

PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW
November 8, 2017



BERNHARD LANGER

LAURA VESCOVI: Welcome, Bernhard, to the Charles Schwab Cup Championship. It's been an exciting Playoffs for you, I know you've swept the first two and I can assume that that's the goal for this week as well.

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, it has to be, I suppose. I hope. All comes down to this week, right?

LAURA VESCOVI: It does.

BERNHARD LANGER: The whole year you try to get into position. Obviously like to be in the top-5 because we can determine the outcome, but there's a lot of other guys that still have a chance as well.

LAURA VESCOVI: And this is a new course. We were at Desert Mountain last year. So what have your preparations been, what do you do when you come to a new course that hasn't been played in a long time?

BERNHARD LANGER: Well, I just had a really good look yesterday, played a practice round and made my notes and looked at certain tee shots and the greens and angles where the hazards are and where trouble is, all that kind of stuff. Put some of that in my yardage book because I didn't remember a great deal. I think I had played here in 1986 once or twice, so I just had to kind of go around the course again and get some visual pictures and just make some notes. I might play a couple more holes this afternoon and then tomorrow's pro-am, so by the time Friday comes around I should have an idea where to go, where not to go.

LAURA VESCOVI: We'll open it up for questions.

Q. Bernhard, you win back-to-back playoff events and this week your lead shrank 200 points over Scott McCarron. What did you do wrong?

BERNHARD LANGER: Somebody could win the first 25 tournaments and finish second in the Schwab tournament and still not win the Schwab Cup. Seems a bit odd, but that's how it is right now.

Q. What did you do in your time off after QQQ? Did you stay on the west coast?

BERNHARD LANGER: No, I flew home Monday so I didn't get home, meaning Florida where I live, so I got there by Monday evening so I had about a week at home, a little less

than a week. I just spent time with my wife and our 17-year-old son. Worked out a little bit, did some fan mail and some paperwork, office stuff. My wife and my son went to a Christian camp over the weekend, so I drove up there and spent one evening with them, Saturday, and that's about it. Went to church. Just the normal things, nothing too exciting, just away from golf. Practiced a little bit towards the weekend, but not the first few days.

Q. Bernhard, two questions. First of all, your impressions of the course, Phoenix Country Club? And second, do you think the fact that this is a new venue for everybody might open the door a little bit for some of the competition, level the playing field so to speak?

BERNHARD LANGER: Well, the course is in great shape. It's phenomenal. I think the redesign was very well done as well. The greens don't seem to be crazy undulated like many of the modern courses are, so it's more of an old-style, tree-lined golf course. Some greens are quite small so you have to position your ball.

The second question, whether it really favors anybody or is not an advantage to anybody, I think a lot of the guys played here in the '80s that are still on this tour nowadays, but I think the course has changed a little bit since so nobody really does have an advantage.

Does it favor anybody? I'm not so sure. The long hitters still have an advantage on reaching the par 5s and maybe driving the one hole that's drivable, I can't remember what hole it is now. But there's a lot of premium on just hitting it straight, position it, the tee shots, and then give yourself the best possible angle to attack the flags. I think anybody in the field has a chance.

Q. One of the very few things missing from your resume is a Schwab Cup tournament championship.

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, how come?

Q. No, I'm just saying you have plenty of Schwab Cups on your mantel so is that a motivating factor this week?

BERNHARD LANGER: Well, I don't need any more motivation. I think everybody's highly motivated just winning the tournament, which would guarantee for some to win the Schwab Cup as well and for others to just have a tremendous week and move up in the rankings. There's no need for more motivation. But yes, obviously whenever I tee it up I would love to win, and as you said, for some reason I haven't won the tournament yet but I came close a few times.

Q. Bernhard, you talked about working out. Can you talk about your fitness regimen, assisted stretching, what works for you and your performance?

BERNHARD LANGER: I don't really have a regimen as such except when I'm on tour I

stretch every morning and every evening. So you'll see me at least 30 to 45 minutes in the trailers out there in the parking lot every morning and every evening. Most of that's stretching. Some of it is warming up, a little bit of cardio, and then some smaller weights and ropes and bands and things like that, but not a whole lot. I do more working out at home, but on tour I just try to maintain what there is.

Q. Do you see the stretching as important for amateur golfers as well?

BERNHARD LANGER: You think so?

Q. Do you?

BERNHARD LANGER: I know it is. What do you think? Of course it is, especially older guys. We lose flexibility and we lose strength, so by stretching and working out a little bit, you can slow down the process of getting stiff and aging in general. So it's very important. A teenager doesn't need it as much because they're just limber anyways, but as we get older it definitely helps.

Q. Along those same lines, any special diet regimen that you follow?

BERNHARD LANGER: I'm on the see food diet. You've heard that one, right? Me, too. I love it. I mean, it's -- you know, I'm not an expert in diet, but it's obvious whatever grows naturally is probably healthy for us and what doesn't is maybe not so healthy. So I try to eat a lot of that stuff, but I have a very sweet tooth and that's probably not good. We know sugar is not good, but I'm not going to give up everything. Got to have a bad habit somewhere.

Q. Do any of the guys give you ribbing or joke with you, like c'mon, give somebody else a chance once in a while? Do you hear it from the other guys?

BERNHARD LANGER: Oh, yeah, there's lots of that going on, of course. One of the funniest ones is we're going to pay your disappearance money, so we're passing the hat around. I said, well, you've got to up that a little bit if you want me to disappear. We used to get appearance money as you can imagine in some tournaments in the past. So yeah, I haven't seen a big enough check for disappearance money.

LAURA VESCOVI: Any other questions? Great. Thank you for being here.

BERNHARD LANGER: You're welcome.