

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
June 12, 2021



RETIEF GOOSEN (-8)

Q. Your thoughts on the second round?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Yeah, today I played a little better. Unfortunate the finish was poor. Yesterday I had a good finish and today it was a bad finish. If I can have another good finish tomorrow, who knows. Yeah, being two or maybe three behind going into tomorrow is not a bad place to be.

Q. Retief, how is the game plan any different or similar from two years ago? And it just seems like guys are getting to a certain point and then there's kind of a plateau. The course seems to have a little bit of teeth?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Yeah, the course is drying out very quickly. This week it was a little tough on the pin placements than the last time we played. It seems to be very much on the edge, edges of the green, especially 15 was about as close to the edge as I've seen it. And that's probably why the scores are just sort of holding there. Guys are making birdies here and there on the par 5s, but it's tough to make them on the par 4s.

Q. Where do you feel this tournament might be won and lost, and how far into the course do you have to make a move before you might run out of holes where you have legitimate birdie chances?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Well, I mean, you try and birdie every hole out there, but there's a few holes that are playing tough. No. 4 today played really tough into the wind. There's a few holes that you go, okay, if I make par, it's great.

I think tomorrow the key is to hit good drives on the par 5s, give yourself birdie chances, even eagle chances on the par 5s. If you can maybe birdie four or five of the par 5s, that's going to move you up the leaderboard pretty quickly.

Q. There was one birdie on 18 today, it was Dicky Pride with a bellied hybrid off the green. Is that just a tough pin?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Yeah, I hit a fairly good shot in there. I had a good drive and I had a 52-degree wedge in and just, you know, went dead on a putt, didn't hit it. I had about as good a putt to make up the hill, just a little left to right and just didn't hit it. So it was disappointing.

But as I say, just two behind hopefully is a good place to be. This course, if I can get off to a nice start again tomorrow, I birdied the first hole the first two rounds and maybe birdie the

second, go from there. I think somebody in the sort of pack is going to go out there and shoot a low score that's going to win the event.

Q. How do you prepare or attack that first hole that gets you off on a good start?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Well, we were lucky, you know, yesterday there was no wind. It was a rescue and a wedge. Today I hit a rescue way too far actually, got too close to the green. So that hole is probably playing about as easy as it can play.

Looks like tomorrow's going to be another hot day. If the breeze picks up -- these last few holes in the trees here is tricky, it's tough to judge which direction the wind came from and that's my mistakes. On 16 I hit the wrong club for the second in and on 17 I had the wrong club. So just got to get -- judge those winds a little better tomorrow.