

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
August 28, 2021



BERNHARD LANGER (-14)

Q. Bernhard, another great day here, 6 under today, 14, so tied for the lead heading into Sunday. Your thoughts on the round?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, I was very pleased with the round in the sense of made some long putts today for some reason. Didn't make too many of the closer ones, but made three or four long ones, which is fun. I haven't done that in a while. Played steady, played solid, drove it pretty good. Maybe some of my irons weren't quite as close as I wanted them, so I had to make mid-range putts instead of six- or eight-footers, but overall very pleased because the course is playing long for me. I'm hitting a lot of longer clubs into most of these greens than about half of the field. I'm happy to be on top of the leaderboard and have a chance going into tomorrow.

Q. Great way to end the round, too. Does that kind of give you a little bit more like juice going into tomorrow to end your round like that and to tie for the lead because of that long putt?

BERNHARD LANGER: Absolutely, it keeps the momentum going, have good vibes. Yeah, it's always more fun to finish well than finish bad, let's put it that way.

Q. You're always near the top of the leaderboard when you come to the Ally and had some great rounds here at the Buick when you played back in the day. Why is this course such a good place for you guys and why do you guys always seem to bring out your best here in Grand Blanc?

BERNHARD LANGER: I think it's demanding off the tee, you've got to really hit the ball straight, keep it between the trees and on the short grass. Especially when you play preferred lies the way we have the last two days, it's even more premium to hit it in the fairway because you can clean the ball and have a good lie and have a much better chance getting it close than out of the rough. So driving is important.

And yeah, they can hide these pins pretty good in some of the corners, so you've got to really have all your game. You need good irons, a decent short game and certainly got to make some putts because we all need to play three rounds and you can't afford to have a bad round in those three.

Q. Two birdies coming down the last three holes, obviously you finished with that birdie on 18, but we've heard a lot about the course obviously with the rain yesterday, but we've heard a lot about the greens and how the greens are playing. Why have they been playing so well and, you know, what can you guys attribute to that with the

grounds crew here?

BERNHARD LANGER: Well, I think the ground crew does a wonderful job, they know what they're doing and they've had tournaments here for so many years and it shows, they have a lot of experience. Plus, the greens have special drainage. You know, when you build a golf course, you put more drainage onto the greens because you want those areas to be drier faster, and so some of the fairways are still extremely wet, but the greens look great.

Q. Does this make for a pretty good birthday weekend so far?

BERNHARD LANGER: Absolutely, couldn't be better.

Q. Yesterday you had the 64 at age 64, but now you're once again tied for the lead.

BERNHARD LANGER: I didn't age two years today, I just want to say that. I'm not 66 today.

Q. No, no, no, you don't want that, but bottom line, what is it going to take for you to win tomorrow? Just getting to those pins and making a few more putts?

BERNHARD LANGER: Yeah, it's going to take a low one because it's really bunched up, it's not just Doug Barron and I, there's about 15, 20 guys that can still win this tournament going low. We can't afford to sit on our laurels and make pars and hope to win this tournament. You've got to go low tomorrow to have a chance to take the trophy away.