



INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: IAN BAKER-FINCH & BART BRYANT
Saturday, April 27, 2013

DAVE SENKO: Bart and Ian, thanks for joining us, another 65, finished minus-14 then went through extra holes. Maybe just share your thoughts on the win and kind of an interesting week with all the changes you went through.

BART BRYANT: Yeah, it had to be crazy for Ian. I mean, he went through four or five guys before he got to me. But I got a call on -- when did we start this thing, Friday? I got a call Thursday around noon. He said, hey, if you want to play you can come play with me, and I said sure, man, I'll do that. I'm glad I came up, it was great fun, and Ian was clutch, man, in the playoff. The last couple holes in regulation and the playoff, he showed his mettle, so it was a lot of fun.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Yeah, it was great fun, I enjoyed it. Bart, thanks for driving up from Orlando. It was funny, you guys know the story. I was supposed to play with Eduardo Romero. Then I got the alternates and the alternates went up to the Legends division. I went to the next partner to the next partner. I went from Esteban Toledo to Gene Sauers to Jim Rutledge and then Bart came up. So I couldn't have wished for a better partner, he's a good man. We've known each other for a long while, since PGA TOUR days, similar demeanor and style as myself, so we just gelled really well. Bart hadn't seen the golf course, so I helped him with a few putts and we showed each other around and it worked out well in the end. A couple of 65s out there in the wind was good playing for a couple of old guys.

DAVE SENKO: Do you remember, just take us through the birdies, who made the birdies and maybe the length of putts. You started off with birdies on 1 and 2?

IAN BAKER-FINCH: I think Bart should go through them because he made them all. I birdied when he birdied on a par 5 here or there, but Bart made them all. The first two holes were clutch and then we both made crazy bogeys on 4 unfortunately.

BART BRYANT: We didn't birdie 4 and then we bogeyed 5.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: We were both just off the edge of the green on 4 and made 5, and then on 5 we both made 5. Anyway, do you remember your birdies?

BART BRYANT: No. Birdies on 1 and 2 and 7, 9.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: We both had good chances at 6 and missed. 7 you made a good one for birdie on the par 5, and then 9, very nice putt from about 8 feet, really good shot in there.

BART BRYANT: Kind of snuck one in there on 10 from about 15 feet and we both birdied 11, I think. Birdied the par 5, 13.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Yeah, beautiful.

BART BRYANT: Then I hit it close on the following two holes and Ian read them perfect and I just gagged both of them, so we had a chance to kind of distance ourselves and I didn't do it.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: I missed a really short one like three foot on 14 and then both hit good shots into 15, didn't birdie. Good shots at 16, thought we made a birdie and didn't. Then he made a great birdie on 17 from about 18 feet, 15 feet.

BART BRYANT: Probably 15, 18 feet, sounds about right.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Then the last, we had pars there, which were clutch on that last hole. Had a chance for birdie and rolled it up there close. But the playoff was good. Bart almost eagled the par 5 11th. I birdied 10 and then we had 12.

BART BRYANT: A couple clutch putts he made in the playoff. No doubt, that was fun.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Great fun.

DAVE SENKO: No. 10, Ian, did you make the birdie on 10, the playoff hole?

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Yes.

DAVE SENKO: How far was that?

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Six feet.

DAVE SENKO: Then on 11, Bart, you made the birdie?

BART BRYANT: I two-putted for birdie on 11. Ian made about an eight-footer, 10-footer.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Yeah, I tried to chip it in.

BART BRYANT: No, I mean on 12.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: On 12, eight feet I guess.

BART BRYANT: Couple great shots, made a couple great putts.

DAVE SENKO: Questions?

Q. You're saying it was your first win since '91. In reality, when was the last time you won a tournament?

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Well, anything that counted, boy, a long time because I've been doing television since '98. I won the Australian Senior Tour PLAYERS Championship a couple of years ago. I won a couple little things. But to win out here with all of the guys that I used to play with, I know it's only 36 holes, but hey, it was great fun and we played well and that's why I love playing in the Legends of Golf. It's really why -- I can still remember covering it for many years in my 40s saying I can't wait until I turn 50 because I'm going to get to play in the Legends and I love it every year.

Q. The contract is coming up with Liberty Mutual. How much would you like to see the tournament continue here in Savannah? How much do the players and CBS folks like the tournament?

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Well, we love it. All the players love it. The course is great. It's just a special event. Not only the history going back to 1978, the longest running sponsor on Tour. Liberty Mutual's been great all those years even before I started to play in it and it's a special event and it's different, that's what's so good about it. It should remain and it should be a big event and it should be special.

Q. Does it make you want to go out there and play a little bit more?

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Well, I made my decision a long time ago. I decided to spend more time with the family and work with television and I've made my bed and now I've got to lie in it. I love to just have that opportunity every once in a while to come out. I can't play anywhere near as good as these guys do, but every once in a while to come out and play in an event like this, it's just a great thrill for me.

Q. So Bart, again the progression, you get the phone call noon on Thursday, you drive up from Orlando and didn't play a hole until Friday, right?

BART BRYANT: I didn't. We got here probably about 10:00, 10:30 on Thursday night and came out early the next morning. I think I was here at 7:15 or so because if somebody else withdrew, Ian would have had a different partner because they would have moved me into the Legends division. So I had to be here and watch all the guys tee off. But honestly, I was here and just happy to be able to play. You know, to be able to win was just a bonus, but it was nice to just have some competition under my belt. The more rounds I can play as I get back into it, the better I'm going to get and it was a lot of fun. It's interesting, I think Ian really helped me this week with my putt reading. I've really been struggling with that and Ian kind of coached me through some of my putt reading, so this may really benefit me in the upcoming weeks as well.

Q. I take it it was nerve wracking to be in a team event on a course that you haven't seen than if it was an individual event that just came up at the last minute?

BART BRYANT: Probably a little bit, but I have to admit I had a little bit of nerves out there, a couple. But it was fun. No matter what arena you're in, you always get a little nerves and you want to win, whether it's a major or what we were doing today or a little mini Tour event. You always have just a little bit of nerves because you want to do the best you can and you want to win. I think both of us might have felt a little bit of nerves out there, and I know Keith and Blaine did, but it was great being with those guys, too. They played really well and they're tremendous, tremendous guys and very cordial and we just had a great day together.

IAN BAKER-FINCH: Yeah, a win is a win. You always get that feeling, that's why we do it. It's what we've been doing for (inaudible) It's a buzz every time you perform under pressure.