

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: OLIN BROWNE
Friday, August 15, 2014



PHIL STAMBAUGH: Olin, 30 on the back nine and 65, 7-under. You told me walking over here you could have really run the table, but 65's a good start.

OLIN BROWNE: 65 is a great start. I played really nice golf today. I hit a fair number of fairways and greens and I had a lot of good looks at birdies. And this course, the greens can be a little tricky, so I hit a lot of good putts that didn't go in. I misread a few of them. All in all, though, to shoot 65 to open up, I've never really played that great here even though I really like the golf course, so it's a good start.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Do you just want to take us through your round, the two birdies on the front and then --

OLIN BROWNE: Both the par 5s, I hit it just right in front of the green on two and two-putted it. Then five is the next one, I hit a pretty good wedge shot in there about -- sand wedge shot there about 12 feet and made it. You know, just had a lot of looks on the front nine. I actually missed a good look on eight and missed another good one on nine and walked off a couple under and was a little bit frustrated.

Then of course you expect to get right after it on 10, a little short wedge shot, but it's not that easy a hole location today. But then I got on a good run, I birdied 11, 12 and 13, which is a nice little, put together three in a row. Then I think I birdied 16 and 17.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Length of putts on 11 through 17?

OLIN BROWNE: Length of putts on 11 through 17. 11 I hit a really good shot in there about eight feet, made the putt. 12 was about a five-footer. 13 was from the front edge of the green so let's call it 15 feet. 16 was about 10 feet and 17 was about seven feet.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Any reason you don't think you've played well here in the past, because it seems like the golf course is really suited for you?

OLIN BROWNE: Yeah, it is, but I think reading greens here is very tricky and you can spend all day -- Tom Pernice, I was paired with him today and he spent the entire day skinning the edge of the hole and it can get very, very frustrating, so to see a few putts goes in really makes a difference. The ball doesn't topple in or wobble in, it holds its line. Local knowledge here is really valuable and play a tighter line than you think and you'll have more opportunities to make putts.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Before we go to questions, just talk about your year to this

point.

OLIN BROWNE: Decent year, not very many good showings but my showings have been good when I played well and it was mostly early in the year. I think I finished second at Naples and then third at the Tradition, but I haven't played particularly well since then. You know, it's the kind of thing where golf cycles and you have days where you feel like you should have shot 66 and you shot 69. Doesn't sound like a big difference but when you add it up at the end of three or four rounds and Bernhard Langer's running the tables every every week, it makes it very difficult to get into contention and challenge for a championship. I'm 20th on the money list and I have a great stretch coming up here. I'm really looking forward to the last 10 events of the year so this is really a good start for that.

Q. You won the U.S. Senior Open a few years ago and you've had good showings since then but did you ever think at this point that that would be your lone Champions Tour victory to this point?

OLIN BROWNE: You know, it's a good question. Winning is hard, it's really hard, and you've got Hall of Famers that you're playing against and you've got guys, younger guys coming out every year, so every year that goes by makes it that much more difficult. Then you've got guys who gain a little confidence and start running the table. What Bernhard has done the last calendar year, I think he's had one tournament he's played in the last year-plus that he hasn't finished out of the Top 10 and that includes the Masters. He's just really on fire, so it's very, very difficult. I've had some opportunities, I lost a playoff last year at Rock barn and I finished second this year at Naples and I finished second somewhere else, I can't remember where.

But all you can do is show up, keep making some putts, hit some good shots, and when it's your turn it's your turn. Maybe if I won another one it will come with another win attached to it so we'll see what happens.

Q. Most of the time you hit the ball straight you have a chance to make birdies on this course. Did you feel like on the back nine you got a better feel for the greens and that's why you made more putts and knocked in a couple more birdies?

OLIN BROWNE: I don't know. I just think you could get into positions on these greens where a putt looks straight and it breaks or a putt looks like it breaks and it's straight. I happened to get some putts where what I saw matched up with what actually happened. And the course is playing a little faster than usual so the par 5s are a little bit gettable even into the wind like on five and eight and 12. But I thought the hole locations today were really, really good and they're on the sides of some of the greens so when you get holes in the middle of the greens that tend to be flatter, you get them towards the corners and you can actually see the breaks and I just felt

like I was able to see the breaks better on the back.

Q. Can you speak a little bit to your off-course routine coming in this week, any differences or what do you like to do in the area?

OLIN BROWNE: I really worked on my preparation last week, I went fishing with my daughter for three days and hung out at the beach and hit balls when I had to, played golf a couple times. You get to this point of the summer where, look, there isn't anybody out here who's sane who's going to go out and hit 600, 700 balls a day. Just not going to happen. Your body can't take it, your brain can't take it. So the best thing that you can do, especially we have a very slow start to our season and then from about middle of May through the end of the year we don't have very many weeks off, and if you want to play the tournaments, you take your weeks off when you take them off and then you play, right?

So the best thing that you can do when you have a week off is to get away from this game a little bit, freshen your mind some and come out ready to go. I talked to my guys yesterday in the pro-am, I was hopeless. I played with Ed Stack and Tim Myers Myers and those guys and I did not contribute a single hole. They were all going, "It's okay, we don't want to win the tournament." I'm going, "You don't want to win your own tournament? Sure, you do." But they said, "Hey, you're playing great," whatever. I had a good time and ended up saving my birdies for today, so it was good.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Anything else for OB? Keep it going tomorrow.