

**ROUND 2 INTERVIEW**  
**July 3, 2021**

**ERNIE ELS (-11)**



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**Q. Incredible start today, you got off to a really hot start, solid round. What was the key to this round?**

**ERNIE ELS:** Well, I made putts. I haven't been making any putts for a long time, but I came here on Tuesday already, my first time here, so I needed to see the greens, see the course and did that. Kind of had a good read on a lot of putts. It's nice to see them go in for a change.

**Q. You made the putter switch. Why wait so long since you hadn't been making any putts?**

**ERNIE ELS:** I practiced with this one and it's the stand-up one, so it's really to my specs, 71 degrees lie angle and all that. So I practiced with it, but I haven't had the courage to put it in, but I was thinking about it last week all week but I just never put it in. The greens were a little bit fast last week. But anyway, it's in the bag and here we go.

**Q. You know you were playing so well, 16's a birdie hole for you, you make the long par putt there. I see your confidence growing, but when you make a putt like that for par, your confidence has to grow quickly?**

**ERNIE ELS:** It's crazy, that's just momentum right there. I had a bit of a bad break on the second shot, but anyway, I make the putt. Saw a good line from Miguel and from Paul, make the putt and that gets your momentum going. Then you make one on 18 and all of a sudden you're two shots better than you actually should be, so it's a good feeling.