

**BERNHARD LANGER**

---

**Q. Bernhard, you come back to Hualalai where you've won three times. Just your thoughts on opening the season here?**

**BERNHARD LANGER:** Well, it's certainly one of my favorite spots in the world and definitely to play golf. It's great to be back at Hualalai for the Mitsubishi Electric Championship. I love this place. The golf course is in better shape than I've ever seen it. The weather, it's a bit crummy, that blue sky, but we love it anyways. Yeah, everybody's excited to kick off the new year.

**Q. As a three-time winner here, what is it about this golf course that suits your game?**

**BERNHARD LANGER:** Well, it's just always in great shape and you're playing in -- I always say God spent overtime when he created this place. It's just the colors are so magnificent. You see the black lava rock and the white sand in the bunker, then the green grass, the blue sky, the ocean that has five different shades of blue. It's just a beautiful place. Even if you don't play your best, you just look around and see how blessed you are to be here for a week and enjoy the camaraderie with the other fellas and just the Hawaiian Aloha as they say. It's all very special.

**Q. Bernie, this place plays a little differently without wind, doesn't it? You have to attack this golf course?**

**BERNHARD LANGER:** You have to attack it no matter what, but we've seen wind here. I remember the tournament being canceled one Sunday because it was blowing anywhere from 40 to 60 and the ball was blowing off the green. That was a different golf course altogether. But there's usually anywhere from 10- to 15-mile-an-hour winds, which makes it a lot harder. And if there's no wind, you certainly have to attack it. But it's the type of golf course, we don't have much rough, fairly wide fairways, you have to go after the pins. They did make some changes a couple years ago when they redid the greens with not just new grass but also put some contours in it. So it's a lot harder to read putts and make the kind of putts that we did make a few years previously.

**Q. Is it mostly attacking once you get on the green? Is that the hardest part of this golf course, the greens?**

**BERNHARD LANGER:** Well, now it's a lot harder. With all the slopes and the movements that they put in a couple of years ago, putting has become a lot harder. It's harder to read more break and a lot more tricky, so puts more of a premium on your second shot to get it close. Before, the greens were fairly flat and consistent so even if you hit it to 20 feet you

were expecting to make a bunch of 20-footers every day. That's different now.