

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW: JOEY SINDELAR (-5)
August 18, 2017**



Q. Joey, you said earlier in the week your game was stuck in neutral and we asked you what it would take to kick into gear. Was that the round to do it?

JOEY SINDELAR: Well, yes, that's always fun. I just spent a week with my teacher, Mike Bennett, and we still have some work to do and we felt like we made some strides. Doing it with a whole bucket of golf balls is one thing on the range, doing it at home on your own golf course is one thing. Teeing it up for real with the guys, on one hand, no, it's not different, but on the other hand it's once every 10 minutes and it counts. So today was a really -- it was a lot of satisfaction for me today to see that the things we felt were important worked, the results were still the same, and so today was a lot of fun.

I think it's the path, I'm sure it's the path I've got to go on. I don't know whether I've got it nailed down or not. You know, as the tournament goes on and the wind blows and the pins get tucked, you never know what's going to happen, but it sure feels good.

Q. How much did the weather play a factor today and really softened things up on the greens?

JOEY SINDELAR: Yeah, so the biggest enemies to tour golfers are mud on the golf ball, which we didn't get any today, and on the other side of that coin, wind and hard greens, which I totally -- this course was so ready for that, and then of course you can't control the weather. So we actually had a benign golf course. The wind did not pick up, I mean 10 miles an hour at the most and that was only a couple of brief times. So on one hand the course was very scorable because the conditions were great. On the other hand, because the grass is so good this year, the course is playing a lot longer, like 20 to 25 yards per hole longer off the tee because we're not getting those huge bounces. So it's just tougher to -- you were hitting much longer clubs into greens so it was a great mix today. The course was great.

Q. What's it going to take for you to remain in contention throughout the weekend?

JOEY SINDELAR: Yeah, well, I hate to give you the boring answer, but all I want to do is go to the range and do more of what I just did and show up tomorrow and try to do more. We've got nine or 10 tournaments left this year and I just want to mosey on down that road. I would love to have success here. I have memories of a lot of fun here and there's no reason why it couldn't happen, but there's also a lot guys here that are really, really good and they want to win. So I'll show up and give a good fight.

Q. Sutherland's got the lead right now at 7, you're at 5. How do you feel in terms of that putting in you position for a strong weekend.

JOEY SINDELAR: That's actually very bad news and very scary because he's one of the lowest shooting son of a guns I've ever seen. That guy can make birdies and shoot low scores like it's out of control. It's no surprise that he did it again. He apparently likes what he sees out there because he's about -- I think about half the holes he plays under par. He plays 18, he's 9 under. He'll be a beast. He's an awesomely talented golfer, and again, there's a whole bunch of them out there that are and I'm just glad to be up there in the conversation.

Q. You have some good memories here. How do you stay locked in coming up the fairways?

JOEY SINDELAR: Yeah, well, part of the good news is that this is an entirely different course post-flood of I don't know how many years ago. How old is the new course, 15 maybe? I can't remember, but somewhere in there. I still, though, remember I'll play 10 and remember the 10th green that was up in the air with the big drop off the back. All of us who are here remember those things, but we've also had a long time here. That's part of the fun of what we do, we have good and bad to pull from. Part of learning a golf course is hitting some good shots that don't quite work and going, oh, I didn't quite see it that way, or hitting some rotten ones that all of a sudden there's room over there, you go, I don't know that was possible. So it's a continuing education for us and it's part of the fun, we get to keep coming back to these awesome places.