## **ROUND 2 INTERVIEW JULY 2, 2021**



### TROY MERRITT (-9)

### Q. Troy, 4-under 68, another nice round. If we can get some comments.

**TROY MERRITT:** Yeah, continued to hit the driver well today. I mean, when it's this soft out here, there's pretty much one club you hit off of every tee box, don't even have to think about it. I think we were 12 fairways yesterday, 14 today, so if we can continue that throughout the weekend and get the ball on the green, the way we're rolling it, I mean, it would be nice to make a few more putts this weekend and see if we can't keep competing.

# Q. Yeah, top-10 here last year. What is it about this golf course that's really fitting your eye right now?

**TROY MERRITT:** I mean, last year we played it completely different. It was firm and fast, this year it's wet. The ball's not rolling anywhere. The par 5s for me aren't reachable at all. For me, it comes down to getting it in the fairway and rolling in the putts. Fortunately, that's what we've been doing this week. Last week we did it, I think we had one bogey and one double for the whole week, played the first three rounds with no bogeys. So that was the key last year and this year it's just getting it in play and rolling in some putts.

#### Q. Take me through 15, 16 and 17 there.

**TROY MERRITT:** Yeah, 15 we ended up just having a perfect pitching wedge from 155 downwind. Had just under four feet for the birdie and was able to coax it in there. I didn't want to hit 3-wood on 16, I much prefer to hit driver off tee boxes, but we wanted to take out the bunkers and kind of sitting in between 8-iron and 7-iron second shot. We decided to hit the hard 8-iron and got it hole high about 40 feet and it went right in the center. It was beautiful. It's always nice when those go in from long range. 17, where that pin was, got down in the fairway and wanted to have the angle for more of a pitch shot versus a wedge shot with the wind direction. Got it all the way up there. I hit a nice pitch in there to three and a half, four feet and made that one.

Two fairly simple birdie putts and then one nice long one to go in. No stress coming in, that's always nice.

Q. I know not quite the weekend you were looking for last week, but really solid play over the last month, couple months actually. Just talk a little bit about your confidence level right now.

**TROY MERRITT:** Yeah, I started to make putts again. When it's consistently the best part of your game and you struggle with it for more than half of the year, it makes it pretty tough.

We're sitting down there outside the top-140 on the FedExCup and just not really having anything going. Then started at Valspar and then Byron Nelson and Colonial, putts started dropping. Had some nice Sunday finishes and posted some top-10s. Just kind of keep continuing.

Last couple Sundays for sure -- U.S. Open and Memorial and last week Travelers -- haven't been anything special, so we're due to get back on track so hopefully that's this week.

## Q. And last, just compare conditions yesterday to today. What a great day out there temperature-wise and everything.

**TROY MERRITT:** Yeah, it's beautiful. It almost felt like fall this morning. Probably low to mid 70s once it finally warmed up, but it was sweater weather this morning. We didn't have them, but it was sweater weather. Just beautiful.

It's still soft out there. The wind was up a little bit more and just maybe a slightly different direction, but just a little bit more gusty than it was yesterday. If it stays like that this afternoon, the boys are going to have to play some good golf to post some good scores.