

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW: MARK BROOKS (-6)
August 18, 2017



Q. You birdied the last two holes?

MARK BROOKS: I did. I actually hit -- you know, I kept it in play. I didn't hit a bunch of wild ones. I hit a lot of good wedges today kind of for a change. That was pretty much it. I converted all but a couple when I had chances. That was kind of the key, keep it in play and wedged it good.

Q. The par 5s on the front, I think you birdied --

MARK BROOKS: I laid up on both of them, sand wedges to both of them, seven feet, five feet.

Q. How was it playing?

MARK BROOKS: It's soft, no wind. We played in the rain for luckily only a few holes. I think a lot of us are still -- we started having, what's the word? There's a good word for it, when you have not withdrawal. Somebody does drugs and they quit and they have a recurrence, what do you call that?

Q. Relapse?

MARK BROOKS: Yeah, well, there's a better word for it. It's slipping my mind. But from that British Open, you're like as soon as you start getting umbrellas out, you're like, my God, we're going to have that again, because it was about the worst I've ever played in over there. That was only a few weeks ago. I'm still recovering.

Q. Did you expect this today coming in, did you feel like you were playing well?

MARK BROOKS: I've been working on it, you know, not anything big, just a little bit the last week. I drove it not long but I hit it in the fairway better, I would say that. I drove the ball better. I hadn't driven the ball very good this year. Again, I was short but it was -- I figured out pretty quick short and straight's better than short and crooked.

Q. Especially around here, right?

MARK BROOKS: Well, anywhere. Are you kidding me? Short and crooked doesn't work. Drove it better.

Q. 5 under on I guess the front nine, was it?

MARK BROOKS: Yeah. I played fine on the back. The back's a little tougher obviously.

We were playing I think the better, tougher stretch of holes in a little bit of the rain. I would say 11, 13, 14, 15 are the three hardest holes on the golf course and we played those all kind of in the rain. So I felt pretty -- I mean, I kind of felt -- if I had any game plan at all, it was to kind of walk off 15 no worse than around even, which is kind of -- which is exactly what I did. I think that was the key today for me.