

**BLUE CROSS & BLUE SHIELD
OF KANSAS WICHITA OPEN
BENEFITTING KU WICHITA PEDIATRICS**

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
June 15, 2023**



KYLE JONES (-8)

Q. Great round, leader in the clubhouse right now. What were some of the highlights out there this morning?

KYLE JONES: Made a lot of putts. I didn't miss any that I should have made. When you do that, kind of keeps your day going. I hit it very nice today and hit some close, made a bunker shot on 14 and add it all up together, it's pretty good.

Q. Seventeen, I imagine a little quiet in morning, but are you looking forward to playing that at full capacity tomorrow?

KYLE JONES: Oh, yeah, it's always fun. Plus, I know a few people that are going to be in the stands and they're always having a good time, so it's always a fun hole to play.

Q. Who are the folks that you know?

KYLE JONES: It's a host family I stayed with a few years ago. They're always a little rowdy out there, so it's always fun.

Q. For you, I mean, what have the last sort of three years been like? You won in Utah I think in 2020 and haven't really seen you for a while. Can you just walk us through the last couple years?

KYLE JONES: Yeah, no, it's been a little crazy. I won in '20 and in 2021 I got -- I noticed my shoulder was acting a little funky on me and it got to the point where it definitely was affecting my golf game. So kind of, you know, took the chance, went to the doctor and he told me I had a torn labrum and rotator cuff and all that. So I had to get surgery last year, last April, so that kind of took me out for a year and a half. Then ever since then it's just been trying to get back.

Then also during that time I got married and now I have a stepdaughter and we just had another daughter four months ago, so my life at home's changed a lot. Yeah, it's been an adjustment for sure, but it's been all good.

Q. What was the recovery process like, going through that? Had you been through any kind of injury before?



KYLE JONES: No, that was my first one. It was frustrating, for sure, just because there was so much time that was needed just to rest. A month or so is fine, but once it's three, four months where you just can't do anything, it wears on you a little bit. I was definitely itching to get back out here and now that I am, I'm trying to get myself back in the tournament mind. That's been more of an adjustment than I thought it would be. You know, just been trying to stay patient, still work at it. Thankfully, it's starting to pay off.

Q. Did the changes in your personal life sort of help give you at least a positive during that time when you were going through that injury with golf and everything?

KYLE JONES: Yeah, yeah, because before it was just me, so I would have been sitting at home alone. No, my wife's great, she takes care of me. She took really good care of me when I was just kind of down and out and, you know, the kids definitely keep your mind going. Life at home's definitely gotten a lot better for sure.

Q. And coming back this year, did you set goals for yourself or are you kind of just letting it play out?

KYLE JONES: I don't know if this was wrong of me, I kind of expected just to kind of come out and keep playing like I did in '20. That hasn't been the case and I think that's why it's been a little frustrating. Like I said, just trying to stay patient. I've got the love and support back home and just keep trying to work at it. Thankfully, it's starting to pay off.

