

CLUB CAR CHAMPIONSHIP
at The Landings Golf & Athletic Club

ROUND 3 INTERVIEW
March 25, 2023

TOM WHITNEY (-12)



Q. Sixty-three, how are you feeling right now?

TOM WHITNEY: Yeah, people are really nice to you when you shoot that kind of score. Yeah, it was just kind of my day out there. Started with a 35-foot birdie roll-in on No. 1 and then kind of a mis-hit wedge to a foot on No. 2 and at that point you're like, all right, things are going our way. I even dropped my bottle cap on a drain in the fairway and it rolled right in the middle of the grate and stayed up it. It's just one of those days, everything was bouncing my way.

Q. Do you think it's ironic all this is happening on Military Appreciation Day here?

TOM WHITNEY: I mean, it's pretty cool to use military day for moving day, so yeah.

Q. Last three times you played here, missed cut, missed cut, missed cut.

TOM WHITNEY: Yep.

Q. And now you're atop the leaderboard heading into the final round this year. What do you think is different?

TOM WHITNEY: Not that the greens have ever been bad here, but they are -- they're 10 out of 10 this year. I've struggled to read them in the past and actually I don't think I've missed the cuts by much. I remember having putts to make the cut and just missing them.

But I feel like I finally dialed in. I was overreading a lot of them, especially on the long ones. Took four years, but I'm finally seeing the lines and matching the speed. It's nice to have a day where a lot of them fell.

Q. Sixty-three was one shot shy of the course record and I'm pretty sure tied your career low round. Did that ever come into mind whenever you're having a good round like that?

TOM WHITNEY: I didn't even know how many under I was. I turned at 4 and then I kind of just put the scorecard away and said let's just keep firing at pins. It's one of those days where you've got to take advantage.



Q. Can you speak to that, because there are days when you're hitting well but you won't get as much out of it, but to have that day, how do you put it together?

TOM WHITNEY: I mean, honestly, I can't recall the last time I've gone this far deep on this tour. It feels like it's been a long time. You have to balance the going for pins that may be a little more tucked, but at the same time you haven't missed a wedge shot all day. When you can roll everything in, it just gives the confidence boost to every other club in your bag. So it relieves the pressure on wedges, irons, tee shots because if you go short-sided, miss in the bunker -- I holed out a bunker shot today -- when you're doing stuff like that, there's kind of no pressure wherever you hit it you know you're going to make par.

Q. You've done a handful of great Sunday rounds when you're kind of out of it (inaudible), but now you put yourself in position to get that first win. How do you go keep that attitude and try and get yourself up there versus now I am up there and (inaudible)?

TOM WHITNEY: Yeah, so I think so going into tomorrow, I'm not expecting to be the leader with I think there's another guy or two with another eight, nine holes to play, but it's nice to be in contention. Second time doing so this year early in our season. It's a testament to the hard work I did this offseason. Bought a TrackMan, I've just been a lot more deliberate with my practice and really focused on wedges from 40 to 120 yards. I mean, I think I had three, four kick-ins today from that range and when you have confidence on those wedge shots where you're going to fly at the number, birdies will come.

Q. What are you most looking forward to learning about yourself tomorrow?

TOM WHITNEY: Learning that I can overcome and come out on top, that's what we're going to learn tomorrow.

