

**DOUG BARRON (-7)**

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**Q. All right, Doug, 65 today, nice solid start. What was going well for you?**

**DOUG BARRON:** Well, I've been trending well. It's only my fifth tournament back after almost being out for a year, two elbow surgeries. I'm starting to play good. I played pretty good last week the two rounds we got to play in Dallas. I played nice at Newport. I'm starting to get to practice again.

I had my wife overnight my steel shafted irons back to me instead of playing graphite and I was able to control my distances a little better, so I think that was a huge difference.

I putted beautifully today. My last round on this course two years ago was 64, so I missed it by one. I played pretty good here the few times I played here, then I played pretty good here on the PGA TOUR as well. I'm pretty happy with today.

**Q. You felt like you were trending this way?**

**DOUG BARRON:** I've been trending, I felt good. My coach and I have had a couple good sessions on FaceTime the last couple days. The pro-ams went well, had two great groups. Doing a lot of good stuff. I felt like if I putted well, I was going to do well today.

I only had one boo boo, and I chipped it really well today. It's just -- you see the scores, people don't realize this is a hard golf course. It demands a lot off the tee. And I'm driving it really well, so pretty happy with that.

**Q. What do you like about this course?**

**DOUG BARRON:** Well, it really suits my eye off the tee. So it's tough driving, I feel like I excel on tougher driving. It's longer too, as well.

I just feel comfortable. I've played so many rounds here. I think I played eight times when it was the BellSouth and this was my third time here. I think I almost won the first time and 64 in the final round to have a decent tournament. Just do a lot of good stuff here.

There's a lot of risk-rewards. Man, it will pucker you up, I'm not gonna lie. But the wind's swirling all over the place and the back nine was tough, but I kept making putts. I'm not even mad at the three-putt at 17 because I made so many putts, it was crazy. And I left one eight-footer short, but I chipped in on 14 from left of the green. I mean, I did a lot of crazy stuff, so it was fun.



**Q. How long had the elbows bothered you?**

**DOUG BARRON:** My elbows, I finished second at Newport Beach last year and this was hurting really bad. That's the week this one started hurting. So I MRI'd them both after. This was torn so I decided to have surgery. And then this one wasn't torn. As I got better and was able to start practicing, this started really hurting. I MRI'd it in October and it ended up being torn. So I had a minor surgery, and it still struggles, but I live with the pain. The doctors tell me I can't hurt it any worse. It's still torn. They did more of a noninvasive procedure.

But it is very sore. I have to rehab it every single day. I bought a unit where I can rehab myself almost and that's what I do every day. I just try to eat well and do all the right stuff.

**Q. You had a little (indiscernible) on the back nine?**

**DOUG BARRON:** I sure did. The last one was a chip-in and I missed an eight-footer on 15. I made it on 16 from just off the green and then 17 I had a great birdie putt and three-putted. I had a crack at birdieing every damn hole, it was awesome.

I hit it left of the pin at 12 and made it. Then I drove the green at 13. So I did a lot of -- I made some quirky birdies, I made some easy birdies, but man, nothing's easy on this course when the wind starts swirling. If there was no wind I would say you could shoot really low, that would be nothing to talk about, but the wind started swirling. I was pretty happy with it, honestly.

**Q. When did the wind start picking up?**

**DOUG BARRON:** Maybe about my eighth hole or so, because I know No. 10 played pretty long. I thought I was going to be able to reach No. 10 today. I pulled it into the bunker, but I don't think I could have reached it anyway because it's turning kind of into us. We had like 203 into 11 and I just chose to play it 40 feet short of the pin knowing I could carry the water. I hit a solid 5-iron and drew it. I didn't want to go past the pin. Yeah, that's when it started really blowing.

Yeah, I hit driver on 12 actually, which I never do hardly, and I ended up hitting a gap wedge in. So I knew if I'm hitting driver on 12, the wind's blowing in my face pretty good.

**Q. Are you a Memphis guy?**

**DOUG BARRON:** I am, born and raised.

**Q. Are you an Elvis guy?**

**DOUG BARRON:** What? What'd you say? What'd you say? Give me a peanut butter and banana sandwich. No, I love Elvis, absolutely. If you're from Memphis and don't love Elvis, you've got issues.

