

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
November 10, 2022

STEVEN ALKER (-6)



Q. Steven Alker, thanks for joining us, 6 under round, tied for the lead after round one. How's it going out there?

STEVEN ALKER: Yep, I felt good today. Hit some quality shots, got a few putts early. I think Pdraig and I kind of felt like we were feeding off each other a little bit making some birdies early. I'm pleased. One down, three to go, pleased with my start. The golf course is totally different to the pro-am yesterday with the rain and the wind. Just have to stay patient and just take your birdies when you could.

Q. Steven, was that on 16 a scuffed ball?

STEVEN ALKER: It was. I thought it was cut, but apparently it wasn't. It was just like a dimple that had come apart from the ball. Apparently it wasn't cut.

Q. You made the putt?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah. Actually, it was only like two and a half feet.

Q. How big of a difference is it, 72 holes versus 54 holes, knowing you've still got three more rounds?

STEVEN ALKER: I think the only difference really is like you don't have to get off to a super hot start to be amongst it and feel like you're not behind. If you can stay two or three away at the start, you're OK. If you're five or six, well, you've still got time. I think that's the only difference. The weather's going to be good, there's birdies out there, you've just got to keep pushing hard.

Q. Did it feel different to be the hunted instead of the hunter even though it's one man behind you?

STEVEN ALKER: I've been hunted since May, so it's no -- there's no problem. It felt fine. It was like, you know, just another week. Yeah, I've got a bullseye there, but to be honest, no.

Q. Glad to get this round in to start playing here?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, yeah, it was. I've been at home and playing in front of friends and some family and stuff. Yeah, it's just nice to get a solid one under the belt and just to know that my game's traveled coming from Boca and it's there. I was pleased with that.



Q. That brings confidence into the next round, I imagine?

STEVEN ALKER: Yes.

