

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
November 9, 2018



MATT KUCHAR (-14)

Q. Second day, same score for Matt Kuchar, consecutive 64s. How would you compare the two rounds?

MATT KUCHAR: Very similar. Today I just got in trouble once on, I don't remember the hole, but I hit a --

Q. On 12.

MATT KUCHAR: On 12. Went just further right than I was expecting and looked like I was going to get in some big trouble there. Yesterday was kind of a bogey-free day and just easy, and everything else today was about the same. I just had that one challenging hole.

Q. To save bogey on 12 from a momentum standpoint, how big was that for the rest of your round?

MATT KUCHAR: Yeah, that was great. I knew I had a par 5 following it, and I figured I was probably going to make double there and birdie on the next. I ended up making bogey there and par on the par 5 13th, so still felt like I was very much in control.

It was nice to hit a couple good tee shots. I hit a provisional, hit a great provisional on 12, and 13's no easy tee shot, I was able to hit a great tee shot there. That felt like I was back in control again.

Q. It's been an interesting week for the Kuchar family and the caddie world. Your wife, Sybi, pinch hit yesterday for Damon Green for four holes. John Wood has the week off. You have a local caddie, David, known as El Tucan, on the bag. How have you two been able to build a rapport in such a short time?

MATT KUCHAR: Yeah, it's been good, it's been good. I think both of us are pretty easygoing. It's been quite easy. He's a steady rock out there and it's been fun to have a local, some guy who can kind of point me in the right direction and who knows the ropes around here. I've enjoyed it.

Q. Matt, got off to a great start today, five birdies on the front nine in a row. Just talk about being the leader after 36 holes.

MATT KUCHAR: Certainly A position I like to be in. Would have liked to have that birdie on the last, but all in all, it was really good golf. The 12th hole almost jumped up and bit me. I hit my one bad drive of the day and had to take an unplayable and from there was really

lucky just to make bogey. Other than that, played some good, steady golf. I made some putts, but also hit the ball really, really well.

Q. You've been playing with a local caddie. How's it been? Do you think that has been an advantage?

MATT KUCHAR: It's been great. I've enjoyed David. He's been a good help, he's been steady out there. You know, anything I need, and in particular any translation I need, he comes in very handy.

Q. How hard is it to win nowadays with all the young players and long drivers?

MATT KUCHAR: There seems to be a whole lot of good young players. Every field is strong and deep. It seems to just continually get tougher and tougher to win. I think you have more guys that stand a real chance of winning each week. It's not easy.

Q. You know here the weather can be chaotic and two days in a row you have no wind, the sun. How has it been for you?

MATT KUCHAR: It's been nice. It's been hot, but I think all of us would take this over some of the wind and rain that can happen here. It's been a great two days. You've seen the scoring's been low thanks to the lack of wind and the great weather.

Q. Matt, it's been a few years since you've been in the winner's circle. How much do you have to kind of contain yourself not to push it too hard after 36 holes?

MATT KUCHAR: I'm pretty good at plodding along and taking it a shot at a time, hole at a time. I think that's one of my strengths. Certainly will serve me well this weekend. I'm in a position, it would be nice to find that winner's circle again, but all I can do is take care of the shots at hand and take care of my business and I'll do my best to do that.

Q. Is that key, because when you tee off you may be behind because the scores are low, that there may be some guys that --

MATT KUCHAR: Absolutely, and that was the case today. I shot 7 under, was tied for the lead through Round 1 and I think when I teed off I was probably five shots off the lead. It's definitely something that you kind of have to expect, but I can't think of a better place to be.

Q. How much does it drive you to be coming back from last season where you didn't make it to Atlanta and had maybe a little bit of an off year? Do you sort of think of your career holistically that way as the big picture?

MATT KUCHAR: Last year was definitely a disappointing year, I was definitely frustrated with last year's performance. I take a lot of pride in being a very consistent player that made the TOUR Championship year after year, seemed to make almost all the cuts that I play in.

But I don't look at it like I'm trying to prove myself again. The nature of the game, with each year you always just try to get better. I felt like I did a lot of good things last year; for some reason just didn't put together many good weeks. Felt like I was on the right path to improvement, and with this off season, continue to work and feel like I'm on things that are turning me into a better player. That's all we really try to strive for is just continuing to improve.