## ROUND 2 INTERVIEW March 4, 2023



## DAVID TOMS (-11)

Q. Here with big David, he's growing a little bit, a little taller than he used to be.

David, wonderful round of golf.out there. I know a little more going on at the finish than you would have liked, but nonetheless, great playing. What keyed for you today?

**DAVID TOMS:** I think just getting off to a good start. Front nine, obviously when you shoot 6 under par first nine, a lot of things went well. I made a couple nice putts, but I hit a lot of nice shots, kept the ball in play, got pretty hot in the beginning actually. I thought it might be one of those days where I could go really low.

Then didn't get a couple wedges close on the back nine to keep the momentum going early on, but then, like you said, three-putting 16 after a solid shot underneath the hole, that was tough. Then 18's just a hard hole. Obviously you don't want to hit it in the water, but even if you make bogey on 18, you're not losing too much.

Q. You mentioned momentum. Sunday's all about momentum. With that putt you made, that was a tough putt at the last, will that putt build a little momentum for you maybe tomorrow?

**DAVID TOMS:** I think so. I mean, just looking at the putt, it was downhill left to right. The green was chewed up and I knew it wasn't going to roll great. I was just trying to hit a solid putt. I hit a good speed and it went right in the middle. Yeah, to finish off with a downhill left-to-righter on a tough green, that's got to give me a little bit of momentum, like you said, going to tomorrow and then to have a chance tomorrow. That's why a lot of guys out here play is to have a chance on Sunday. So I'm in good position. Obviously a lot of guys pretty close, so I'll have to play really well.

Q. You've had some chances throughout your career, you played wonderfully, maybe not won as often as you would have liked. So what tomorrow might you change? What are you looking to tomorrow to get back in that winner's circle?

**DAVID TOMS:** Well, certainly you can't ever really get ahead of yourself. Back when I used to win a fairly good amount on the Tour, I just never really thought about winning too much, I went out there and played golf and it just kind of happened.

Tomorrow I'll have to obviously play aggressive when you can because there's a lot of guys out there, you saw a lot of good scores today. The weather's going to be nice again, so it will be another day where I'll have to be hot, but why not?

Q. Why not. You certainly played great today, keep that putter going.

**DAVID TOMS:** All right, thank you.

Q. David, great round today. You'll be seeking your third win on Champs. You have two top-2 finishes here right now. What was going through your head today and then kind of what was working and what's it going to take to carry the momentum tomorrow?

**DAVID TOMS:** You know, everything was pretty solid today. I kept the ball in play, which was nice. I attacked the course when I could if I had a shorter club, hit some good shots. Then obviously anytime you have a low round you make putts and that's usually the key for me. I usually have good finishes if my putter stays solid and I'm hoping it sticks with me tomorrow.

Q. Absolutely. And it's no secret this is way more than a golf tournament this week. What does it mean to just be out here playing in honor of somebody, just what this tournament means to you?

**DAVID TOMS:** Well, I mean, it's just kind of, like you said, it's all about real life and real life experiences and what people go through. We're out here playing a game and there's a lot -- you have bad days because you don't live up to expectations, but I can't imagine what a lot of these people that are either here this week or have lost loved ones and everything, just to be able to give back to them a little bit, raise awareness like we're all doing.

Cologuard is a great sponsor. I think they're saving lives with this golf tournament and raising awareness. Certainly I feel honored just to be a part of it.

## Q. David, you talked about being aggressive earlier. How do you go about tomorrow?

**DAVID TOMS:** Well, I just think you look at where you are. If you're in the fairway and the pin's in a spot where you feel like you can be aggressive, usually it depends on what your yardage is, right? If you're in between clubs, you just try to play safe. If you've got a good yardage, a good club, no matter where the pin is you might go for it. That's kind of the way I played today.

Then obviously you've got to keep the ball in the fairway. If you drive it in the fairway, the lies are good, you've got a lot of short clubs in your bag, it gives you a chance to make birdies.

But still, the greens are tough. Some of the pins we played today, we had some front pins over bunkers downwind and so it was hard to get it close. It will be -- depends on how they set the golf course up tomorrow, and you really have to just pick and choose. If the putter feels good, you don't always have to feel like you have to hit it close. I mean, you can hit it 25 feet, it's not a bad shot, go up there and try to make it.