

ROUND 3 INTERVIEW
June 12, 2022



MARIO TIZIANI (-4)

Q. Mario, I guess rollercoaster would be the best way to describe this round today, especially on the front nine, and then you kind of steadied it on the back.

MARIO TIZIANI: Yeah, really bad rollercoaster. Yeah, bogeyed the first. Actually thinking about birdie and made bogey. Eagled the second. I plugged it in the lip on the third hole. Three-putted the fifth hole. Hit it on some mud on the sixth hole and bladed it over the green, then unplayable lie. I think I had it all. I hung in there and respectful day.

Q. Did you pull it left on 9?

MARIO TIZIANI: Well, I actually thought I hit a good drive and Bobbi was like, "I think they see it." We just kind of had this banter back and forth. I thought it was fine. So a bad line, it was a good shot on a wrong line.

Q. How did you eagle 2?

MARIO TIZIANI: Driver, hybrid about 10 feet maybe.

Q. So you get to 1 under the hard way.

MARIO TIZIANI: The hard way.

Q. And then are you thinking there you can get a low one?

MARIO TIZIANI: Yeah, yeah, I was feeling good. I did not have the right club in my hand today for whatever reason. And the last hole, too, I thought was a good shot. Maybe the air was a little heavier, but like I said, I righted the ship and made a few birdies on the back to kind of get it back. But five bogeys in the first nine holes, that was stressful.

Q. That wasn't how you drew it up?

MARIO TIZIANI: No, not at all.

Q. And you served notice that 14 and 15 might be holes -- or 15 and 16 might be holes that determine this championship. You get birdies there. How did that kind of get you feeling good about maybe the way you're finishing?

MARIO TIZIANI: Exactly. I hit it in a divot on 13 so I didn't really have a chance there. No. 14, the wind flipped on me and I came up short, and making the putt on 15 and getting it

back to even and then knowing I have a chance at 16 to get it under par was, it was nice to -- I felt a little more comfortable getting it a little closer to par. I was stressing for a while.

Q. Before I ask you about the rest of the tournament, do you leave here feeling better? Do you feel you made progress again? This does seem it's more of a process than you're just going to walk out here and make yourself at home.

MARIO TIZIANI: Yeah, way more of a process than I thought, a lot of mistakes still that I need to clean up. For whatever reason, I feel like that's gotten a little worse, I think. Maybe distractions, I don't know. Maybe fatigue could be, three weeks in a row, I haven't done that forever. But there's a lot of things I need to get better at still, but it's coming, it's getting better.

Q. The build-up to this is so great and now you're done here and then the question is what's next?

MARIO TIZIANI: Exactly. Out here, I'm not sure. They have a lot of majors that I can't play in for the next maybe six weeks with forced weeks off. I've got a state open at home, Minnesota State Open. I've got an Arizona Open, so those will be good tests for me.

Q. And do you allow yourself, I mean, do you happen to see what's going on on that leaderboard as you're out there?

MARIO TIZIANI: It's clumping up, isn't it?

Q. It is.

MARIO TIZIANI: Yeah, so I'm going to have to go watch.

Q. At one point there were eight guys tied for the lead and all of a sudden your brother-in-law gets to a shot.

MARIO TIZIANI: Yeah, it's inevitable Steve and Jerry are there every year no matter what happens. It's going to be fun.

Q. Why do you think so many guys are up there right now? What is it with the course?

MARIO TIZIANI: You know, I think it's a little softer, it's playing longer for sure. It's a different wind, it's out of the east and the par 5s aren't reachable unless you're really getting it out there. And yeah, I think the course is just a tiny bit different. And it's Sunday, I think that's the biggest thing.

Q. How exciting is it for this tournament that so many guys finish like this?

MARIO TIZIANI: It's great, yeah. It's nice to have the fans. They're going to get a show hopefully. Looking like a playoff really. I don't know how -- unless somebody really does something coming in, but how many guys are up there, seven or eight guys. Yeah, it will be fun.

Q. Could you feel a vibe out there or a sense that this was happening? Were the fans staying stuff, "Oh, look at that, look at this"?

MARIO TIZIANI: I just heard -- I heard the roar on 14 and kind of figured Steve had made another birdie. Maybe I'm wrong, but I think he did.

Q. You're right, that's where it was, yeah.

MARIO TIZIANI: Yeah, it's getting close.

Q. So you can hear a Stricker roar. Can you hear a Kelly roar? Can you tell the two apart?

MARIO TIZIANI: Yeah.

Q. You can?

MARIO TIZIANI: Yeah.

Q. Really?

MARIO TIZIANI: Yeah.

Q. Steve's are louder?

MARIO TIZIANI: Yes.

Q. Even after two wins, Jerry Haas a way to go on the decibel meter?

MARIO TIZIANI: It's close.