ROUND 3 INTERVIEW March 5, 2023



ROBERT KARLSSON (-14)

Q. So obviously tough out there today. How would you describe this round?

ROBERT KARLSSON: I shot 6 or 7 in the last group of the tournament and played really well, so I'm very happy with the way things turned out. My own game, obviously I would have liked to be one or two shots better, but that's the way it goes. David putted fantastic today and holed all the putts he needed to. Every credit to him. I can't complain about what I've done the last two days or anything like that, so I'm very, very happy with how I'm playing, that's fine.

Q. How were you feeling after the second hole, the eagle? Seemed like you were getting --

ROBERT KARLSSON: Yeah, those kind of things happen, but obviously it's nice to knock in a putt, especially because it was way too hard, so I was very happy the hole got in the way. That felt like a bonus. Getting closer, a couple good shots, two good shots on 1, two good shots on 2, good tee shot on 3 and it's like, yeah, let's keep going.

Q. So when you're right there one, two, three shots back over the entire final round, what is kind of your mindset over the course?

ROBERT KARLSSON: The next hole, next hole, next shot, try to give myself a new chance, try to give new chances, knock in a couple, put a bit of extra pressure on him. But I'm trying not to worry about him, I can only worry about my own game. It's more than enough to keep my own faults and my own golf ball where I want to have it. It was a good day.

Q. The 18th hole gave everyone fits this week. How would you describe --

ROBERT KARLSSON: This week? The last 25 years you mean. (Laughs.) It's just the fairway sits across on the right side, I mean, I said "good shot" to David Toms when he hit his drive. I was sure it was up. Then we came out of the fairway, there was only two there. I thought it was mine that had gone too far left and could have gone into the water on the other side. So that's how small the margins are on that hole. It's just a very, very tough driving hole. Good hole.

Q. When you see your playing partner go into the water like that, does it --

ROBERT KARLSSON: No, didn't see it.

Q. Well, but when you realized he was, does it kind of get you charged up?

ROBERT KARLSSON: Well, obviously a little bit. Obviously the whole thing changed all of a sudden. I knew he had to (inaudible) second shot and obviously he thought he was on the fairway. For him I think it probably changed more than it did for me. I still wanted to try to get it all the way up to the flag and try to give myself a birdie chance and then we'll see. For me it wasn't a huge difference, but obviously you get a little bit more pep in your step.

Q. David has always struggled in the final round when he has the lead. How difficult is it to maintain that and have the endurance to make sure you hold off the others?

ROBERT KARLSSON: I think for me it's important not to play the other guys. You play your own ball, play your 18 holes and see what happens. It's just, it's a lot of good players out there. I never even looked on the leaderboard until I come up on -- I saw one out of the corner of my eye walking off of 17th tee that there was a few guys on 12, so it was like OK, I can't sort of let off even let's say he goes three ahead. I need to make sure I keep pushing all the way in and that was kind of the only thing I saw because I know this golf course and this weather is definitely -- it was always going to be a couple guys shooting really low scores today because it's there. And that's good in a way because that's the way I want to play the game and it's the way I want to -- I want to try to go. And I was very proud of myself the last five, six holes. I played really well. Gave myself a good chance on 14 -- I birdied 14, gave myself a really good chance on 16, hit a good drive on 17. It's just an impossible fairway to hit for me, I don't know how to do it. And then 18 I gave myself a chance as well, which is more than I normally do. I usually make a 5 on that hole, so I was happy to have a birdie chance to force a playoff.