

FINAL ROUND INTERVIEW TRANSCRIPT: BERNHARD LANGER
Sunday, August 17, 2014



PHIL STAMBAUGH: Bernhard, final round 66 gets it done, 16-under total, you win by one. Your fifth title of the year, something you did also in 2010, won five. Congratulations on a hard-fought victory today. I know it wasn't easy. Your third win in your last five starts, you're really playing great golf.

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, thank you, appreciate that. It doesn't happen very often that you go a whole tournament without making a bogey and that was the case this week. It's pretty unique. I made some really pressure putts out there, a couple of saves and just played pretty solid golf all week. You know, to watch that 59 yesterday, which could have been a 57, just watching on the leaderboard was pretty exciting, so for me to still walk away with a win, it's pretty amazing.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Can you just maybe take us through the day if you could. It looked like you and Steve were sort of dueling there and then he hits it in the water after you make birdie there at 14. Just talk about the day.

BERNHARD LANGER: You know, got off to a good start with birdieing 3, 4 and 5 and another one on No. 9 after saving a great par on No. 8, so I was 4-under after nine. Then birdied 10 on top of that. So I wasn't really watching the leaderboard much but at that point I felt I had to be somewhat close and the way the crowd reacted and everybody out there, the few comments I heard just showed me that I was close or either just a couple behind or even level with the leaders or something like that. I just tried to keep my head down and hit quality shots and keep the pressure on and post a good score and force the others to take chances that are behind me. In the end I finally looked up at the leaderboard and I saw I think it was on the 16th green that I had a one-shot lead and the person that was one behind was already finished and had a two-shot or three-shot lead over the guys behind me, which basically told me if I could par in from that point on, I should win the tournament unless something crazy happens.

I was able to make three pars there at the end. No. 18 was pretty easy after a great tee shot, but that's a difficult tee shot when you have a one-shot lead. I literally was aiming at the edge of the water trying to play for a little fade because the wind was off the left as well. I was very pleased to see that went on the fairway because I did push two or three tee shots into the right trees today. So that set it all up for a pitching wedge, hit it to about 15, 16 feet, and at that point I literally just lagged it up there, left it short on line but all I had to do was two-putt and I didn't want to run it three or four feet by at that point.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Can you just give us details on the birdies, start with the run at

3, 4 and 5?

BERNHARD LANGER: No. 3 was a driver, 2-hybrid. I hit it to about six feet or seven feet and missed the putt. Then I hit a beautiful 7-iron to about six feet. The fifth hole was a very good drive, a good 3-wood onto the green, two putts from about 65 feet. Then No. 9 was driver, lob wedge and 12-foot putt. No. 10 was a 2-hybrid, lob wedge and about a seven-foot putt. No. 14 was a 5-iron and a probably 23-foot putt or 25-foot putt.

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Anything special about having Christina caddie for you this week?

BERNHARD LANGER: Of course, it's always special when your kids caddie and they're with me out there inside the ropes and we can talk and enjoy each other's company. She hadn't won a tournament with me yet; not that she caddied a lot for me, but I was a little nervous just for her more so than myself really to finally get a W under our belt together because I won several tournaments with my son on the bag and we hadn't done it yet but we came close. We finished second at the 3M, my last tournament, and now first, so a couple of good weeks with Christina on the bag.

Q. You've been playing well obviously since you've been out here on the Champions Tour. Seems like this year you've taken it to another level. Is there anything you can put your finger on as to why you're playing at even a higher level if that was even possible?

BERNHARD LANGER: It's always possible, that's what I always say in pre-tournament interviews. I say we can still get better at our age, we can improve our swings, our techniques, our short games, our mental part, everywhere. If you can improve five or 10 percent or even a small percentage, you're going to shoot lower scores. I feel this year I'm putting a little bit better. I make a lot of putts, pressure putts and even some longer putts and it shows up in the scores. I've shot some very low scores and consistently break par on a regular basis. The swing is pretty consistent, too, but the score's all in the putter.

Q. I think now if I'm right, 93 straight holes here without a bogey. I know you're playing a lot of good golf but that's phenomenal. Anything you can point to that? Just comfort with the golf course?

BERNHARD LANGER: I don't know, I didn't know it was that many holes, but I know I didn't make a bogey this week and that's always special because there were certainly opportunities for me to make bogeys. Several times I just holed some clutch putts, especially on No. 8 today when I really hit a couple of bad shots and put myself behind the eight ball and then I had to make like a 15-, 16-foot putt for par and that was really good to just keep the momentum going.

Q. Member of the World Golf Hall of Fame, golf's highest honor. What drives you? Most people, that's the highlight or not the end of their career but what drives you every day?

BERNHARD LANGER: Well, it's just I love to compete and I'm still capable of playing some high quality golf and it's why should I hang it up? I'm having fun doing it, I'm healthy enough doing it, and enjoy myself playing golf. If you can still play at this level, why should I quit?

PHIL STAMBAUGH: Okay, congratulations again.

BERNHARD LANGER: Thank you.