

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
August 19, 2022



DARREN CLARKE (-7)

Q. Darren, off to a good start here after round one. Just a few comments about the round.

DARREN CLARKE: Yeah, obviously played nicely, gave myself lots of chances, hit it pretty close. A couple poor shots that I hit, I got away with a drive on No. 12 I think, 13, I got away with one, made birdie from there. Apart from that, I kept giving myself chances all day.

Q. Darren, what is it when you start seeing putts go in?

DARREN CLARKE: Yeah, it's been a while. Been messing about with the broomstick this week a little bit in practice again and then just went back to the one that I won with at Gleneagles there a few weeks ago. I played really well here last year, I had a chance in the last group with Ernie and Cameron Beckman and Cameron got Ernie and I and was a deserved winner. But I really like the golf course, so hopefully I can keep doing that over the next couple days.

Q. The confidence, though?

DARREN CLARKE: Yeah, it's nice. It's nice to win any time, but obviously winning a senior major was more special and I feel good about my game right now. That's not to say I'll have another couple days like I did today, but I'm going to do my best.

Q. You mentioned doing well last year and then again today. Is there anything specific about this golf course that lends well to your game?

DARREN CLARKE: This golf course is that all touring pros will tell you they go to and it fits their eye and they'll go to courses that don't fit their eye. Invariably the ones that fit their eye, they'll play well on and the ones that don't, they either don't go to or they don't play very well on. I've learnt to maybe not possibly go to the ones that don't fit my eye. But I really like this one, I like the look of it and I play well here. Good to be back again.

Q. The 18th hole seemed really tough. Comments on 18?

DARREN CLARKE: It was just a double-breaker. Anytime you've got one putt that's breaking hard, hard left to start off with and then going back right, you're trying to get the line right. You not only get the line, you've got to get the speed perfect and I didn't quite manage to get both.