

**ROUND 2 INTERVIEW: STEPHEN AMES**  
**Saturday, August 29, 2015**



**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** Okay, Stephen, eight better than yesterday, your low round as a Champions Tour player. Just talk about it. Pretty good day out there.

**STEPHEN AMES:** It is my low round? That's how much I knew about it. You know, I hit the ball somewhat decent. The driver was a bit wayward at times where I made one bogey at I think the sixth, was it? Yeah, the sixth.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** Yeah, sixth hole.

**STEPHEN AMES:** Yeah, made bogey. You've got the wrong hole there. It was due to the driver, but after that I kind of figured it out a little bit as the day was going on. But overall it was more the putter than anything else that was working. Yesterday I felt a little off with it, and then last night I worked on it a little bit and figured out what was wrong and continued today. I stuck with the same thing that I figured out yesterday afternoon and started making putts. It was fun.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** I noticed you've had three Top 10s coming into this, so obviously your game's in pretty good shape.

**STEPHEN AMES:** It is in good shape, yeah. It has been for quite a while. The putter's been the one that's been holding me back right now. I'm happy with the situation, I'm happy with the year so far that I've played. To be honest, I'm quite happy to be playing. It's been a lot of fun so far.

**PHIL STAMBAUGH:** Do you want to run through the birdies and give some details?

**STEPHEN AMES:** Hit 5-wood off the first tee, lob wedge to about six feet. The fourth hole, 8-iron long about 20 feet, made that. Par 5, I hit a poor drive there, chipped it out, 9-iron to about eight feet, made that. Par 3, hit 5-iron long, chipped it in. Eighth hole, driver, 3-wood to about 25 feet, two-putted. 12, driver, 3-iron, bunker. Hit the bunker shot about six feet, made that. 15, 5-wood, 7-iron to about three feet below the hole, made that. 16, went for the green, put it pin high left in the front green-side trap, hit a bunker shot to about eight feet, made that. And then 18, I hit driver, lob wedge six feet, made that. Only had one really long putt and that was on the fourth hole, the par 3. Other than that, everything else was pretty much inside of 15 feet.

**Q. It seems more gettable out there today than yesterday. Why is that?**

**STEPHEN AMES:** They're soft, the greens are softer than they were the first -- actually, they're softer than when we played in the pro-am. There was more bounce in the pro-am. Right now they're a little softer than they have been. I don't know why. I have no control over that, but I think overall the golf course is playing very fair, it's very gettable. If you hit

good shots, you're rewarded for good shots and good putts.

**Q. You're the third guy I've seen come up here today in this tournament and all three, the putts have been inside 10 feet, inside 15 feet. Anything to that out here?**

**STEPHEN AMES:** So you're saying they were complaining about making those putts or they were having difficulty making putts?

**Q. No, that's how they scored.**

**STEPHEN AMES:** The greens are awesome. The condition of the whole golf course is in great shape. When I played it back in the old days when it was the B.C. Open, I think I played it my first three years, '98, '99, 2000, the condition of the golf course has definitely changed from back then. Compliments to the superintendent and the job that he's been doing. The condition of the golf course is fabulous. We're taking advantage, which is typical of the caliber of players that we are, or a lot of us are. When the conditions are this good, we're going to take advantage of it and that's what's happening.

**Q. Can you expand on the difference between what you saw in the B.C. Open?**

**STEPHEN AMES:** It's so long ago. If I remember, I think the timing was bad, too, for conditions weather-wise, the time of the year, so there was always a lack of growth in the fairways from what I remember. Then the greens were a bit sketchy as well. There was just lack of growth. Definitely this time of the year there's plenty of growth now. The rough is up from what I remember back then, too. So that's probably what it was, it would have been lack of growth concerning what it is now to when we played it back then, when I played it back then. The older guys will probably know more than I would. (Laughs.) I have to say that.