

**PRE-TOURNAMENT  
INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: DUFFY WALDORF  
Wednesday, October 30, 2013**



**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** We welcome Duffy Waldorf into the interview room this afternoon. Duffy, rookie season on the Champions Tour this year and you're one of seven rookies in this field.

**DUFFY WALDORF:** That's pretty good.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** First time here to TPC Harding Park for the Charles Schwab Cup Championship. I know you'd like to pick up your first victory this week at our season-ending event.

**DUFFY WALDORF:** Yeah, who wouldn't. It's a big event, all the top players. You feel like it's a reward but it's still a chance to move up the list for a lot of guys, me included. I've had some close calls this year throughout the year, so it hasn't really worked out for me yet. I'd just like to play well, I'd like to play well and be in contention and if you have a shot you feel at some point it will happen. Even the top players have many opportunities and don't always capitalize on all of them, so I just hope to be in the mix. It's a good solid course. The course definitely will get your attention. I'm out there going boy, the ball's not going, the greens are pretty firm, it's just a really solid test of golf. So the focus is really on the course and how to defeat it and hopefully that will be a low enough score to get a trophy.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** You're sort of a southern Cal guy, UCLA and everything. Your history of golf in northern California?

**DUFFY WALDORF:** I always get chilly. Well, I mean the highlight has been the California State Amateur in 1984 at Pebble Beach, I won that. I probably played in the California Amateur five or so times. I was doing pretty well -- I've done okay in some U.S. Opens but never had a great finish. The infamous, was that the '92 Open? When did it all go wrong? '92, wasn't it? Yeah, I think I was near the Top 10 in '92 and then I probably shot 85 the last day, I remember shooting in the 80s. It was the day Tom Kite won, it was pretty incredible. Had a couple good AT&Ts. In general golf up here is tough. We live the easy life in southern California. Up here you've got to earn it, you've got to be a hardy individual to play golf up here. It's like playing in Scotland.

**Q. During the mid summer there you had a really, really terrific stretch where you were in contention every week. When you look back on that, did you think what was missing, what was the thing you needed to get over the edge there and finally win?**

**DUFFY WALDORF:** For the most part, I mean, I haven't had a really hot putting week this year. I've had weeks where I putted better than others, but it's easy to put the blame on putting, you've got to do it on every hole. If you improve your putting on just a percentage of your holes you're going to do great, but I certainly had some tournaments where I didn't putt well. In general there's a couple tournaments where I look back and say, tee to green I was hitting the ball great, in like Iowa, even the Regions Tradition I was doing very well there and just, you know, putted well for a couple days and then didn't have good weekends with the putting.

The thing I'm happy about is that I didn't have like that good run there in early June where I played well at the PGA and played well at Regions and Iowa and then struggled a little bit over at the British Open and Minnesota and came back real strong, had a nice tournament run in late August and September with Seattle and two tournaments in Canada where I finished a couple 4ths and a couple 3rds. When Rocco won in Calgary, I would say Seattle I had good finishes, but I wasn't really in the mix. I was playing okay but really I need to start having weeks where I make more putts. That was a long answer saying well, I didn't putt that great.

**Q. There are several scenarios of the rookie race thing with Rocco and Esteban the frontrunners, but that could change. How do you handicap it between those two?**

**DUFFY WALDORF:** Between those two is a tough call. I would give it to Esteban only because, it's probably not really a valid reason but how far he's come. I think he's playing the best golf of his career. Rocco's an established winner on the TOUR, he's less of a surprise you could say. I haven't really looked hard at the numbers as far as number of Top 10s or all the stats. They both have two wins, that's obviously they're kind of even in that so you need to go maybe farther down money and Schwab Cup points, measure it in those ways.

**Q. (Inaudible)**

**DUFFY WALDORF:** \$1,100? Okay, that's really kind of a tie.

**Q. It's really close, all those numbers kind of --**

**DUFFY WALDORF:** Really even now. Then of course you look at this tournament and say well, it's a big tournament, it's a major tournament, what if they finish -- hopefully you can say one of them should do well here and that will probably tip the scales in their favor. Now, I wouldn't say if one finished 12th and the other finished 20th that would be that -- hopefully one of them will go and be in contention and that would probably tip the scales in their favor.

**Q. Somebody said you're coloring your balls again this week, something you haven't been doing?**

**DUFFY WALDORF:** I've been coloring them every week. I have very colorful balls. You, you stop laughing back there.

**Q. (Inaudible).**

**DUFFY WALDORF:** Well, I've been having -- I heard nothing. I send them up to my mom and she takes them to art class and they've been doing them most of the year. Occasionally -- I've been out on Tour for a while -- I end up having to do them, but I'm always putting something on there. So there's going to be some Halloween themed balls that have made it from Oregon, and my mom and my daughter are here so they'll probably do some local balls, too.

**Q. Rocco was talking about the season out here, he's seen how the competition is stout, it's no cakewalk. Your thoughts on the caliber of play out here after a full season out here?**

**DUFFY WALDORF:** Well, I maintain the difference at the top is, I think, very small from the PGA TOUR, if not almost the same. Winning a tournament I think is just about as hard I would say. The only difference is probably finishing 50th is easier out here. There's 81 guys, so there's not quite as much depth. If you made the field 150, there maybe would be a little more depth. But where it counts finishing 1, 2, 3, it's very difficult. I've had some tournaments, I think I had at least three or four tournaments my year-plus that I've been out here where I say yeah, I could have won that tournament but other guys just played better. It wasn't like, oh well, I should have done this or that. I mean, at the PLAYERS Championship I think I shot, I don't know, a lot under, 16 at least. Kenny Perry just played a little better, I think he shot 18. When Fred Funk won at Hickory last year, not this year, I was like 14-under par but he was one better. You look at those tournaments and say you know what, you really can't -- I think on Tour I might have been very competitive with a chance to win at those weeks so at the top it's about the same. At times it seems almost harder because I think the courses set up a little bit easier sometimes, but you don't get to like shoot 12-under. Sometimes you've got to shoot 18- or 20-under par on a course, yeah, it's an easier course, but 20-under par is 20-under par for three rounds, that's a low score. When you've been playing the TOUR a long time, you don't shoot 20-under par for three rounds unless you're playing in Las Vegas, there's a couple where you have that. Most of the time 12-under par after four rounds is a pretty good score.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** Duffy, good luck this week.