

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW: KEVIN SUTHERLAND
July 8, 2016



Q. Just some opening comments on the round.

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: Wow, I putted unbelievable. I think I had 21 putts if I counted right. I hit the ball honestly really bad. I had a hard time getting the ball in the fairway, but man, I made every putt I looked at. I chipped in twice. It was just one of those days where everything was going in and that's always a lot of fun.

Q. How's it feel to get off to a good start up front, tied for the lead, I believe, right now at 5 under?

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: It feels great. Going forward I need to hit the ball a little better than I did today. What I did today is not sustainable over the long haul, but I just kind of survived today. I mean, I literally made every putt I looked at. It was a lot of fun.

Q. It's not quite the 59 you had here two years ago, but what is it about this course that just seems to agree with you?

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: I don't know. I putted like I shot 59 today. I might have putted better than when I shot 59. I just didn't hit the ball nearly as good. I like the course, I always have. I always feel like the key to this golf course is getting the ball in the fairway and I did it that day a lot and today I didn't, but still found a way to get a good score.

Q. What do you think of the course out there today?

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: Just in great shape. The fairways are fabulous, the greens are fabulous. Everything's really good. No complaints about the golf course. The course is in fabulous condition.

Q. Seems like you're not totally happy with your play today, but to finish 18 the way you did, how does that feel going into the weekend?

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: I'm happy with my score. Trust me, I'm ecstatic. I just know I need to hit it better. A lot of times you just have a day like this. I hit the ball well yesterday, today I didn't. And the reality is if you don't get the ball in the fairway, you're kind of hacking away, kind of chipping and putting and you don't get in a great rhythm. I think if I would have gotten a few more balls in the fairway, I might of had a better rhythm and I probably would have hit it better today, but that's the way it goes.

Q. Does it give you more confidence that your putting was working for you on the green today and is it easier for you to fix?

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: Totally agree. I'd rather have this problem than the other, it's a lot easier to fix. I normally hit the ball pretty well, I just had a bad day. I would rather be making putts than not. When you see putts going in, more putts keep going in.

Q. You might not be leading at the end of Round 1 but you're going to be right up there at the top. Is it easier to play at the top than maybe under the radar.

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: I do think that somebody's going to shoot better than 5 under today. But yeah, I think it's easier to play at the top. You have less ground to make up, you don't have to shoot as good a score, you don't have to shoot some crazy number. Like last year when I shot 59, I shot 71 the first day. It would be great, don't get me wrong, but don't have to shoot that tomorrow to stay competitive.

Q. Will the conditions be right for another 59 tomorrow?

KEVIN SUTHERLAND: I don't know. 59's just happen, you don't plan on them.