

ROUND 3 INTERVIEW
May 8, 2021

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU (-1)



Q. Bryson, give us a little bit of a timeline of the last almost 24 hours, I guess, from when you left here yesterday to today.

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: Yeah, I made triple on 7 and then chipped in on 8 for birdie. I thought I had to make birdie on the last and I didn't, missed the putt, and I was like there's no way I'm making it, it's 90th place. So we just said, all right, let's pack up, let's go. Want to get ready for next week and going home. Chris was there, we're reviewing practice and whatnot. So flew privately there, and halfway through the flight my agent texted Conner and he's like, "Hey, you're 68th now." I was like, "What? No way. There's no way I'm still -- I'm not going to make it, there's no way."

Sure enough, conditions kept getting worse and by the time I landed I was in, 64 or 63rd or whatever. So I looked at Conner, "Well, whoops, that was a mistake."

It was funny. We did a lot of scrambling last night to get back. One of the scenarios was like turning right back around, but the crew couldn't, you know, refuel and their hours were out. So we had to get a new crew, if anything, and it just didn't work out. So we're like, "Well, let's just go in the morning." So I left at 2:45 on a flight and I got here at 6:20 a.m. Drove 30 minutes to the golf course, put on my clothes in the locker room and headed out to the putting green. I did get a workout last night, though.

Q. What time did you land back in -- what time did you leave here yesterday, what time did you land back in Dallas?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: I landed like 5:45.

Q. How long was the flight?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: Well, into the wind it was almost three hours, I think, two and a half to three hours, so it was quite a bit. Then coming back here was only two hours, two hours and a little bit. But I got some sleep on the plane, that was nice.

Q. Is that the only sleep you got?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: No, I slept last night. I went to bed at 8:00. So I knew I had to wake up early, got five hours there and then a couple. So seven hours, not too bad.

Q. So you went back to your home?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: And I worked out, yeah, yeah. So I went back -- after I got off the plane, I was like, you know what, we're here for the night so might as well sleep in my bed and get up really early. I did about an hour workout, hung out with my roommates that were there and just had dinner at Eatzi's and had a couple protein shakes and stuff like that and just worked out and went to sleep.

Q. Are you tired?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: Very tired, yeah. This morning was not easy. But, you know, for whatever reason I just feel like the more weird things happen to me, the greater my resolve sometimes can be and today was a case of that. And got a little unlucky on 18, but other than that, you know, I played a great round of golf today. I'm very pleased.

Q. Is it fair to say that the (inaudible) is a pretty expensive turnaround?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: It's very. Way too expensive. But the thing is, I have a chance to go make a good check this week and I think that would offset it. So if I was to not come back and withdraw, lose world ranking points and all that, I had to incur the cost. It's my fault.

Q. That didn't cross your mind, did it?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: It did, it did actually, but I said there's no way I can do that. I can't let down Wells Fargo, I can't let down Quail Hollow.

Q. Media.

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: The media, exactly. Especially. Come on, I can't miss your smiling face.

Q. Just to get into the golf today, this is the second time at least I think that you've gone down that left side on 18.

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: Yeah.

Q. What's your thinking there? What do you see?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: Well, I mean, for me, I just feel like there's a lot of space up there. Today I didn't get as far left, the wind pushed it back and kind of bounced it down the hill and got a bad lie. I got a jumper like and I didn't expect it to jump that far. But for me, I feel like if it goes over there, I'm just trying to hit a draw on that hole and if I overdraw it, it'll go up on the hill. So --

Q. On the flat spot?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: Yeah, on the flat spot. And if I push it, right in the fairway. So

that's kind of my train of thought, just don't hit it straight.

Q. Will this change your thought process on dealing with cuts from now on?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: Oh, yeah. I learned my lesson, for sure.

Q. When you were 5 under and T-10, did you ever look at the board and say, well, this is kind of funny, what a difference?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: Oh, yeah. I mean, I felt if I could par or birdie the last hole, I could be leading by the end of the day potentially if the wind keeps up. But unfortunately it didn't happen. Life goes on and you learn from your mistakes. I've just got to hit it better, unfortunately.

Q. Have you ever had anything happen like this before?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: No, no. I mean, I've had one thing happen back in my college days. It was actually the U.S. Amateur that I won, 2015 Olympia Fields. I was late to my tee time, but I got that overturned. That's a long conversation.

But for professional golf, no, I've never had anything like this happen. Well, I've had something the opposite happen. At RBC Heritage I finished at even par and the cut went to 1 under. It was like 2 over to start the day and it went to 1 under, so it went the opposite way. That's why I was like, a little bit of superstition, just go, just go and you'll probably make it.

Q. Bryson, do you have the timeshare jet deal?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: I'm with Netjets, yeah.

Q. So is that fairly easy to get that --

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: You have to have a six-hour notification, and that's pushing it. So I knew to get anything back last night was going to be really difficult so we just decided to do it in the morning. And then getting somebody at 2:45 a.m. is not easy either. We're very fortunate.

Q. A general question I thought about today for some odd reason. To think of where your game was or what kind of player you were, what your objectives were going into Winged Foot, going into the Masters, how different is it at those kind of checkpoints?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: Yeah, it's a great question. I think that it's been a little bit more heavily focused toward those events. It worked out for me at Winged Foot. You know, I was really focused, worked hard. I did the same thing at Augusta, didn't really pan out for me these past couple tries.

But for the most part I'm trying to win golf tournaments and I guess in majors it's a little more heightened. I've still got to get comfortable with just saying, hey, this is a golf tournament, let's go play and let's go win it. Hopefully that will work well for Augusta when the time comes, but I hear this is another great test of golf and I love tough golf courses. That's why I'm here.

Q. Is your objective -- not the objective of winning but your focus as a golfer, is it different now than it was six months ago than it was three months ago?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: Oh, yeah. I mean, winning the U.S. Open definitely took a lot of stress off my back and I feel even if I don't play my absolute best, I'm okay. There was a lot of stress beforehand trying to prove myself and now I feel like I've done a decent job of that and I'm just going to continue to have fun out there and play my best golf and interact with the fans and enjoy my time out here while I can.

Q. Why do you think they like you?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: I don't know. That's a great question. You can ask them. You can ask them. I don't know.

Q. That's unfair, let me rephrase it. What do you think makes someone popular out here?

BRYSON DeCHAMBEAU: I would say being a little different. You know, and I'm not trying to be different, I'm just trying to be me, right? That's the thing I hope you guys realize is that the genuine interaction of saying hello to people on the sidelines and whatnot, behind the ropes is genuine. It's something that I do care about those people because for me, I built a one-length set, I started hitting it farther to show people that you can play the game a little differently. That's been my whole goal. Obviously to win tournaments, but also to help grow the game as well and I think that's a part of it, just as much a part of it as me playing good golf.