

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW**  
**September 9, 2022**



**ERNIE ELS (-5)**

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**Q. All right, Ernie, pretty good round today. What seemed to be working out there for you?**

**ERNIE ELS:** Thank you. Yeah, I drove it OK. I mean, the front nine, drove it very well. I just had a poor start. I three-putted my first green, so my pace on my putts, you know, I was very aware of that. So I left quite a few putts short on the front, but I turned in 1 under and then I made some on the back nine. I started missing fairways, but I made birdies, so I mean, figure that one out. But I felt good, felt relaxed and felt my game was in good shape.

**Q. Ernie, let's talk about patience. Seems like that was the key today.**

**ERNIE ELS:** Yeah, I'm a very patient man, aren't I?

**Q. Since when?**

**ERNIE ELS:** Exactly. Like you said, I hit it perfect on the first fairway 59 yards from the hole, pitched it to about 25 feet and three-putted. Then I didn't make any putts and I two-putted twice on the par 5s for birdies. But then, you know, somehow I had patience today, so whatever I did today, I've got to learn from.

**Q. What is that, though? How does one after all these years do that?**

**ERNIE ELS:** Yeah, you know, we're just a bunch of guys that just want to get after it. We're very competitive. When things don't go your way, sometimes you push, I've done that in the past, and other times like today I kind of just waited for it to happen. If I get that magic formula, I'll let you know.