

**ROUND 2 INTERVIEW:  
JASON DUFNER & BRANDT SNEDEKER**



**December 11, 2015**

**DAVE SENKO:** Well, Brandt and Jason, good round today, 8-under 64. Maybe just get us started, talk about what went well today. I think there was just the one bogey on No. 9.

**BRANDT SNEDEKER:** We got off to a hot start. We birdied the first three or four holes I think, and had a bunch of good looks it seemed like. Never put ourselves in too much trouble until the 9th hole, that's really the only time I think we had any trouble at all today. So you do that alternate shot and have a bunch of birdie opportunities, you tend to play pretty well and we kind of fed off each other. So hit some quality shots early. Jason played great all day ball striking-wise, gave us lots of looks at birdie and I was able to make a few it was a perfect partnership today. Hopefully we can kind of lead off, I mean piggyback on that tomorrow and have a good day tomorrow as well.

**DAVE SENKO:** Jason?

**JASON DUFNER:** Ditto. Yeah, you know, what he said. I think it was a good partnership today. We got off to a pretty good start. Brandt made a couple putts early that could make the round go either way. He made a great putt on the first hole and then made a long one on the second hole and we're off and running. We had a little hiccup on 9 but we were able to come back on 10, 11 to make some birdies to keep the round going so that was big. I like our chances tomorrow. We're right in the mix, that's where you want to be. We'll see how it goes. Feel like we're playing both pretty good golf and 9, 10, 11 under is pretty attainable I think in the best ball if we can get going early.

**DAVE SENKO:** The birdies on 1, 2 and 3?

**JASON DUFNER:** Brandt made all the putts.

**BRANDT SNEDEKER:** We had like a six-footer on No. 1 probably for birdie. Jason hit a great 35-yard bunker shot to get us there. On 2 I made about a 35-footer for birdie, 30-footer, somewhere in there, kind of got us going a little bit. On 3 Duff made about a --

**JASON DUFNER:** 10-footer or so.

**BRANDT SNEDEKER:** Yeah, six-, eight-footer, somewhere in there.

**JASON DUFNER:** Then we were good. We made a birdie on the par 5, bogeyed 9 but made a nice little six-footer on 10 and a little tap-in on 11 and another tap-in on 13 and another tap-in on 16, and then Brandt made a great putt on 17. So it seemed like I was either hitting it close, which made it easy, or he made some great putts, too.

**Q. Were you a little surprised at all when you were looking at the leaderboard and guys are dropping back, especially in the last group there, or are you just looking at a number at this point on the tournament?**

**BRANDT SNEDEKER:** Yeah, I think we were trying to go low. I think the biggest thing for us is the momentum we got early. When you got over that hump because there's a couple tough holes early where if you don't get off to a good start you can make some bogeys. Saw some guys do that and it kind of sucks the momentum out of you for the day. So once we got past those first few holes and got stuff going the right way, kind of looked at 9 and realized nobody's really going low. It's one of those formats where if you get going, it's alternate shot, guys can still go pretty low and I think we were the only group that got some momentum going early in the round, so we kind of fed off that and kept going.

**Q. How did it work out as far as the pairing for you guys?**

**JASON DUFNER:** I think the tournament put us together.

**BRANDT SNEDEKER:** Yeah.

**JASON DUFNER:** It was good. We've played a lot of golf, not together as a team. We've been on some Ryder Cups and Presidents Cups but never really played together. But I played golf a long time with Snedeker through college and being on the Web.com together and then being out here for 10 years or so together. So we've been around each other, we kind of know what we do well, what we don't do well. We probably know each other a little bit about when to press a little bit and pick the guy up and when to leave him alone. So I think it's a good pairing, I think it's a good mix. I've had a lot of success with Zach. Zach's incredible around the greens with his wedges and putting and Snedeker's the same way so I felt like it would be a good pairing.

**Q. You guys at one point in your careers played at the highest level of golf. Your games have kind of leveled off a little bit then. I'm wondering in these two days if you guys talk about just things that maybe might help each other or just kind of ideas you've thrown out about ways you're trying to take your game to another level? I'm just kind of curious about some of the conversations that you guys may have.**

**JASON DUFNER:** I still think we're playing at the highest level. I don't know a tour that is any higher than where we play at, to be honest with you. I don't look at it as a drop. We may not have the results that we had, but we're still pretty competitive out there. We're still really good players. I think that's just a misjudgment by a lot of people that aren't out here. I think we're both fantastic players. I think your game kind of goes with flows up and down, but I just don't look at it that way. I don't even really think about it, to be honest with you. I'm trying to get better, he's trying to get better and handle situations better out there and be more comfortable when you're in the lead.

**BRANDT SNEDEKER:** Yeah, I don't think -- I think if you're talking about why haven't we won, he's won a major. More on those lines, it's very difficult to do that out here. I think we both had some injury problems the last couple years as well, that's kind of taken a little bit of wind out of our sails to say the least because when you're playing great, you just want to keep going. Unfortunately out here injury's a part of the game and it's going to happen. And I think once we've kind of both rebounded from that, I know we both want to be as good as we possibly can and win as many tournaments as we possibly can, and so all we're doing is trying to put ourselves in position.

**Q. So if I understood you right, is it basically saying that you guys still feel like you're still grinding away, you're still playing at the same level?**

**JASON DUFNER:** I feel like I can win any tournament that I play in no matter where we are, who the field is.

**BRANDT SNEDEKER:** Yeah, I think it's just -- yeah. I don't know how you want us to say it. I feel like we're playing the way we've always played. We've both had the results for a long time, and for whatever reason might be now, we haven't had them as regularly as we had in years past. I don't look at that as a negative thing. I look at it as just unfortunately that's the way the game of golf goes. You hear us say all the time we're playing good and the results might not be there, and people don't realize that we know when we're playing good and when we're not playing good, so when we say that and stuff's not happening, it's just not happening. There's a lot of things you can't control on the golf course.

**JASON DUFNER:** It's a fine line out here, you're talking one shot a day.

**Q. Sorry to bring up 9, but what happened there?**

**BRANDT SNEDEKER:** Jason's just a terrible wedge player, hit an awful shot.

**JASON DUFNER:** Just a little bit more wind. Ball actually landed short of pin high and just released downwind. Miss-club, it happens.

**BRANDT SNEDEKER:** I didn't hit a great chip shot. I left him 10-footer for par. I should have hit a better chip shot, and that happens in alternate shot unfortunately. The only -- really we've made two -- we made a bogey yesterday in the scramble, which is unheard of.

**JASON DUFNER:** Apparently not.

**BRANDT SNEDEKER:** Apparently not, and we did it again today.

**JASON DUFNER:** Like a unicorn. They exist.

**BRANDT SNEDEKER:** So they do exist. I didn't think they did, but they do.

**Q. Do those things kind of refocus you? Obviously since then you've been playing real well.**

**JASON DUFNER:** Yeah, I think you can go either way with it. I felt like yesterday we were playing awesome. We had a little hiccup, we both kind of got in trouble off the tee. We hit pretty good pitches. I missed a four-footer and Sneds missed his one four-footer for this year, so it doesn't happen very often. But we birdied, I think we birdied the next two holes, maybe the next three holes.

**BRANDT SNEDEKER:** Yeah, it was, yeah.

**JASON DUFNER:** So it was a rebound. Same thing there, made a bogey, came back. I think that's one of the great traits about golfers; most of the time they're pretty resilient. Things like that you always have the opportunity, unless it's the 18th hole to bounce back in that round and I think that shows a lot of character. Bounce-back I think is a big stat out here, how many times can you recover with birdie after a bogey. That's huge.

**Q. Talk about tomorrow. Were you with Davis three or four years ago and you were like up there, I can't remember. What's going to be the key? Obviously the final round's a different format than it has been.**

**BRANDT SNEDEKER:** Biggest thing for us like we did today is not put pressure on ourselves so I think we need to have two birdie putts pretty much all day long, make sure nobody's out of the hole or anything like that, keep going, keep giving ourselves lots of chances and momentum. Momentum in these things is so important and you'll see somebody tomorrow get off to a great start and kind of ride that through the day. We need to be one of those teams. First three holes are going to be really important, make sure we get some birdies early and get the putts going in. We're going to have to shoot something low. We're not going to be able to shoot 4 or 5 under par and win this thing. We'll have to shoot 8, 9, 10, 11, 12 under par, something like that. Somebody does it every year, we've just got to make sure that we keep our foot on the gas and keep making as many birdies as possible.

**JASON DUFNER:** I think a big key is I feel like I'm hitting it pretty good. If I can continue to hit some fairways and hit some greens and let him get aggressive with his ball striking and his putting. He's a great putter. You put him inside 30 feet, he's got a chance. If I can first off get it in the fairway, let him know that I'm in the fairway, and then I can let him be aggressive into the greens and get his putter going, I think that will be huge tomorrow. You know, this thing's always determined by a shot here or there so we might need a little luck, maybe a chip-in or a long putt holed at the right moment. But it will be bunched up. There'll be four or five teams that have a chance right there at the last couple holes. So I'm just excited to be part of it this time. This is the fourth or fifth time I've played and I've always been first or second off going off on the last round.