

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
June 2, 2023



JUDD GIBB (-2)

Q. Let's go back to Tuesday. You're on a familiar course. How did that feel to qualify for sort of a hometown event in your hometown area?

JUDD GIBB: Well, it felt wonderful and then to do it at Veenker, where I played college golf at. I love that golf course. Hasn't always loved me, but on Tuesday I did play well so it was certainly a great start to the week.

Q. Did you have anyone out there cheering you on?

JUDD GIBB: Today?

Q. On Tuesday?

JUDD GIBB: Oh, on Tuesday, no.

Q. So what about today then?

JUDD GIBB: Today, yeah, there were quite a few people from Ft. Dodge that I saw, my wife, my daughter, and then I had my son caddying for me. I saw a lot of familiar faces. My wife and I lived in West Des Moines for like 15 years, so I saw a lot of people I knew out there.

Q. What's this I guess this moment mean, to have that family here, to have your son caddying for you and playing well out of the gate?

JUDD GIBB: Well, it's a lot of fun. It's the second time my son caddied. He caddied for me at the U.S. Senior Open in Omaha two years ago. It's always fun. He's 23, I don't get to spend a ton of time with him, so any time is great and certainly on the golf course like this is special.

Q. What's your son's name?

JUDD GIBB: Andrew.

Q. Simpson College?

JUDD GIBB: Simpson College, yeah. He plays basketball there.

Q. So the athleticism runs in the family?

JUDD GIBB: Well, his mother says that he got all of his athleticism from her, and I don't disagree, because I'm not a basketball player.

Q. So I guess coming in to today, how's it feel, 2 under par?

JUDD GIBB: Well, it feels wonderful because I played Wakonda many times and this course has beaten me most of the times I played. So I got off to a rocky start, I made some really solid putts, kind of hung in there and made three birdies in a row starting on 10 and played pretty solid. It's been a weird year, I have not played all that well, so it's kind of a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde, just depends on who shows up. Andrew and I will have fun the next two days no matter what.

Q. You finished 3 under, you go 3 under on the back nine. I guess what changed on those three holes?

JUDD GIBB: Well, you know, all those holes -- well, let's see, 10 I had an 8-iron in, I had like 160 in, but the other holes I had wedges, I hit them pretty close. So good opportunities there and then played solid. No. 14 is a tough par 3 the way it's playing today and I hit a good shot today and two-putted for par. No. 17's always going to be interesting certainly for me, I'm not used to playing in front of that many people and it's quite a spectacle out there. It's just a solid nine holes coming in. I'll go out and practice a little bit to make sure I remember what I did to do this today.

Q. Is this your first PGA Tour Champions event of the year?

JUDD GIBB: First one ever. I've played in two Senior Opens, but those are the only senior events I played in.

Q. Was there a reason you wanted to qualify for this one? Was it because it's in Iowa?

JUDD GIBB: Well, I tried to qualify I think every year since I've been 50 and have not had a whole lot of luck. I went up to Sioux Falls and tried to qualify there. It's not easy to do, there's so many good players. Even to get to the pre-qualifying's difficult. This year I got exempted through the pre-qualifying and got hot on Tuesday.