

**PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW: JEFF MAGGERT**  
**Thursday, August 20, 2015**



**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** Okay, Jeff, thanks for joining us this afternoon. You're the Schwab Cup leader currently and the money leader, and three big wins this year, including United States Senior Open. A few thoughts about coming to play in the Boeing Classic for the first time?

**JEFF MAGGERT:** Great course. First time I saw it was Tuesday. Just fantastic. I've been obviously having a good year this year. I was looking forward to getting up here to play because just talking to all the guys out here, they said Seattle's the place you need to go play. And I'm playing most of the tournaments this year, so it's good to get out here and see the course the first time.

The course, I thought the course is playing pretty tough. The greens are firm, pretty quick. Fairways are soft so it's playing a little bit longer, I think, than it has in the past. Just trying to kind of get a feel for the course this week. Sometimes I feel like I'm at a little bit of a disadvantage because most of the guys have played here a couple years, so trying to learn the course pretty quickly.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** Talk about your year, Jeff. Three wins already and still we've got a lot of golf left to play.

**JEFF MAGGERT:** Yeah. You know, obviously the Charles Schwab Cup points list is something that I was interesting in trying to do well on this year and put myself in a good position. I think Colin might still be in the lead by a little bit, but just trying to play well. And I think we've got eight tournaments left on the schedule, so there's a lot of time to move up or move backwards, so I need to play hard and keep giving myself opportunities to win some tournaments.

**Q. Coming off a win --**

**JEFF MAGGERT:** Yeah, you know, I feel good coming into this week, but I did have a week off last week and I was kind of moving my family back from South Carolina; we spend our summers there. So I didn't really play much golf last week, so I did feel a little -- I hit some balls on Sunday at home but I felt a little rusty. But today I felt good. The swing felt good, driving the ball well, and just a matter of, you know, kind of getting a feel for the greens and making a few putts. The course played quite a bit longer today than it did Tuesday. Tuesday was pretty warm, it was up around 90 degrees, and today with the cool air and a little bit of mist this morning, so the course was a lot different this morning than it was on Tuesday. Actually, that was good because now I've kind of seen it in both conditions. I think the forecast might be a little wet tomorrow, but then it might be warm again on the weekend.

**Q. Did you expect to have this kind of success your first year out here?**

**JEFF MAGGERT:** Yes. I mean, I expected to play well and compete on a weekly basis. This year obviously just has been kind of meeting a lot of those expectations. I think everyone when they turn 50, they get a little bit rejuvenated and remotivated. The regular tour is so difficult to compete in your late 40s. There's very few guys that can really hang out there and play well in their late 40s.

So for myself, playing 25 years on the tour and getting to that point, it gets frustrating because you're used to going out there and competing week in and week out and having a chance to win tournaments, and then all of a sudden you get into this situation where you're missing cuts and you're not playing well and you can't -- you know, you can't beat Father Time. It's hard to compete against 25-year old kids. And they hit the ball, especially nowadays, they're hitting them just incredible distances compared to when I was that age.

So that coupled with the fact of getting older, the golf just wasn't very much fun, and being on the road and traveling and not being competitive kind of, at least for me, it was kind of wearing me out. Coming out here and seeing a lot of guys that I haven't spent time with in five, six, seven years and having a chance to really be competitive and play well has been a lot of fun.

**Q. Jeff, where's the Senior Open win kind of rank among the wins that you have?**

**JEFF MAGGERT:** For me, I had a lot of close calls in some majors on the regular tour, but definitely right at the top of my career. I think the senior majors have kind of, I don't know how to describe it, a little bit more prestigious amongst the players, I guess, and they're taking them a lot more serious maybe than they did 30 years ago. The players on this tour play very, very well. I mean, it's a very competitive tour. Other than maybe the driving distance has shrunk for most of the guys, the rest of their games are really awesome; iron play, putting, chipping and all that. In that regard, there's not a lot of difference in the caliber of play. At least the top 40 or 50 guys out here are really playing some good golf.

**Q. Jeff, other players have talked about that 40s being kind of the twilight zone. Should they consider reducing the age to get on this tour?**

**JEFF MAGGERT:** I don't think so. I think 50's a good age. I think if you're willing to put in the time physically, take care of your body and really motivate yourself in your 40s and late 40s, I think you can be competitive. I think a lot of the guys, they kind of took their 40s and late 40s off. They just kind of took it off from golf, they didn't play a lot of tournament golf. But now guys are playing right until they're 50 and on to the senior tour. A guy like Vijay Singh, he's 52 or 3 and he's still competitive out there. I think he's going to finish top 80 in FedEx Cup points or maybe higher than that, so he's obviously playing well and being competitive. The hard part of that is if you're used to winning, playing and winning tournaments, you know, it seems like it's great, you go out there and finish 80th on FedExCup points. But if you're doing that year after year after year and you're not really having a chance to win tournaments, I think guys that are really competitive, it kind of wears them out a little bit. And for me, when I got into my 40s, I had a lot of other things in my life

that I liked to spend time with. Did a lot more stuff with my family and took time off. Your kids get older and there's demands at home and you don't spend as much time working on your game at home like you did when you were in your 20s and 30s. Not that that's bad, it's just part of life, enjoying different things outside of golf and not putting in the effort, at least for me probably in my 40s. So kind of change that a little bit. My little kids are older now and my youngest is 11. He's probably my best golfer actually, so I probably play more golf at home with him than I do out here. So it is kind of fun, it's a good stage of my life and I'm enjoying it. I would like to play a few more times on the regular tour here and there, but really no desire to play a full-time schedule out there.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** Good luck tomorrow.

**JEFF MAGGERT:** Thank you.