

Visit Knoxville Open

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
May 26, 2023



ALEJANDRO TOSTI (-10)

Q. All right, another great day, 3 under and current leader in the clubhouse going into the third round. Just kind of talk me through today and how it feels.

ALEJANDRO TOSTI: Again, I played very well today again. Not as good as yesterday, but I feel like my game is pretty solid in every part. I had two bogeys and they are kind of misjudging the wind kind of swirling around. Yeah, I mean, very, very happy to be in contention for the tournament and having a good opportunity the next 36 holes.

Q. Did you know that the putt on 18 was for the outright lead or did you ever see the leaderboards?

ALEJANDRO TOSTI: I was a little bit aware, but no, I don't really care. We were just halfway, there's a lot of golf to be played and I'm happy that I'm going to be -- I'll be at the top.

Q. Did you know you were the leader? Like you found out when that guy yelled out?

ALEJANDRO TOSTI: Oh, no, I knew the leader was 9 under, but probably I (indiscernible) heard anybody stealing the course that can get close or whatever, but I'm happy with my job.

Q. After two great days out there, what's been your most impressive or your favorite shot that you've had?

ALEJANDRO TOSTI: Oh, I've had many of them. Probably the last shot on hole 9, I don't know if you were filming or not, but it was a great shot. It ended like probably a foot from the hole and ended up like two and a half feet right of it. It was a great shot.

Man, I had many good shots. It's just I'm hitting my irons very good and my putting is very good, too. So very happy with every part of my game.

Q. How was the morning wave as opposed to the afternoon? I know the greens kind of firm up in the afternoon, so was there any major differences for you?

ALEJANDRO TOSTI: Not really. I think that yesterday was, it was a little bit softer, but not a big difference. I think that the course is in great shape, the greens are rolling very true to the line and it's fun to play out here.



Q. Who's on your bag this week?

ALEJANDRO TOSTI: My boy Joaco from Argentina.

Q. Can you spell his name for me?

ALEJANDRO TOSTI: J-O-A-Q-U-I-N.

Q. Awesome. So I kind of want to hear from your point of view how did you guys meet and how did you end up here today?

CADDIE: So we met in 2017. I was playing a junior national team, junior national tournament and he was giving a clinic there and I was -- at the end of the tournament, I was with my mother and we went to watch it. I remember seeing him shooting and it was beautiful, and I asked him for a signature on a towel that I've still got in Argentina. My mother the other day sent me the picture that we got. It was really funny how this started and how it's going now.

Q. How did you ask him to be on the bag this week?

ALEJANDRO TOSTI: We were chatting, I support him, I help him to come to the United States to the university, play golf at a college level and I've been following him. I know he's been struggling, so trying to help him with his swing, his game. We stayed in touch.

Then I was kind of, I didn't have a caddie for this couple weeks and I'm like hey, what are you doing? I saw he was in Miami and I was dropping off my parents in Miami a couple -- before starting this stretch. I said, hey, do you want to come? We'll drive to all the events. So I pick him up in Miami and we made it to Kansas where we are now and we're going to keep doing going the next two weeks.

Q. So your plans kind of changed because you were going to be back to Argentina, right?

CADDIE: Yeah, I got my flight open and I was talking with my mother because I was a little tired and when I could go back home and I was coming the 14th of May. Then like two days later he text me like, hey, you want to caddie for me? And I'm like, yeah. It's like I didn't even think he was going to ask it. As soon as he told me, I told my mother, she said yes and changed the flight to make it happen. It was a nice experience and it's been awesome.

Q. How important for you is it to see a fellow Argentinian playing on this level and having them to look up to as you're pursuing the dream as well?

CADDIE: It's something that I still don't get it, like I'm just having fun with him. I was telling my friends, my family, I just feel like I'm just caddying for him in Argentina because we have



so much fun here. And I'm learning a lot, too, how to play, how to analyze every shot, so it's been amazing really.

Q. So he's kind of helping you with the shots while you're helping him help you with the shots; is that what it's like?

CADDIE: Definitely. It's a mutual learning experience and it's been awesome first two weeks, so hoping for many more weeks.

Q. Last question, what are you most looking forward to about this weekend?

ALEJANDRO TOSTI: Just being in the fight for the tournament. I've been playing really good and I feel like I've been knocking on the door but not having a good result, so whatever is meant to happen will happen. I know there are not many guys playing better than me at this time, so I'm very happy with the opportunity.

