

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTE
July 27, 2023

BRANDT SNEDEKER (-7)



Q. Sneds, a couple weeks in a row, missed cuts. Got to feel good to play well --

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah.

Q. -- the first round.

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah, it's been coming. I've been playing good at home and been making some dumb mistakes the first couple rounds, not putting rounds together, just kind of rust. Hadn't played competitively for it was like nine months I had off. I knew it was going to be a little learning curve coming back, and took a little longer than I wanted to, but finally able to put a round together today. It was coming and it was nice to see some putts go in and kind of have an easy stress-free round where I hit the ball really well, didn't do anything poorly all day, so it was nice to have one of those rounds.

Q. You talked about it at Memorial, but can you kind of just take us through what you've been through the last year, the surgery and everything to come back?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah, I had a sternum injury I've had since 2016, so I've been dealing with it for a long time. Kind of doing some stopgaps to kind of let me be able to play. Got to the point where my quality of life and my career was not going to mesh.

So made a decision to have surgery on my sternum. Went around and saw a bunch of specialists and found a guy in Nashville who'd done one of these before on a guy, Steve McNair, old quarterback for the Titans. Felt comfortable with him doing it.

So they take a bone out of your hip and kind of cut your sternum straight across wide open, put half the bone in the lower half, half the bone in the upper half and kind of pop it back into place. Kind of like a Lego snapping back into place.

So they snapped it back into place and kind of fingers crossed it worked when they did it. And luckily so far I haven't had any pain. I felt really good, haven't really lost any mobility or anything. So now it's about me kind of putting the time in. So it's been great and I'm excited to be back out here doing what I love to do.

Q. At Muirfield you talked about kind of just jumping back into the deep end. How has that gone the last couple weeks? You said you're pain free, but since then how has it all reacted?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah, it's golf, right? I knew coming back it was going to be a lot of



excitement, I was going to have a great attitude, everything's going to go as good as it possibly could, and there's going to be a lull after that just from lack of competition and lack of playing. I was anticipating it. It's never easy to go through it. The hardest thing is making sure you stay positive knowing that when you do turn around, you're able to take advantage of it.

Just kind of a lot of hard work, a lot of hitting balls and practicing when I'm home and missing cuts and going home on the weekend and practicing my tail off. That's the only thing I know to do to get better. So hopefully kind of all the work's kind of paid off and ready to go now, start playing some good golf.

Q. What was the original injury to the sternum?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: It's called an unstable manubrium joint is the actual technical term. Pretty much you have a joint in the middle of your sternum that kind of flexes and bends a little bit so if something happens to it, you have a little bit of mobility.

Mine was kind of separated, for lack of a better term. It would come back together, but it was pretty much a broken sternum when I started to hit golf balls. So it wouldn't allow me to practice or play. I could kind of manage it with Tylenol and steroid injections and stem cell injections and PRP injections, kind of get through a month or two without pain and then just come right back. Just trying to do the best I can, so that's why I decided to have the surgery.

Q. Did you go to South America for --

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah, I went to South America for stem cell injections. Tried everything at one point or another that was legal under the sun. Kind of my last ditch effort was the surgery. Whether it worked or not was up to the doctors, but it was either that or no more golf, so decided to give it a go.

Q. Did you ever lose confidence that you'd be able to compete at a high level out here eventually?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah, you question yourself. You know, when you hadn't played good in a long time and I just kept telling myself I got out of here from practicing and competing, I'm going to get back if I can practice and compete. So that's kind of why I went to the procedure in the first place, to be able to put in the time at home and hit balls for 8 hours, hit balls for 8 hours, be out there all day. I've been doing that at home and pain free and feel good. I knew it would happen eventually, but you've got to see it. You know, you need to see a putt go in or see a shot kind of bounce the right way, kind of step on the gas and go.

Q. You played in the Ryder Cup here and your first pro tour victory was here.

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yes.



Q. What are your memories of Minnesota?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah, great fan base up here. Love your sports, love your golf. Ryder Cup's probably one of the highlights of my career being here that week and seeing so many great memories from that week. Kind of ended a long drought for us on the U.S. side winning the Ryder Cup. Unbelievable home field advantage up here. It was a lot of great memories that week, a lot of fond memories here. First ever professional win was up here.

Q. Do you remember much about that?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: I do. I won a playoff, beat Jeff Quinney in a playoff here. A lot of great memories up here, so hopefully I can kind of cap it off with another one this week.

Q. Brandt, just wondering if you happened to read the memo last night and just your reaction to it.

BRANDT SNEDEKER: I didn't really, I saw it come across my email this morning. I didn't really read it yet, so I can't give you a detailed response about it.

