

DOUG MILNE: Brandt Snedeker, thanks for joining us for a few minutes. 2012 and 2016 Farmers Insurance Open champion, we appreciate you joining us for a few minutes. Certainly the interesting way to get the job done last year given the conditions, and looks like it's going to be a good bit more benign this year.

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah.

DOUG MILNE: With that said, just some thoughts on being back here to an event you've won twice.

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah, it's always great to be in San Diego, this is kind of where my career started in 2007. My rookie year I finished third and ever since then it's had a special place in my heart, and to be a defending champion is a special feeling. But this golf course is in good shape, it's going to be a tough test, the rough is thick. Excited to be back, though. The weather looks great and should be a fun week for everybody, especially having Tiger back and all the excitement coming into this week.

DOUG MILNE: Have you had a chance to go on the North course?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: I have, yes. I played the back nine this morning and the golf course is -- greens are obviously much bigger, less severe than they were in years past. Different lines off tees and stuff like that. It's a lot more appealing to the eye. It's definitely a prettier golf course and the bunkers are kind of back in play for most of the guys on Tour. So it's definitely going to be a little bit tougher than it has in years past off the tee and into the greens. The greens are perfect right now. Brand new, so they're rolling fantastic and there's less slope than they had in years past so it can kind of counteract everything. Guys are going to be able to make more putts on the North course.

Q. Considering your success that one year on the North course, when they were going to renovate the North course, were you like, "Please don't do too much"?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah, you know, anytime you have success on a golf course, you don't want people to touch it. I was giving Tom Weiskopf, I saw him out there earlier, a hard time because I love Phoenix and he renovated Phoenix a couple years ago and I hadn't played good since he renovated it. I was like, I hope you didn't mess up this North Course because I really liked the way it was.

But the front nine I saw was great and it needed to be done. It need to have some bigger greens and they've got more options for pin positions. And the new 17th hole is gorgeous. It's a par 5 on the canyon and a really pretty hole. Or it might be 8, I get the nines mixed up.

8 used to be the old 17. Sorry, I'm getting confused here. The new 8 is gorgeous, one of the prettier redos I've seen in a long time. I think it's something that needed to be done and I think we'll be excited about it.

Q. Don't worry, us locals still get the nines confused. You've won twice here in very, very bizarre circumstances. Being in the press room finishing runner-up and then oops, I've got to go play golf, and then last year, you think you'd even know what to do with yourself in the room. Do you ever think about that that you have the most bizarre wins?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah, definitely if you start looking at it, this place obviously seems to like me back because I got two kind of off-the-ballpark wins, to say the least. To have Kyle Stanley in 2012 triple-bogey the last hole to give me a chance in a playoff, and then last year to finish two hours before the leaders even thought about getting done, and then having to wait overnight the way I did and the weather changed and all the stuff that went into that.

Yeah, I guess there's something about this place that seems to treat me right. It did my rookie year and it's been treating me right ever since. So definitely two of my eight wins on tour, they are by far the two most bizarre to be able to win the way I did.

Q. Where do you stand with your game right now? What have you done since Sony?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah, I had a week off, went on a little family vacation in Hawaii when we were there so stayed an extra week. Game feels really good. I played really, really well at Kapalua and Sony. Even though I missed the cuts, I just had two awful putting weeks. Just putted horrendous for me. So last week I just kind of got back to basics and practiced my putting a little bit and feel better about it, a lot better. Anytime I get on poa annua I get excited, so it was good to get out there today and hit some putts and game feels really, really good, so I've got some pretty high expectations this week.

Q. What did you feel like it was with the putting?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: You know, I don't -- for whatever reason, I always struggle at Sony reading the greens. They're perfect and you've got no excuses not to and I always read them horribly for some reason. At Kapalua I hit a lot of good putts that just didn't want to go in. You get stretches like that, weeks like an on Tour. Normally I'm really great about fighting through it. I let Kapalua get to me a little bit, which is more of the mental side than the physical side. So good to have a week to kind of hit the reset button and say okay, we need to get back to what I do well, thinking well and being confident what I'm doing and kind of getting back to basics. Try to take that mindset into this week.

Q. You've got to be the only southern guy who gets excited to play poa.

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah, I don't know what it is.

Q. How did that happen?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: I guess because I grew up on really slow greens. When you grow up on slow greens, you've got to hit the putts really firm. I grew up on public golf courses, mainly Nashville, and weren't the best conditioned greens to say the least. So you see the ball kind of hop around a little bit and pop it a little bit. On poa annua it seems to work great. The ball kinds of gets rolling faster and I'm a lot less hard on myself than most guys are on these kind of greens. I realize you're going to hit some good putts that sometimes don't go in, but at the same time I've hit bad putts on these greens that go in. So it goes both ways. For whatever reason, I read the greens here really, really well. I can pick out the breaks really easily, and some weeks you kind of have that rapport with them and some weeks you don't. And this week's one of the ones where I really, really do.

Q. Have you ever sat down and had this conversation with Kisner?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yes, that's why he didn't show up. I've tried to teach me how to putt on Bermuda because that's the only thing he can putt really, really well on.

I don't know, it's funny how green surfaces kind of dictate guys' comfort level with greens. For whatever reason, I'm very comfortable on poa annua, I'm comfortable on bent and even Bermuda I am comfortable on, I just have a tough time reading grain, the grain in the greens and how much it affects the putt. It always kind of creates doubt in my mind, where on these greens I don't have any doubt, I kind of know where I need to hit it.

Q. Speaking of that, how does that change for you on your putting from Thursday to Friday?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah, just got to spend some time on the speed before you go out and play. But the greens on the North course are perfect. I mean, they're absolutely rolling pristine and I'm kind of disappointed because I wanted it to be poa, I was used to the old ones and now they are -- you hit 'em where you're looking, they're gonna go in. So that's why I'm tempering even though the golf course is probably a little bit tougher tee to green, I think guys will make a lot more putts over there. So I look forward to three or four years down the road where there's poa over there, too, get back to what I like.

Q. Obviously you're here for your own game and to win, but what's the level of interest on what Tiger will be doing on Thursday and having him on the course?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: Yeah, I think everybody will be excited about it. I'm excited to see how he's progressed since the Bahamas. Anytime he shows up to an event, especially here, the crowds are immensely bigger. He's got a rapport with this place, kind of like I do but on a grander scale. He's won here more times here than I've actually probably won in my whole career. It's pretty special to have him back on a place that he feels comfortable. I'm excited to see what he can do because I want him back playing great.

Q. If you threw out the majors and THE PLAYERS, what one PGA Tour event would you like to win the most and why?

BRANDT SNEDEKER: That's a tough one. That's so tough. I look at the venues, right? I've been fortunate to win at Pebble, which I think is one of the coolest places on the planet. I think Riviera is up there with that. Riviera's a place I'd really, really love to win. and I've not been able to win yet.

To me, Ft. Worth, Colonial. I like the old historic golf courses that have an unbelievable list of champions, and when you have that, it's really, really hard not to be enamored with that. That's how I kind of look at it. Every guy's different. For me, I look at the history the course has, its place in the history of the game, what that means, and to have your name on that list is something that I think we all look at. So obviously outside the majors and THE PLAYERS, you look at those historic venues like that, that's kind of where I temper myself and can see myself.

DOUG MILNE: Well, Brandt, as always, we appreciate your time. Best of luck this week.