

ROUND 3 INTERVIEW
June 12, 2022



SKIP KENDALL (-4)

Q. Skip, nice day.

SKIP KENDALL: Yeah.

Q. Thoughts on the tournament?

SKIP KENDALL: Got it under par. From the way I played, that's monumental. Every round under par, that's a first for me here, so I'm excited about that. However, it wasn't very good.

Q. Progress is part of the process, right?

SKIP KENDALL: Yeah. Well, I'm looking at the bright side. Glass is always half full, right?

Q. Yeah. Two birdies, one bogey and then a lot of pars?

SKIP KENDALL: Yeah. Just again kind of the same MO as the first couple days. I hit two good shots into No. 2 and two-putted for birdie there and I just really felt like I could get a 6, 7, 8 under round going. Just, you know, never really happened unfortunately. Just couldn't get it close enough out there. Hit a bunch of greens, but just not close enough to take advantage of it.

Q. This is kind of the day where we -- there's been all sorts of build-up getting this start and now it's kind of like what's next? You really don't know, do you?

SKIP KENDALL: No, I don't. I really don't. I know I'm on the lesson tee on Tuesday, so I look forward to that. One of my juniors is playing in an AJGA event right down there in Orlando, so I'll be with him, and lessons as well. Excited about that and getting those guys going and watching him maybe pull off a win. I get just as excited as if I'm playing, so it's kind of cool, kind of cool in that respect.

Q. Can you contrast the excitement leading into this event versus kind of the, gosh, it's over leading out of it?

SKIP KENDALL: You know, it's unfortunate. I guess when I got done in the '19 year, I didn't really feel like playing that much and after 33 years of playing professional golf, I needed a break. I started coaching and just really went full bore. And I didn't play at all in '20. I know COVID hit, but I didn't play at all, and '21 I played five events and I feel like playing a little bit more. Hopefully if this -- really get the academy rolling here and start doing some different things, I can play, might allow me to play a little bit more and get my game a little bit better

than what it was this week.

You know, overall it was okay. I'm pleased with it, but at the same time disappointed that I couldn't have performed just a little bit better. I really feel like 12 under, what is leading right now, is definitely in the realm; even better than that because I'm putting well and driving it pretty good. Just need to get those irons working a little better.

Q. When you come back here to play and now that you're done with this event, you mentioned it was like your 40th high school reunion the other day.

SKIP KENDALL: I heard all about it last night.

Q. Do you reflect back on that whole journey, your whole career when you're back here?

SKIP KENDALL: That's a long time. I mean, that's 40 years. Not really, I don't know. I heard about it last night. Again, I don't feel like -- I don't feel that old, so 40 years, that's a long time. I heard everyone looked good and everyone's doing okay. It was fun. Sorry I missed it, but bigger fish to fry right now.

Q. On the course were you aware of the bunching at the top of the leaderboard?

SKIP KENDALL: Yeah, I could see it, I could see it. Again, I was just trying to make some more birdies myself out there. If I could have gotten in the mix, that would have been fun. Unfortunately, just couldn't quite get it close enough to the hole.

Q. How do you explain that it's getting so bunched up there? The leaders haven't made too much of a move and a lot of other guys have entered the picture. At one point there were eight guys tied at the top.

SKIP KENDALL: I know, it's interesting. It's going to be a great finish. 17 and 18 are always difficult, so pars are good there, but if you can sneak in a birdie. Seventeen, the pin is up front and it's playing a little bit downwind, so not as difficult, but you've got to be careful, it's a tough shot. But you can make birdie. If you hit a good shot there, you can make birdie. Eighteen, difficult hole, won't be many birdies there, but 16 is certainly reachable. All the holes leading up to that are birdie holes, so anybody who gets on a nice run there is probably going to pull it off.

Q. I think Mario was two in front of you and he said he could hear Stricker roars. I don't know if you could hear Kelly roars?

SKIP KENDALL: Sure, oh, yeah. You can always tell, it's either Jerry or Steve. I know they were a little bit behind me, but you could hear it. You could hear it around there, which is really cool. It's really neat.

Q. It didn't look like they were going to get into the hunt, but they are. I don't suppose that surprises you in the least?

SKIP KENDALL: Oh, no. Jerry's obviously playing well, he won last week, and leading into the event that's a bonus, that's pretty good. He knows how to get it done here. Wasn't surprised that he was 10 under at one point. I saw he was tied for the lead. I know it's gone to 12. He might be at 11, I don't know, so he's right there. Sixteen you can make an eagle on, so whoever does that I think is going to pull it off and hopefully it's either Jerry or Steve. I know Steve is -- I think he was through 16 at 9 under, so unfortunately, but a couple birdies coming in, you never know.

Q. Seems like an obvious question, but how important is it for those guys, for the fans here just to have those local guys in contention?

SKIP KENDALL: Fantastic. You hear the roars. Obviously they pull for us, and maybe Mario and I can do something in the years to come here. Like to get some more guys out there. And then Mark Wilson here in a few years, so that will be fun.

Q. Get that microphone out of his hand, it will be good.

SKIP KENDALL: Yeah. Well, that will be fun having some more guys, too.

Q. Do you head home right away or are you able to enjoy any of what's left?

SKIP KENDALL: Well, the rest of the day. I'll be here to see who pulls this off, that would be fun. I might go over there, get a front row seat over there, just have the rest of the day to do whatever. I leave tomorrow morning, head back home, see the fam.

Q. Great to see you, Skip.

SKIP KENDALL: Great to see you guys. Great to see you. Great to be back here.