

BERNHARD LANGER

Q. Bernhard, thank you for joining us. Three-time winner here at Hualalai. Just to start, how does it feel to be back here?

BERNHARD LANGER: Oh, it's awesome. This is the highlight of the year really. We start with the best one and the Schwab Cup is probably the second best tournament of the season. It's just great to be in this surrounding, beautiful weather. I always say it heightens your senses here because you have the lava rock that's black, the blue sky, the blue water, the white sand, the green grass, it's really beautiful.

Q. In those three wins that you have out here, are there any specific memories that really stand out to you?

BERNHARD LANGER: I'm sure there were, but it's always -- my wife and I's anniversary seems to happen always around Hualalai. We celebrated a few of them over the last 16 years here.

Q. Last time we saw you you were hoisting the trophy at the PNC Championship. What have you been up to since then?

BERNHARD LANGER: We went straight from there to Europe the very next day. My mother passed away at 100 years old, so we had to take care of that and celebrate her life. Then we went skiing for a couple days in Italy and came back for Christmas to Germany where I grew up and spent time with our family there.

Came back on January 2nd to Florida and started practicing, played a little pickleball, practiced some golf and spent a lot of time with the grandkids. That was really it. Game is still a bit rusty, but it will come.

Q. How's your pickleball game?

BERNHARD LANGER: It's improving. I bought a new paddle, so I'm buying a game.

Q. Last year you broke the all-time wins record. Going into this year, what's your goal for this year and beyond?

BERNHARD LANGER: Well, I'd like to win a few more, stay competitive. It will be great to get near 50. I know that's a big ask, but who knows. Just fantastic to win another major and maybe a couple more regular tournaments. Just hang in there for a few more years, enjoy the camaraderie that I have with so many of my colleagues.

Q. So fair to say you're going to play a normal, regular full schedule this year?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yep.

Q. And for the next few years?

BERNHARD LANGER: That's the plan right now if nothing happens, yeah. But we're not in charge of the future, take one day at a time.

Q. And the big news is this April will be your final Masters. What led to that decision ultimately?

BERNHARD LANGER: I've been thinking about it for a year or two. Every year I play I feel like my game is just too short to compete and I don't want to be just, you know, playing to be playing. I would love to compete, I'd love to be on the leaderboard or be in contention and that's very, very difficult now with my length, lack of length. I'm hitting 2-hybrids and 3-woods into par 4s where the other guys are hitting 9-irons and it's hard to compete against that.

So I'm the oldest in the field I would think this year as well. I always said if I can't compete anymore against the young guys, then it's maybe time to say goodbye and I think this year's the right time. My son asked if he could caddie for me and I thought that was a great way to say farewell and goodbye.

Q. Absolutely. And you also got into the U.S. Open this summer. Are you looking forward to that?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, that could be another farewell there, too. That's not going to be a short course either at Pinehurst. Yeah, it will be interesting. Again, probably the last one and a tough one, but it will be fun to be there one more time.

Q. Will it be the final time you go and play the DP World Tour also?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yes, that's guaranteed, pretty much guaranteed. The plans are to play a tournament in Germany, my final farewell event for the DP World Tour or European Tour. It's going to be in my hometown, Munich, the BMW International. Yeah, I'm going to make a trip back over there and meet a few old friends, have some supporters there and say goodbye.

Q. Like the Bernhard Langer Farewell Tour?

BERNHARD LANGER: It seems that way, yeah, certainly on the other tours. I'm not quite ready to say farewell on the Champions Tour yet, but yeah, the young guys, it's time to let them do their job. I've been around long enough.