

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

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
June 15, 2023**



ROSS STEELMAN (-5)

Q. Feelings throughout your first round? What was it like out there for you?

ROSS STEELMAN: Yeah, it was cool. Just seeing ropes on every hole and kind of places to enter and exit. Obviously just seeing guys that you've recognized from TV and leaderboards for years and being able to come out and compete with them is a lot of fun.

Q. How many people were at 17 when you got there today?

ROSS STEELMAN: Probably about 25 or 30. There weren't many, it was pretty empty by the time we finished. I did hear someone tell me that everybody had left the putt I had short and I left it short. Obviously it's been sitting there for a little while.

Q. I think there would be some more people there tomorrow.

ROSS STEELMAN: I would imagine so, tomorrow morning, yeah.

Q. You talked about you might feel some nerves Thursday. Did that come to fruition or not really?

ROSS STEELMAN: I was nervous on the first tee and then I was nervous as my first ball was in the air from the fairway after not being able to laser it, and once it kind of hit the green about where I figured it was supposed to, it was kind of a reassuring feeling. But yeah, no, it was good. It wasn't too bad. I mean, it's just another golf tournament, that's kind of the way I'm trying to look at it, so it was fine.

Q. Was that a tough habit to break, like reaching for the range finder?

ROSS STEELMAN: No, because I took the case off of the bag last night to make sure that -- because if it was there, I was going to reach for it. So just made sure it wasn't even a temptation.

Q. And then parents here, I know they traveled kind of all over. Just what's it mean for them to be here for this start in particular?

ROSS STEELMAN: Yeah, it's awesome. To see all the effort and like work and money that



they've poured into my golf game for years and years and years, and now as I kind of start a new chapter of golf, for them to be able to witness it is kind of really cool and a special moment.

Q. Is there a good Seinfeld quote that would sum up the round today you?

ROSS STEELMAN: Let's see. I've got "Oh, it be so" on my 60-degree and that's kind of the way I'm looking at it. "Oh, it be so," that's just kind of how it is, it's going.

I've talked a little bit when they were following me for a couple holes about how Kramer and Jerry are debating whether Kramer knows what a writeoff is in terms of accountancy and work expenditures. Had to learn a lot about what writeoffs mean in the last couple weeks because I took zero accountancy classes in college.

Q. Last one, have you made it like all the way through the series of Seinfeld before and you're like rewatching or is this like the first time?

ROSS STEELMAN: On my fourth time since the start of the spring semester. Yeah, so if I'm in my apartment, it's playing. It's either just background noise or I'm actively watching it. But a lot of quotes are just burning in my brain ready to come out at any time.

