

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW**  
**11 October 2018**



**BEN LEONG (-4)**

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**Q. That was some recovery from you.**

**BEN LEONG:** Yeah, I didn't get off to a great start. Told myself we have a couple more days to go and just take my time and stay patient. Took one shot at a time and managed to recover.

**Q. How satisfying is it to recover from that start of yours?**

**BEN LEONG:** Very, very satisfying. There's a saying that it's not how you start, it's how you finish. So I'm proud of myself the way I hung in there.

**Q. Ben, what was the game plan today? Were you going to attack, were you going to play defensive?**

**BEN LEONG:** Well, depends on how you look at it. It really depends on the pin as well. So if I have a short iron in, I'll definitely go for the pin. If I have 7- or 8-iron or even 6-iron, I'll just play it safe, just put it on the green. That was the game plan, keep it simple, put it on the fairway, put it on the green and try to make the putt.

**Q. So was it playing like a totally different golf course because of the upgrades and all that?**

**BEN LEONG:** It felt that way definitely. The greens, the contours is pretty much the same as before but it's just a different grass. It definitely helps since I've been playing here for almost 10 years now, so that really helps.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**BEN LEONG:** Nothing really. I mean, there's no cut this week, so I don't really have to be really, really aggressive. Just hung in there, just make my par and just wait for the birdie to come.

**Q. The early few holes, was it struggle with your swing?**

**BEN LEONG:** Just hit a couple -- I mean, I played good. I thought, you know, I started on the 10th, hit a good drive, hit a good second shot. Just poor management, I would say. Should have just laid up to like 80 yards instead of hitting it into the green-side bunker because I had like a 50-yard bunker shot which was really tough. So I made a soft bogey from there, from 30 yards from the green. Hit a good shot on No. 11 to like nine feet, just

missed the birdie putt. I hit a poor drive on 12 and should have just stayed really, really patient, just lay it up, trust my wedge game, but I went for it and I hit into the water and made double there.

**Q. Planning to do anything differently tomorrow?**

**BEN LEONG:** No, no. We don't know what the weather's going to look like, where the pins are, so we'll look and react.

**Q. Any number in mind that will make you happy come Sunday?**

**BEN LEONG:** A number as in scores or position? You know what, getting in, playing this week is already a bonus, I don't really have expectations. We'll see what happens.