

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
July 19, 2019



DAVID TOMS (-12)

Q. David, 8 under, excellent round. If we can get some comments on your play.

DAVID TOMS: Just really solid. I mean, probably the key to today is I had a couple pitch-ins from off the green in tough situations on a couple of the par 3s, so to hole those kind of kept my round going. You know, but other than that, I hit a lot of shots in the fairway, I had a lot of birdie chances. Certainly three-putting the last hole kind of leaves a sour taste in your mouth, but I misjudged the speed on the first one. Really wasn't a bad stroke, so it's not a whole lot I can complain about.

I putted well today. I left a few out there, a couple of short ones that I thought I hit good putts. But very happy with the way I played to get into contention with these young guys and to be here, just to be here on the weekend and feeling good about my game. That's what I came here for is to just continue to work on some things and play good golf. You know, it's worked out well.

Q. Speaking of that, three runner-up finishes on PGA TOUR Champions this year. Just comment a little bit about your season up to this point and the confidence level you carried into this week.

DAVID TOMS: Well, I played good numerous times this year. Had opportunities, haven't been able to get it done. But like I said, everybody out there are champions, all the guys that are playing, so they know how to win. You have to go out there and do it and I haven't been able to this year. We still have a lot of tournaments left. Our fall is pretty important as a player out there, a lot of tournaments. So I have some opportunities, I just have to get close and see if I can have something go my way.

Q. What made you decide to play here?

DAVID TOMS: Well, I don't plan to play the Senior British, so I was going to have four weeks off. We really couldn't plan a family vacation; my son's playing a golf tournament this week. My wife and daughter said they would come to Kentucky if I wanted to play. I was a four and a half hour drive up the road, it all made sense.

I played this golf course right when it first opened, I guess, back in the U.S. Open qualifier a couple years in a row a long time ago. So I had a lot of teammates from Kentucky in college. I had a roommate from Frankfort right down the road, so I spent a lot of time in Kentucky. Always enjoyed my time here. I won a USGT event over at Griffin Gate over when I first turned pro.

So it just -- a lot of things, a lot of reasons, but that's kind of the nuts and bolts of it. I felt good about coming here and it's carried over to some good golf.

Q. What kind of expectations did you have coming in?

DAVID TOMS: You know, I really didn't know what to expect. I always felt like even my last few years on the Tour, if I played really solid, I was -- not that I had chances to win, but I was around for the weekend, I could shoot some good scores. That's kind of what I wanted to do.

I mean, first goal was just to play Saturday and Sunday really, and then I started feeling good about it yesterday, the way I was playing, and obviously it carried over to today. So I'm in good shape. But I'll have to go really low on the weekend like everybody else is going to have to do. It's a longer golf course for me, so it helps that it's drying up a little bit. So I don't have as many scoring opportunities as some of the other players, but if I can take advantage of the ones I do have, I'll be okay.

Q. What's it like when you come into -- the morning round has already happened and the guys set the bar kind of high and you need a round like you had?

DAVID TOMS: Well, it takes me back to when I first turned pro, you know. You had a late tee time, you're one of the last groups off Thursday or Friday because you're not in the winner's category. One of the superstars is already 7 or 8 under par and it's going to be a tough day because it's breezy. It was always tough as a young player to get past that.

But I think as my career progressed, I was like, you know, if I can just play four rounds like I know I can play, I'll be fine in the end. That's kind of what I had to do this afternoon. I'm like, first things first. You're like, "Oh, I want to get off to a decent start so I'm not grinding the cut line all day long." So I got off to a pretty good start and got a couple birdies early, so you kind of put that behind you. Now you just want to move up and get as close as you can to the leaders, and that's the way I approached today.

Q. You would be the second oldest player. Do you know who the first was?

DAVID TOMS: No, not at all. I have no idea.

Q. Sam Snead.

DAVID TOMS: Sam Snead. I was fortunate enough to get to visit with him a little bit at the Masters over the years and he was always nice to me, and obviously I followed historically what he did in the game and it's pretty impressive. That would be kind of cool, but I've got a long way to go. See if we can play well enough tomorrow not to be too far back on Sunday and have a chance.