
Q. Can you just go a little bit more in depth about maybe what's better with your swing right now than maybe has been different?

KEVIN STREELMAN: I've always been, if I want to get a little technical, I've always been a leg driver. As our pelvis and legs drive out, our thoracic goes back and that can cause some back out kind of chunky shots and that's really what I've been struggling with, my iron play this year. So the simple way is keep block A on top of block B as you're transitioning through and trying to stay more linear as you're rotating to the left. I've just been driving too hard, shooting back and getting some neck pain and it's been frustrating.

Looking at some old video, talking to some, Dr. Suttie, who I grew up with, and his protege Jake Thurm was a dear friend of mine. Just trying to get clarity I'd say. I probably have a tendency to look too much at YouTube videos or Instagram, all these perfect swing posts and stuff. But I love it, too. I love the search, as I think a lot of us golfers do. But I think it's important to know your fundamentals, your tendencies, write them down. As I tell kids as I'm talking to them, like know what makes you you and what makes you great great, and when you're not so great, what do you need to go back to.

So that's kind of the process I've been into is just going back to some things that have worked really well for me in the past. Starting to hit the irons a little better, which makes golf a lot more easy.

Q. Short game was also very tidy today.

KEVIN STREELMAN: Yeah, I guess.

Q. The hole out on 16, can you talk about that?

KEVIN STREELMAN: That was nice. That's funny talking about what I just said, Brett Rumford was a great friend of mine, still is a great friend, but we were rookies the same year back in '07 or '08 and he's just stopped playing and now he's pretty much coaching full time. He was always an absolute freak with the wedges, like probably the best I've ever seen, more of a savant. Tiger stuff, Phil stuff, but Rummy's right there. He actually came over from Australia for five days with me this last December and just some simple ideas and philosophies, but I kind of really took those to heart. My short game, for someone at 44 to really turn around a short game isn't easy to do, but I really have this year. It's been very beneficial and helpful.

Q. Just comment on the round as a whole if you can for us please.



KEVIN STREELMAN: It just was very solid. It was a tough start, it was freezing cold, hit it in the left bunker, hit a terrible shot out of there but was able to get up and down for par and was off to the races there.

Greens were perfect, they're just so beautiful this week. I was able to hit iron shots kind of on the right levels and have decent looks at birdies. To pull away with six birdies in a day here is pretty strong so I was happy with that.

Yeah, just was getting the irons under the right plateaus and being aggressive when you need to be, but also being conservative when you have to be. This is a major championship golf course and it was set up that way today. I'm sure it will just get tougher as the week goes on. Yeah, we'll just keep trying to drive it straight and hit it tight.

Q. And with your ties to the state, just talk a little bit about the comfort level here with having family and friends around.

KEVIN STREELMAN: Yesterday was a really meaningful day for me. My parents live in Rutherfordton, which is about an hour and a half west of Charlotte kind of where the mountain starts to go up, beautiful property over there. They moved here about eight years ago. COVID wasn't the best timing, they were at the time a 78-year-old couple and it was pretty tough obviously on our world, but it was very tough on them having just moved to kind of a rural, woodsy type area. They just kind of got used to being more of a quiet lifestyle.

So coming out of COVID they haven't been able to see me golf, they haven't seen my kids as much as I wanted. They were able to come out yesterday and the team here was tremendous about letting them ride along, got them a cart and drove them down the fairways with me. I don't know how many more times they'll get to watch me play golf. They taught me the game 36 years ago, so it's pretty special to me and my family and for them to be out watching me play golf means a lot. My sister lives right there, my brother-in-law was here today and I'm sure they'll be coming in hot this weekend.

Q. Were your parents good players, both of them?

KEVIN STREELMAN: Yeah, my dad was down to about a three or four at his prime. My mom never broke 100, she'd be between 100 and 120, but she never cared. She was like the happiest, just like thankful to be out there type golfer. I probably learned more from her than I did from most people about the game of golf. She's a special lady.

