

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
November 10, 2017

LEE JANZEN (-7)



Q. Well, great start today, 7 under. What went well?

LEE JANZEN: Yeah, I think everybody in the field knows scoring's going to be low, so I think the mindset is you've got to shoot low scores all three days, you don't want to get behind.

I don't really feel like I've got complete control of my game, which it would be great if I did, but my strategy was just so try not to give away any shots. And if I can make a few birdies and get under par or at least in the 60s, I would at least not hurt myself too much, so I think 7 under's a bonus for me. I putted very well. A number of putts that I didn't make, at least I hit them well. I hit them with good speed and they had a chance to go in. I mean, I holed quite a few putts as it was. I parred all three par 5s. You would think a 7-under par would include some birdies on those holes. So I certainly have room for improvement and I did fight some hooks on the first nine holes, so I need to work on that, too.

Q. A lot of this course is described as old school. It's so important obviously to the history of golf in Phoenix. Do you feel that? How do you think this is playing out so far?

LEE JANZEN: Well, it's very cool to be here. I think it's a good place for us, the PGA TOUR Champions. Things have changed so much in the last 20 years with equipment that so many golf courses become obsolete basically. But the PGA TOUR Champions guys, who I believe there's no other 50-year-old set who plays as close to their prime as we do, I think this is a great setup for us. We don't completely -- we're not going to completely overpower this golf course with length like the youngsters would do, so I think it will provide a good enough test amongst ourselves, even though scoring's going to be great because conditions are phenomenal. Greens are perfect. You're not going to find a better surface to putt on. And the weather is like being inside basically, hardly a breath of wind so the greens are fairly receptive. There's some firmness to them so you have to make sure you're coming from the right angle.

But if you've watched the play on the PGA TOUR Champions this year, I don't know that it's ever been any better. The conditions -- course setups haven't changed any on our tour, but the scores have gotten lower, which means everybody's starting to play better. We're pushing each other and the competition's causing that.

Q. The Champions circuit's obviously evolved. It's gone from guys like Arnie and all those to a pure group of guys that were very competitive, very recognizable to golf fans. Do you feel that kind of embrace from golf fans, particularly here where they

can be so close to you?

LEE JANZEN: Oh, yeah. That's one of the other benefits here being at Phoenix Country Club. Old school, we used to play lots of courses like this on the regular tour way back, so that is the benefit is everything's a lot closer together. So the crowd has the benefit of getting around the course very easily and seeing all kinds of golf. There are lots of benefits for us playing here and I think it's just, from what I've seen today, we've got a great turnout. So I think this is a great venue and I would like to see it keep going.