

ROUND 4 INTERVIEW
June 11, 2023



ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART (-21)

Q. Adrien, has it really sunk in yet that you won your first professional debut and are a Korn Ferry Tour champion?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: It's amazing. It probably like will in a couple hours like once I call my family and all my friends, but I'm just beyond excited, it's pretty cool.

Q. What is it this week, do you think if you could pin it on one thing that allowed you to get it done here?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: It would be my ball-striking was really very solid, hit a lot of greens. I just played it the right way on the right side of the hole, made up and down when I needed it and just had a good stretch from 13 to 16 today which put me back in the lead and thought that was pretty huge.

Q. I heard you talking to your caddie in the locker room talking about how at one point looked at the leaderboard and you looked again and you were up by one after that eagle, so how big really was that eagle for you there?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: That was big. I know I was four back going to 13 and made some good birdies and then I know there's two par 5s coming in, so maybe he'll end up 22, 23, but they're not that easy par 5s either. Then just making that putt for eagle on 16 was huge. And 17's not an easy hole so it was a good par. And 18 I made a bogey, just had a six-footer left to right. I've been struggling with those all week, but I'm just very excited that I got a chance to go to a playoff and win the playoff.

Q. Coming into the day one group back, what was your expectation for the final round?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: I was glad I wasn't in the last group, just playing one ahead is always easier and I was just going to try to like start to like a good start, make some birdies early and that's what I did. I actually made a great bogey on 11, I hit it in the water with my 9-iron and I just hit the wrong club, just make up and down. Bogey doesn't kill, makeup and down. I was like all right, just got to finish strong, maybe finish in the top 3. The lead was going to be reachable and once I got on a heater that was good.

Q. Rookie versus season vet here on the playoff hole, what was your emotions like



heading to that tee box for the playoff?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: Honestly, I was pretty excited, I was like I'm here in a playoff my first start, you should just be happy to compete right now. I was very comfortable with my driver, which I wasn't 30 minutes before and I just hit a great drive. I thought I hit a great 9-iron second shot, just a little short. That was a great chip to hit it close, that felt good.

Q. Did you feel nervous over the ball right there?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: My chip, a little bit, but it was a great lie. We do that drill (inaudible) and got to chip in one time, make four up-and-downs in a row, which is very hard and just feel like I had to make up and down to maybe get it done and that's what happened.

Q. You see guys out here that are fighting for a win week in and week out for years and you come out here and win on your first week. Can you like fully appreciate really what you've just done?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: I do, I've been struggling a lot playing my last round in college, I've been in contention a lot this year and I only won one time so I know that's something I have to work on. And I'm glad that it came today and closed my round because that's something that I've really been struggling with. I'm just very excited that I was able to do that today.

Q. How was your college career overall? Give us like a synopsis of like playing golf in college and how that was for you.

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: I mean, it was successful. I had a great time just being able to play for your teammates, for your coach. It's something that you don't get to experience much. And I had five years, with COVID I had my extra year.

It's going to be weird the next few months, weeks to kind of travel by myself, not having my teammates all the time or having coach, just kind of doing everything for me. It's going to be a little different. I'm just glad to finally be professional and just play on this tour.

Q. How is it -- obviously you have a great support system here, so how is it knowing some players that are already out here and getting to pick their brains a little bit, too?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: It was cool to play a practice round with Michael Feagles, he's been my teammate for three years. Kind of made it a little easier for me, I was able to ask him questions. I kind of came here, didn't know where to go, what to do. I couldn't register until Wednesday because I was (indiscernible.) It was a little nerve wracking getting here, but now it feels much better.

Q. If you could go back to even Wednesday night and tell yourself OK, you're going



to win this tournament, do you think you would believe that?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: I mean, probably not. I didn't have any expectation, I just wanted to go out there. I know I look at last year's result and the guy shoots 27 under and that's deep. I know the courses aren't that hard, but you've still got to do it, make some putts. And yeah, I mean, it didn't get to 27, thank God, but 22 was good enough.

Q. This win puts you right at that Top 30 number and looking at hopefully getting a PGA TOUR card at the end of the season. Are you thinking about that at all going forward?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: I mean, now I'll be thinking about it. I think my goal for this year was just keep my card for next year, I only had 10 starts so that was my main goal. Now that I'm inside the Top 30, it's for sure to keep my card for the PGA TOUR next year.

Q. You graduated college a month ago?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: Yes, I did, yeah.

Q. And you're here. What is that like? You've gone through so much change in the past month, just share kind of what that's all about.

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: It was more one step at a time. I got done with school a month ago, but then we started Regionals and Nationals. And we had a really good team this year, so like my main focus was on Nationals. We played very solid as a team, just one step at a time.

Had a couple days to cool off, and I was supposed to play my U.S. Open sectional and I was like I'm going to pull out because I kind of want to rest and be ready for this week. I'm kind of glad I did it because if I had to play 12 rounds in a row, I probably wouldn't be here talking to you guys today, so I'm glad I made that decision.

Q. What would your younger self think of this moment right here?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: He would be pretty pumped. I think just growing up, probably my dream was to play on the European Tour, I think that's kind of the way to go, and hopefully play in college. Just being able to like come here and play on the Korn Ferry and on the PGA TOUR is just something that I'm very thankful for.

Q. How did you first get involved with the game? Who introduced you, how did you start it?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: My dad. I lived a mile away from a golf course. Growing up my brother was my idol, he's like 11 years old than me so I would always look up to him. He was an amazing player, so I'm like I've got to get better so I can play with him.



Obviously there's a point where I started beating him, which wasn't really that fun because I like always wanted him to play very well.

Q. Does he play still?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: He plays for fun. He's an architect.

Q. Are you excited to call and share this news with him?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: Yeah. I hope they're still awake. Probably they're like why are you calling me right now, but they'll understand, that's for sure.

Q. Getting this one, you said your main focus was to keep your card for next year. You've locked that up, so what is the next immediate goal for you?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: Just getting my PGA TOUR card, just play as well as I can. Every tournament I'm just going to get there, just stay who I am, stay in the present and just play my game and we'll see what it brings me.

Q. Talk about PGA TOUR U. It's because of PGA TOUR U that you're in this position now, so like how grateful you are for that program and just --

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: Obviously very grateful because I'm here and I was able to get a win on my first tournament. Without PGA TOUR U I would probably ask for exemption to play Korn Ferry or PGA TOURs and kind of start from the bottom. I'm glad that we got a little shortcut.

Q. What does it say about the guys -- I mean, I'm not sure of the exact stat, but a couple guys top-10, top-25 from PGA TOUR U, so that kind of talks to the level of guys you're playing against in college, right?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: Yeah, it just shows that college golf has improved a lot over the years. When I was a freshman, Collin Morikawa, Matthew Wolfe, Viktor Hovland all were like juniors and seniors. Just seeing them getting out that quickly and winning on the PGA TOUR was pretty impressive. So to be able to do it here on the Korn Ferry is pretty cool.

Q. You had a teammate, too, Michael Feagles finish in the top-5 on PGA TOUR U, the first year of PGA TOUR U and now as another Illinois grad you finished and you're here on the Korn Ferry Tour with him. What is that like seeing this generation kind of grow on PGA TOUR U and kind of come on Korn Ferry Tour and be successful?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: I mean, cool. I had dinner Tuesday night with all those PGA TOUR U guys and we just look at the sheet of all the guys from the last two years and a couple of them are in the Top 30, one or two has already won on the Korn Ferry. It's pretty



cool to see how all those players that they were able to get a shortcut to continue to play well.

Q. How did you end up at Illinois?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: It was pretty easy for me, the two best Belgian golfers, Thomas Pieters and Thomas Detry, both went to Illinois. So growing up, every kid back home see Illinois as the school to go. So when I got a chance to go play for them, I just said yes right away and get to play for Coach Small.

Q. How was your time there in Illinois? Did you enjoy the state?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: It was amazing, I really loved it. Some people said that the weather's not good. I really don't think it's an issue. We have great facilities and I do believe that in the winter is kind of nice to have a break, just focus on school, just work on the game a little bit but kind of relaxing, some time off. It was an amazing experience.

Q. Steve Stricker just won today on the Champions Tour as well. Any comments on that?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: Yeah, I saw that. That's pretty impressive, he's won two or three in a row. I got to play with him early in the year and he's just really impressive. He just knows his game so well. His wedging and short game's unbelievable and that's probably why just every week he's up there. It's pretty cool to see a fellow Illini winning again on the PGA TOUR.

Q. So he's from Wisconsin. Any rivalry there with Stricker?

ADRIEN DUMONT DE CHASSART: Not really. I mean, I'm from Belgium. We come from all over the country playing for Illinois, but not really.

