

**ROUND 2 INTERVIEW**  
**August 12, 2023**

**STEPHEN AMES (-10)**



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**Q. Stephen, our leader after 36 holes, today seemed like more of a scrambling day for you; is that a correct assessment?**

**STEPHEN AMES:** Yeah, probably a good assessment, yeah. I guess, you know what, there are times especially on this golf course you tend to get a couple bounces that land by the flag and the first bounce is over. I guess that's the nature of poa annua, you're going to get some spots that are going to be firm and some spots that are going to be soft. I guess you're going to have to take the good bounces with the bad bounces.

**Q. Was today more firm than yesterday?**

**STEPHEN AMES:** Just in different spots. So every time you hit a shot, it's like wow. And then of course today the wind picked up compared to yesterday, so it was a bit swirly. Some holes you stood on the tee and into, and you get up there on the second shot and it was completely downwind. I'm like whoa, what's going on here? So we had to be a lot more patient. Of course, that's where the scrambling part came in more than anything else.

**Q. You still have to be pleased after your layoff, though?**

**STEPHEN AMES:** No, no, I'm very -- no, I'm very happy with the way I'm playing. The funny thing is the part that's always bothered me here the most has been putting on these greens because I'm not a west coast guy and I putted very nicely here this week and I'm very happy with the way that's going, yeah.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**STEPHEN AMES:** Actually, yeah. Well, actually, next week they're not poa annua, they're bent. I just think overall it's just that I've never been a west coast guy. Putting on poa annua greens, I know it's a technique thing, it's just something I'm not used to. So I've adjusted that slightly and it's working nicely this week.

**Q. What did you do?**

**STEPHEN AMES:** The majority of the time I tend to get a little bit too much on the left side on address, so I've been trying to get a little bit more behind it, which gives me a little bit more of an upswing rather than a downswing. It gets the ball rolling a little bit better.

I mean, that's physics, you know that, yeah.

**Q. At the start of the year if someone said, hey, you can have a chance to win your fourth event at age 59, would you have believed it?**

**STEPHEN AMES:** No, not at all, no. Just winning Morocco was awesome, great, you know. Then I went out to Atlanta and I ran off there again and I was like, OK, wait, something's wrong here. Then of course beating Steve and Jerry coming down at the end in Des Moines is more icing on the cake.

It's just an accumulation of things that have progressed from last year into this year. I think overall it's what I've been doing has been -- pretty much put me in the position I'm in right now.

**Q. Do you like being the leader going into the final round?**

**STEPHEN AMES:** It doesn't bother me. I'm just going to stick with my process. If it happens, it happens. If it doesn't, it doesn't.

**Q. Do you still have a place in Vancouver?**

**STEPHEN AMES:** No, I don't live in Canada anymore. I'm strictly back in the Caribbean now.

**Q. (Indiscernible) red Ferrari down here?**

**STEPHEN AMES:** It was a blue one, midnight blue.

**Q. I thought it was red.**

**STEPHEN AMES:** No, it was midnight blue. Much better color. Red's too comical.

**Q. I'm sorry, I apologize.**

**STEPHEN AMES:** That's OK. I'm not offended.

**Q. I remember the car.**

**STEPHEN AMES:** Yeah, I did, I drove it here two or three times. No, I got rid of everything in Canada.

**Q. Stephen, we talked earlier in the week about the devastation going on in Hawaii. Your thoughts?**

**STEPHEN AMES:** It's been home for us for Christmas since '04 with the boys growing up, so they've got a lot of great memories there, one obviously being at Lahaina because we did a lot of -- obviously Safeway's there, we go shopping. And there's a lot of great restaurants

that we've gone and eaten at every night there also.

Yeah, I see the count's gone up to almost 80 now, if not more. It's unfortunate.

I just hope that the government there and the hotels and everybody do the right thing, just help these people out by giving them the rooms that are there. I think it's just a matter of getting rid of the visitors and then from there I think they'll start pushing people in the hotels, which is the right thing to do as far as I'm concerned.