE SERVAIS: Please welcome Kirk Triplett to the media center. Kirk, great round today, that's the best score you've shot on this course. Can you tell us what your mindset was and how you got to that point?

KIRK TRIPLETT: I don't know if I had any particular mindset. I just -- I was driving the ball in play and the greens are fairly receptive, so just tricky, it's hard to figure out the wind. I guessed right a couple times, made some birdies early and game seemed to be real easy for about 14 holes. Then I hit a poor shot off the downhill lie on 15, it was like somebody switched my game off. I really struggled the last four holes, but overall, thrilled with it.

JACKIE SERVAIS: Yeah, clean card there until 17. So it was it easy to get momentum today or was it hard, or what was your feeling on that?

KIRK TRIPLETT: Well, I was hitting a lot of good shots and just playing very consistent golf the first 14 holes. Drove it in the fairway on 15 and had a severe downhill lie, and the wind's kind of coming left to right and I didn't hit a very good shot in the front bunker, but I made a nice up-and-down. I mis-hit my tee shot on 17, made a nice up-and-down, or 16. 17, I drove it in the rough, kind of chunked it out of the rough, hit a bad first putt, hit a bad second putt, made a nice putt for bogey, and then just kind of limped in with a par on 18. This course, you've got to get your 3, 5 unders and then see how you're doing.

JACKIE SERVAIS: So you're tied with Miguel for the lead now. So going into tomorrow what's your mindset and what do you have to do different than today?

KIRK TRIPLETT: I think you've got to put the ball in play, number one. The fairways are tree lined. Sometimes it's just an automatic bogey if you knock it out there in the trees, so that's sort of where the round starts around here, I think.

Q. Kirk, I know you said you kind of felt like you limped in a little bit today. How do you reset that for tomorrow, or is that just part of the job?

KIRK TRIPLETT: Yeah, it's kind of unusual. A lot of times when I have a nice round going, I kind of keep it going all day and I kind of fall apart the next day, so it kind of happened early. But I'll go hit a few balls. Mostly, I think I just maybe got a little bit tired. It seemed like a slow round, although it didn't take that long to play, but we seemed to be waiting a lot. I was in a pretty fast group and we were at the end of the field. But yeah, I'll just get a little bit -- I'll hit a dozen balls on the range and do some putting and go have a nice dinner and have a nice evening.

Q. Despite you said you didn't play the well the last four holes, but can you build confidence off of your round?

KIRK TRIPLETT: Well, I feel like I've been playing some pretty good golf over the last couple months. I've had a lot of nice range sessions and I've been having trouble kind of getting a good score. I've been shooting a lot of 70s and 71s. So to get off to a 4-under start on the front nine, I was walking across that bridge to 10 feeling like, okay, finally I got off to a good start. Then I hit nice shots for four or five holes, got a couple more under, but then kind of struggled a little bit coming in. Yeah, no, I feel like my game's right there and I can hit the shots I want to hit and believe in it. That's what the guys that win, that's what they do.

Q. We just talked to Miguel in here, obviously on top of the Money List. What's impressed you about his play this year?

KIRK TRIPLETT: What doesn't impress you about that man, right? (Laughs.) He's a golfer in the truest sense of the word, right? He's not pulling out some picture postcard swing. He's found a way to hit the ball, strikes it beautifully. You know that age-old saying, it's not about the swing, it's about the strike. I mean, he puts as good a strike on it as anybody out here, and he does it with panache. Yeah, he's cool to watch and tough to beat.

Q. You should have a pretty good view of that tomorrow?

KIRK TRIPLETT: I'll use my eight words of Spanish and we'll have a conversation.

JACKIE SERVAIS: Thank you, Kirk.

KIRK TRIPLETT: Thank you.