

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW: TOM BYRUM
June 24, 2016



MODERATOR: Well, Tom, thanks for joining us, 7-under 65, bogey three. Maybe just some thoughts on your round and then we'll go through your card.

TOM BYRUM: Birdies. I had a great putter today. Otherwise I hit some good iron shots, but I hit some bad iron shots, but I didn't -- I drove it well at times. It wasn't like a perfect round of golf or anything, but I did -- I was fortunate, got it up and down when I had to for par and the putter just kept me rolling, kept me in the game. Otherwise I hit some bad shots that could have been bogeys for sure.

MODERATOR: How has the putter been coming in here?

TOM BYRUM: Good. Yeah, it's been pretty good, but these greens just seem to be, I don't know, I have a good feel for them so it's just everything was clicking. I could kind of tell in the pro-am they were pretty good. I loved the speed and just went with that and good feel.

MODERATOR: Birdies, start at No. 10.

TOM BYRUM: Started on No. 10 for the day and then birdied 10 and 11, hit a nice putt that lipped out on 12 and birdied 13.

MODERATOR: What were your birdie putts on 10 and 12?

TOM BYRUM: Let's see, No. 10 was probably about 15 feet, and then 11 was approximately six, eight feet. 13 was about two feet. Then parred 14, 15 and 16, 17, made a nice par save on 17 from about 15 feet. Then birdie 18 probably from 15 -- 12, 15 feet, 15 probably. And then I laid it up a little too far back on No. 1 after I hit a 3-wood. I was thinking it was going to play a little faster and hit an 8-iron about six feet and made that and then did not birdie 2, 3, 4, 5, birdied 6, par 5, I hit a wedge about -- that was about two feet. And then 7, hit a 9-iron about 10 feet and then that's about it. I hit a nice driver and really good 3-wood that almost got on the green and rolled back probably 30 yards from the green on No. 9 that was kind of -- I didn't -- you know, not playing here, I just didn't even realize it was going to do that. I thought I'd knocked it on the green, but so that was kind of a tough chip to come up and over that hill. Anyway you don't want to hear about that.

MODERATOR: Questions?

Q. Tom, can you put a perspective, I mean you said you had a lot of wedges in your hands and a lot of manageable clubs out here. On a weekly basis, I mean, is this course playing any different than what you see week in, week out?

TOM BYRUM: Probably lately no because we've just come off a nice stretch of golf courses

that have played pretty tough. I would say it's pretty well in line with what we play. Maybe the par 5s, some of the par 5s might be a hair longer, you know, maybe they're a little more reachable, although, I don't know, there's a good mix. It's got a nice mix of holes, you know, a lot of scoring holes on the back nine, I think. So you can really -- I think you'll really see a low nine over there if you haven't seen it already this week. I haven't looked at the scores, but I feel like somebody could shoot something pretty low on that nine. With three par 5s on the front I think that as well, you know. Two of them may or may not be reachable. I couldn't get to two of them today, that was 6 and 9, but I could have gotten to the other one if I had hit two good shots, but I didn't hit a good drive there. But overall it's a nice golf course. There's a couple par 4s that are really tough, No. 4, that's a good hole. I mean, there's going to be some numbers made there that are not he oh you are aren't going to like if you're playing. And really you've got to drive it well on 7 is a tough tee shot really. It's kind of blind and, you know, if you get a cross wind you're just not sure. I think it holds up well for an event. I think we just had such a wind also day and the greens are holding well and everybody is pretty loose the first round, kind of going for it. So nice course.

Q. Along the same lines, do you feel like you need to do this two more days?

TOM BYRUM: I hope not.

Q. To get a win there?

TOM BYRUM: Probably, the way it's playing. What is leading, 8 or 9? 8. I'm not sure. Maybe they will set it up tougher but if we get a little more wind at all, I heard early in the week I heard Saturday it might blow a little bit, tomorrow. If it does blow a little bit that will keep the scores from being like it was today and if they-- I don't think they're going to get to where they set up the holes where they're too penalizing because you can really get in some spots out there. But we may see a little tougher pin placements and then if we see wind, they could firm up the greens too, but then, you know, it's being the first year, I just don't think they want to be punishing. That's my take on it, but maybe it will get a little firmer, a little faster.

Q. Did I hear your brother is working the telecast?

TOM BYRUM: Um-hmm.

Q. And you guys hang out when you're in the same place, same time?

TOM BYRUM: Yeah, we had dinner. My mom's here, my sister's here, her husband, we all went to dinner last night. So I'm sure we'll go again if not tonight, tomorrow night. So, yeah, we get together, family thing, you know how it is, right.

Q. Who pays?

TOM BYRUM: My mom jumped on it last night. I don't know why. We were just kind of

falling asleep and she grabbed it. I'm sure that will be the last time for that. She's kind of stubborn that way.

Q. Your tour in '89, that's getting to be a long time ago. Do you start to think or when do you allow yourself to think you can get another win?

TOM BYRUM: You know, I've had other opportunities. If it was going to happen on tour it would have happened I guess, but out here I feel like I'm playing well enough if I can stay consistent. This year's been a really nice year and I always thought you'd probably-- your best golf was going to be early 50s, but out here just seems like sometimes your 55, 56, 57, look at Bernhard, he's playing so good later on in his 50s. So I started playing a little better this year and so it's just I'm still hopeful that that's not my only one.

MODERATOR: All right, guys. Thanks.