

## LECOM Suncoast Classic

### ROUND 2 INTERVIEW

April 21, 2023

### KEVIN DOUGHERTY ( -16)



**Q. Great day today. We'll get to the round in a minute, but I guess what was it like hearing that comment from Boo?**

**KEVIN DOUGHERTY:** Oh, yeah, Boo always has some classic one-liners and that's kind of just his personality. Gave us all a pretty good laugh.

**Q. Just walk us through some of the highlights of the round today, bogey free and a bunch of birdies.**

**KEVIN DOUGHERTY:** Yeah, just played incredibly solid kind of all around. I was playing really good last week in Dallas, I just needed to clean up a few things, some simple things and this is kind of what I've been able to do. Yeah, I mean, it kind of feels simple when it's kind of going this way.

**Q. If you get one across this week, it will be three top-10s already, which is kind of what you've put together in a lot of like full seasons. What would you say is different about you this season than some of the previous years?**

**KEVIN DOUGHERTY:** Yeah, I think just every area of my game has gotten better. I'm in an amazing spot in my life, I have a ton of things to be thankful for and getting to play golf for a living is definitely one of them. My family's amazing. Just kind of in a good spot, kind of at ease with everything.

**Q. Going off that, would you say that your life or your golf game has changed more significantly the last handful of years?**

**KEVIN DOUGHERTY:** Oh, my life. I'm married to the love of my dreams and we have an amazing 10-month-old daughter. I've played a lot of good golf since I've been out of college, so all that's pretty similar. Yeah, nothing beats being married and having an amazing daughter.

**Q. What's the fatherhood experience been like over the last 10 months?**

**KEVIN DOUGHERTY:** It's been good. She's been very simple for us, so a little nervous for the next one maybe, maybe even it out. But no, she's been amazing and it's a pretty special thing.



**Q. Were you always like a patient person or is that something you've had to sort of learn with the young daughter?**

**KEVIN DOUGHERTY:** Yeah, definitely had to learn patience even before my daughter. I mean, golf will humble you and teach you to be patient pretty quickly. I would say I learned it a little bit with that and then having my daughter on top of it, for sure.

**Q. And you've played here a bunch. On No. 18 specifically as you kind of look towards Sunday and what that will look like, what are the challenges of that hole specifically presents?**

**KEVIN DOUGHERTY:** Yeah, so the first two days was probably going to be the toughest wind because it was east and it's changing a little bit to east-southeast, which is in and off the left. I believe on Sunday we're going to get a north wind so it has a chance to be down off the right or almost straight down.

The drive will definitely be easier. And then depending on where they put the flag, I think they put it on the top ridge, just kind of getting that number dialed in for our second shot.

**Q. And what would you say you're looking forward to this weekend?**

**KEVIN DOUGHERTY:** I think I'm going to get my wife and daughter out here. I don't like to go two weeks without seeing them and this was going to be two weeks. So I'm flying out Monday to Alabama, so maybe get them here this evening or tomorrow morning, get to spend three days with them.

**Q. This is kind of a weird question, but you may have been pushing hard to get to the Tour, you had the close call as we know, but are you more at ease? Instead of like trying to make it happen, you're just going to let it happen?**

**KEVIN DOUGHERTY:** A little bit. I mean, I think everyone's desire out here is through the roof to play the Tour. Obviously that's a lifelong dream of all of us. You can definitely try too hard, so I think there's a fine line of learning between trying too hard and trying just the right amount. I think in the solid weeks is kind of when you put it all together with the try factor.

**Q. Are you comfortable with the fact that you don't have to overdo it now? You know these courses, you have the experience that if you can just play Kevin Daugherty golf, that it will happen whereas you don't have to try to make it happen?**

**KEVIN DOUGHERTY:** Yeah, I definitely believe that when I have my A-game it's good enough to play and compete and win on every tour in the world. Just kind of like you said, just kind of just let it happen and just kind of stay out of our own way.

**Q. And then getting a win, obviously we were there in Wichita, you were so close. I know the PGA TOUR card's the ultimate, but for yourself, how important is it just to**



**get that first professional win on this tour?**

**KEVIN DOUGHERTY:** Yeah, I think it's a huge steppingstone that would just kind of teach you to learn at every level. I've won in junior golf, I've won in amateur golf, so yeah, I would definitely love to win on this stage and just kind of use that as some fuel and experience once we do get to the next level to possibly close that one out.

