

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT:
HARRIS ENGLISH & MATT KUCHAR
Friday, December 13, 2013**



DAVE SENKO: Matt, if you want to get us started, we've just been asking guys to talk a little bit about their days and then we'll get your birdies and then some questions. Matt, if you want to get us started.

MATT KUCHAR: Yeah, it was a lot of fun playing with Harris. I knew he was on some pretty good form and knew I had a good horse for a partner. I kind of left him out to dry on a couple holes early on in the day and I think we were 1-over through 4. I hit a ball in the hazard on the 4th hole, made bogey, and then we picked it up pretty good from there. It was a really fun back nine. Harris got us off to a good start on 10 by driving it on the green, it was a spectacular drive. We really pieced together a nice back nine, I think it was 6-under on the back.

HARRIS ENGLISH: Yeah, I mean, I don't play alternate shot very much. I haven't played alternate shot since the Walker Cup in 2011. It's just a weird -- the first couple holes it was hard to get into it. I didn't have a whole lot of rhythm. Putting, you go a couple holes without putting or hitting a wedge shot, it's just a different type of game. Like Matt said, when you start hitting some good shots and start getting some momentum and you keep rolling and we did a good job of keeping that momentum going on the back nine and making a bunch of birdies and making eagle on 17.

DAVE SENKO: Go through your birdies. What happened on 4 again, Matt?

MATT KUCHAR: Harris hit an awesome drive, I thought I had a pretty good number and was just fooled a little bit by the wind. We were turning the corner and I thought I had the wind helping. I had a wedge that was looking good and came up just short and then caught -- with some spin caught the edge and rolled back into the hazard. That was a letdown after a good drive and a wedge shot in. Then we went to the par 5 6th and hit a wedge into three feet, and 7 I made a putt from just off the fringe maybe 20 feet. Next birdie was...

HARRIS ENGLISH: On 8 you hit it probably 15 feet left of it, you made a nice 15-footer on 8. Parred 9.

MATT KUCHAR: Harris drove it on the green on 10, two-putt birdie. Then 12 I hit it just behind the hole 15, 20 feet and Harris made a tricky putt there. Harris hit it close on 13 there.

HARRIS ENGLISH: It wasn't that close, you made a good putt. 10 feet?

MATT KUCHAR: I made a 12-footer on 13. 14, the par 5, I hit just left in 2, Harris

made a great bump and run with a 5-wood, some sort of wood up to three feet. And then next was eagle on 17, eagle on 17 was the next. Harris hit an awesome approach shot to five feet, six feet on 17.

DAVE SENKO: What was your club, what did you hit for the second on 17?

HARRIS ENGLISH: It was a 6 iron, I think I had 192 to the front, a little help off the left. It was a perfect number for me. Matt hit an awesome drive right there to leave me that 192.

MATT KUCHAR: Perfect number, just where I wanted it.

Q. How well did you guys know each other, and this wasn't a pairing that was set up beforehand and was that part of it, too, not playing the alternate shot for a while, trying to figure out where your guys' games match up the best?

MATT KUCHAR: We've known each other a while. I think we first -- was our first pairing at 2012 PLAYERS Championship, we were paired Saturday. I knew Harris was a good player, it was my first chance seeing him. I don't think he had his best day but could tell that he was a really solid player. We get to play a good bit when we're home on Sea Island, play at home and been impressed, kind of know he's a guy that's going to be around. And amazed to already have his second win on the PGA TOUR, it's kind of showing what quality player he is. Snedeker pulled out, Snedeker was supposed to be my partner. Harris was able to fill in and I thought man, this is really going to work out maybe even better. Snedeker and I hit it about the same distance off the tee, we're both really good with irons and putters, but when it comes to scramble format, even the alternate shot format, don't really feel like you get that advantage like with a guy that hits it as far as Harris does. There were a lot of times today in this alternate shot format where it feels like a bit of a scramble off the tee. You get to go ahead and bust it, it's not a true alternate shot, so there's a lot of times I was able to find the fairway and Harris would just splash it by and it would be a given. Like the last hole he was 30, 40 by me on the last hole and I had an easy wedge shot in, you know, felt like the strategy's not the same as it is in true alternate shot where you've got to pick odds and evens and try to figure out who may be the better driver on certain holes and who may be the better putter on certain holes. It wasn't that, it was just kind of let me put it in the fairway, let Harris hit a bomb and go figure out how short of a club I get to hit in.

Q. What about for you?

HARRIS ENGLISH: This is a tournament that I've always watched on TV growing up and it seemed like such a great format and such a good competition. I know Greg Norman's done a great job with this tournament. But I knew that Brandt was hurt and I didn't know if he was going to pull out of this tournament, I know he pull you had out of Tiger's tournament, so I was kind of keeping an eye on it, and when Matt called me

and he was over -- you were in the Philippines or something, Fiji, and it was pretty cool. Of course I want to play with him, I couldn't pick a better partner. He's an awesome guy and obviously knowing him from Sea Island and being out here, he's somebody I look up to and try to emulate how I play on the golf course. I couldn't have picked it any other way. I would much rather be here than just sitting at home just practicing. I'm glad it worked out.

Q. Well, now tomorrow you guys can really have some fun and let it rip.

MATT KUCHAR: Tomorrow's best ball and then scramble on Sunday. The scramble's the really exciting day. I think you see some crazy low numbers and you really let it rip. Tomorrow, one of those days playing your own ball, there are times when you can be more aggressive. There's chance at birdies when you've got a guy already in the hole with a par. You can go ahead and be a little bit more aggressive, but that's mainly just on the greens. Approach shots, you can probably be a little more aggressive if your partner's hit it close, but you kind of always want two good opportunities every hole. I think sometimes you don't want to be overly aggressive and not at least give yourself a chance, you know? When you sometimes try to hit it to two feet and miss on the aggressive side and you no longer have a chance at par, you would rather have a 10- or 15-footer to at least have a good shot at it. The name of the game most of the time in best ball is having two good opportunities every hole, playing good steady golf and having two chances to make birdie on every hole.

DAVE SENKO: Thank you, guys.