

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW**  
**January 25, 2023**



**BRENT GRANT ( -8)**

**Q. It's really easy to get ahead of yourself out here. I know it's just one round of golf, but what was the thought or the feeling that you had today that you would like to put in a bottle for hopefully the next three days and have that continue?**

**BRENT GRANT:** I think we played smart. Obviously it wasn't super windy out there, but the rough's real thick and obviously the pins were in some good spots. But I just made some putts and hopefully we keep doing that and scores will show.

**Q. How aware were you of where you stood in the round?**

**BRENT GRANT:** I mean, when I saw the scoreboard I thought it was -- usually 6, 7, 8, 9 under is where these guys end up being after day one on North, so I figured I would be somewhere up around there. Obviously Sam played great and there's plenty of good rounds out there. It's just day one, so it's a good start.

**Q. A good start is imperative out here especially with potential winds for tomorrow. How are you game planning or thinking about potential conditions for tomorrow?**

**BRENT GRANT:** Well, fortunately I grew up in the wind. Being right off the ocean it's going to be full force tomorrow and I wouldn't be surprised if the South Course didn't bear its teeth all the way. And obviously again with the rough as thick as it is, it's going to be a tough challenge.

But, you know, when the winds pick up, you've just got to stay patient and put the ball in the best place to make par if you need to and attack when you can.

**Q. Was there anything today that you've been working on that you saw click and you're like OK, like this is great?**

**BRENT GRANT:** Funny enough, I probably worked harder on my putting in the last four days than I ever have in my life after having quite the bad two weeks. I went over to the Scotty Cameron studio and those guys over there -- Paul -- does wonders. Obviously he's seen the best in the world for 25 years, and brought a new guy in. I can't thank them enough. But again, it's just a good start. We've got to keep doing it.

**Q. Did you change your putter or anything in your grip or technique?**

**BRENT GRANT:** So I was open -- I was -- I'm always open to changing when it comes to putting because I'm as ignorant as anybody when it comes to that stuff. I changed a little bit

of loft. Obviously with the poa annua out here, the putts don't roll as well as you'd want them to. But obviously these greens are in great condition, it's just in the afternoons get a little spiked up.

Yeah, changed loft and then just squared the setup a little bit and got a little bit back in the balls of my feet and putts fell.

**Q. Is confidence pretty fickle at times in terms of it can be something small that can give you an uptick? Did you feel confident coming into today?**

**BRENT GRANT:** I've been hitting it really, really well and the body's probably the best it's ever been. We put a ton of work in the offseason on that. I'm hitting it really, really well and as neutral as I think I've ever been, so I've got good control of the golf ball.

But again, if your brain gets all over the place, it's tough to control a little white ball, right? So yeah, putts start falling, the confidence goes up, but you've just got to maintain a good level of patience and just let things happen.

**Q. What was like -- how would you assess your rookie season so far in just kind of adjusting to being a PGA TOUR pro after a couple years on the KFT?**

**BRENT GRANT:** I said this on Tuesday, obviously these are the best players in the world and the Korn Ferry Tour has great competition, but it's nothing compared to what it is out here. Each shot is that much more penalizing if you hit it bad, but it's also rewarding as well.

So again, I'm thankful to be out here and thankful for this good round, but so far it's been one hell of a grind and it's not going to stop, it never does. So to think that I've made it or that I've done something special doesn't aid me in any way.

**Q. Is it kind of -- your experience with Torrey Pines, how much had you been around here before this week?**

**BRENT GRANT:** Last year Farmers when I Monday qualified was the first time I had ever stepped foot on the property, so I've never seen this golf course in the summer or any other time. Yeah, I guess this is what I'm used to, but I only got in like four rounds last year because I missed the cut and left early. Hopefully we keep playing well. And again, the course is going to bear its teeth this weekend or this week and we'll see what we can do.

**Q. What did you learn from the two rounds that you played here? What did you learn from the two rounds that you played here last year that you put into practice today?**

**BRENT GRANT:** You learn a lot of patience. You understand that hitting it in the fairway is the No. 1 goal no matter what. Then you can take it on from there. And also understanding that bad shots are going to happen, you just have to make sure you either respond well or don't hit them in places where it's really tough to get them up and down. Obviously we've

seen some amazing rounds out here from some pretty scrappy play, but hopefully we can stay consistent.

**Q. Was there a particular shot or a moment that sort of kept your momentum going today that you recall during that round?**

**BRENT GRANT:** I made a couple of good par putts on the back nine. I think on, my gosh, I can't even remember which hole they are anymore, but got a little bit quick. When I get a little tight and a little bit anxious, I start trying to do a little bit too much and that forces me to have to do some pretty special things around the green and make some putts. Fortunately we were able to do that and keep things going.

**Q. It's interesting that you know that and recognize that now and talk about it. How do you deal with that when you get in that situation?**

**BRENT GRANT:** Swing as hard as you possibly can. If you're standing on the tee, just put it at your target and just swing hard. There's no reason to do anything different.

**Q. Is the -- what was the feeling like I guess last Saturday stepping off the course at AmEx?**

**BRENT GRANT:** Well, finishing dead last is never a great thing, but again, I haven't -- I haven't changed much. We worked hard on the putting the way we should have, but nothing -- I haven't done anything. This round of golf is not something that I would look at and say -- obviously it's a good round of golf and I may be in the lead with a couple other guys, but again, it's just day one. You've got to put the past behind you and it's the past so now we move forward.

**Q. Even so, is that just kind of instructive of the fickleness of the game how four days ago you were in last and now you're tied for first?**

**BRENT GRANT:** Absolutely, just like with anything. But we've put in a good amount of work. Anybody out here will tell you just because you put in work one day doesn't mean the next day it's going to pay off.

There were a lot of distractions last week. That was my first time doing all that. I had family and friends and we were kind of partying around a little bit. But it is what it is and my body doesn't feel any different, the swing's not any different, I just happened to make more putts.