

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW: ROBERTO CASTRO
May 6, 2016



MODERATOR: 66, how about this card, seven birdies, an eagle, three bogeys. What do you take away from this round?

ROBERTO CASTRO: It was a tough day. When I teed off, there were still a couple 3, 4 unders on the board and I told myself it's a big golf course but try to feel like I can shoot under par. A few crazy things happened out there, but overall I had a lot of opportunities so it was good to put a good score on the board.

Q. One crazy thing that was in your favor and that is that eagle you had on 18, it may be the toughest hole out here. Walk us through that hole.

ROBERTO CASTRO: It is a brutal hole, and honestly I drove it in the right rough and had 230, and if there was a nice layup area to hit it 60 yards from the green I might have laid up. But there's no good option there other than just go for it. So we pulled 50wood and it came out right at it and I thought it might jump over the back of the green but everybody's arms went up and that's always a good sign.

Q. At the midway point of this tournament and you definitely are in contention. Anything you adjust to mentally or emotionally as you look towards the weekend?

ROBERTO CASTRO: I don't think so. Like I said, it's a hard golf course but there's opportunities out there. I'm just trying to get as many under par as possible. Pars don't do you much good out here. Keep the pedal down and try to keep it rolling.

Q. 66 in the works as you were warming up for today for the second round?

ROBERTO CASTRO: I felt like I played good yesterday and shot 1 under and then I saw some really good scores posted in the afternoon. And I just kind of did one of those in my hotel where I was running through like, all right, how do you shoot 6 under out there? So that was my mentality was try to go shoot a really good score. I eagled a brutal hole and birdied a really hard hole so it didn't exactly go to plan, but I think just that attitude helped.

Q. There are two shots in particular I would like you to comment about, the one at 18, you dunk it in two for the eagle there?

ROBERTO CASTRO: Yeah, 230, 5-wood. That's one of the hardest holes on the Tour. That's the best shot I've ever hit, no questions asked.

Q. In your entire career?

ROBERTO CASTRO: No doubt. That hole's, what did it play today, 4.5, 4.6?

Q. 490.

ROBERTO CASTRO: Yeah, 490 yards. It was a lot of hole.

Q. How about that birdie putt on 9 to close things out, getting in the house 7 under.

ROBERTO CASTRO: It was nice because I had a bunch of big breaking putts today and I just didn't hit any of them hard enough. So I finally told myself you're putting straight up the slope, give it a little extra hit and right off the face I thought it might go in.

Q. Nice to close, it was a great day out there for you. Talk about that putt on 9.

ROBERTO CASTRO: Thanks. That's a big hole. I hit as good a drive as I can hit and still had 220-something yards in there. Anywhere on the green was good and I felt like I had a good line. I had a few of those big breakers today and left them a little bit short and I felt like I hit that one just a little bit more crisp and it got there.

Q. You were sailing along on your opening nine 2 under and then magic at 18. That's a nice jolt for the round.

ROBERTO CASTRO: It is. I mean, when you're teeing off 10, 18 right in the middle of your round it can go a couple different ways. I've played here where doubled 18 and then gone on the front and played okay. But it's big, it's just a big hole right in the middle of the round if you're playing off the back.

Q. What did you hit in there and what do you remember about the shot?

ROBERTO CASTRO: I had 5-wood and was just trying to get it to jump out of the rough. It came out right at it and I thought it might bounce over the back, and everyone's arms went up and I literally couldn't believe it. I mean, could not believe it.

Q. Put you in the last group for tomorrow as it stands now, that's a nice feeling going into the weekend knowing you're going in the last group?

ROBERTO CASTRO: Yeah, it's nice. I love this place. It's one of my favorite if not my favorite venue. Playing Saturday afternoon at Quail Hollow is as good as it gets.

Q. What makes it such a great venue for you that you like it so much?

ROBERTO CASTRO: Other than East Lake, it's the closest tournament to home. Especially when they had bentgrass greens, it just felt most like the golf I grew up playing. I love the rolling hills. It just really feels like an amazing version of the courses I grew up playing, so very comfortable.

Q. What part of your game is really clicking today do you think?

ROBERTO CASTRO: I think I hit a lot of greens for how hard the golf course is playing. I think I hit a wood into three or four par 4s and I couldn't have been the only one. To play those -- to get to some greens in regulation out of those and maybe sneak a birdie on 9, that's just bonus.

Q. Did you think a 66 was out there in the afternoon? It seemed like playing conditions, even though it's sunny and warm, it made things a little tricky.

ROBERTO CASTRO: I think it's out there because you have four par 5s and they're all gettable. 15 is not reachable today but three of them are. So I thought if you play the par 5s very well, 6 under's out there. So I only played them 1 under so I didn't shoot it the way I thought it was possible, but I did think there was a good score out there.