

ROUND 3 QUOTES
February 3, 2024



WYNDHAM CLARK (-17)

Q. Wyndham, what would you say the most impressive thing was? Kuchar was just talking about your bogey putt, but you had a lot of good putts out there. What stood out to you?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Probably what was going on internally, to be honest. I mean, obviously I made a ton of putts and I hadn't been in contention really since probably my U.S. Open win. To kind of have those nerves, and then obviously you're also chasing a different kind of nerves of trying to shoot 59.

So I started feeling the nerves kind of on 10 and, you know, then making that bogey on 12, making that putt was huge. But in my mind I think in the past I would have kind of coasted in and shot a nice 8, 9 under. To keep the pedal down and to stay aggressive mentally was the most impressive thing to myself. And then obviously making all those putts was, you know, out of the ordinary, it was pretty awesome.

Q. You said keep the pedal down. You seemed reluctantly happy as you finished up because of some of those close calls those last few holes. Does that kind of show you were going for maybe not the record but trying to get to that certain number?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Honestly, I think anyone that has ever shot 59 or gets into that kind of zone, you don't really think about score, you're just so focused on the next shot. I really didn't think about it until I got to 18 tee box and when I did, I thought oh, my gosh, it would have been really nice to have one of those last two because then I only have to birdie 18.

Once I hit the fairway on 18 I knew I was going to have a chance to hopefully try to shoot that special number. I gave it my best shot. Unfortunately, I left some putts short. I'm super happy with my round. Anytime you shoot 12 under anywhere you've got to be happy.

Q. Can you talk about the drop at 16? And then also in regards to your resume of best rounds you've had, just because this is a 60 doesn't mean this was your best round, so where does this fall in your rounds?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Yeah, the drop wasn't from a plugged lie, it was from an animal burrowing hole. We were right on the edge of it to where it was in my way and I was essentially in the start of that animal burrowing hole.

I brought the officials over to make sure because obviously the ground's very saturated. I asked him, I said what do you think this is. He said yeah, that does not look like a divot or any sort of footprint, it was definitely something that was going under the surface, so that's



why we got the drop there.

Then yeah, I mean, I don't know how you could beat around like this at Pebble Beach even if -- I haven't shot 59, but I would say even if I had shot 59 somewhere, I don't think it would compare to shooting a score like this at one of the most historic golf courses in the world.

Q. The drop, if you had not gotten a drop, how much more treacherous would the shot have been?

WYNDHAM CLARK: It would have been pretty tough. It definitely would have been a decision to decide, you know, do we -- how aggressive do we be going at the flag or more towards the center of the green or the right side of the green. I think I still could have advanced it to probably the front of the green.

Q. You talk about the nerves. What were the nerves and emotions like over that putt on 18? And throughout the whole day were you any more aggressive thinking there might not be a final round tomorrow given the forecast?

WYNDHAM CLARK: I definitely -- as far as no round tomorrow, I definitely thought about it last night and this morning with everyone saying how bad the weather's going to be. All right, well, you've got to have that mentality that today's the last day so try to go for broke.

With that said, that's very rare that we have 54 holes, so I wasn't banking on that and I'm still not banking on it.

Yeah, I mean, out there I really wasn't thinking much until you kind of get to that back nine where those last few holes, I was just, you know, see ball, hit ball, try to hit it where I wanted to. I really had a good feel on the greens. So in my mind I was like, all right, let's just get us to where we're putting because the hole seemed like a bucket today.

Q. And then your emotions on 18?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Oh, sorry. Yeah, I was nervous. I backed away. I thought I had maybe like a little sand on it. I was like, all right, I'm gonna make sure if I'm hitting it putt I'm completely committed. I think if I hit it with correct speed, I still think I maybe missed just high so might have just misread it.

Yeah, definitely had nerves. Like you said, if there is a chance that it is 54 holes or obviously going into tomorrow I still wanted the birdie. I didn't want to be too aggressive and blow it by. I wanted to secure the birdie as well.

Q. You've said it yourself, you've struggled with the putter of late, so what do you attribute to the fact that you putted out of your mind today?

WYNDHAM CLARK: I've got to give some credit to my team. I worked with a guy by the



name of Mike. Sorry, don't know his last name, just met him this week.

I flew in early Sunday, spent about three, four hours with him. I had nine putters on the putting green and I've been using kind of the putter that Rickie and I have been using, kind of started using that last year and I've really struggled on the greens since the U.S. Open.

So basically I brought these putters and we resulted to changing no line on the putter, I went a little bit shorter and I went from being conventional to cross-hand. A lot of big changes, but when you were as -- when you're in a spot where I was mentally in putting you kind of needed a change, just something totally different so you couldn't complain or have those same feels that I had in previous tournaments.

So yeah, a lot changed, but I think not having the line on the putter's been the biggest thing for me.

Q. When is the last time you putted cross-handed?

WYNDHAM CLARK: I did in the Bahamas at Tiger's event and I did like one or two rounds in Japan this fall. But prior to that, not since college. It's not a normal thing for me.

Q. Anything from the work you do with Julie that really was pivotal today?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Yeah, the brunt of our work has been on the putting recently. We've been so focused on it, and she kind of told me -- she told me this week, she said let's stop having goals for putting and let's just move on. We're putting too much emphasis on the putting. We were trying to have the best attitude we could possibly have, especially coming into greens like this where they are really bumpy, so slopey and it makes it really hard to make putts.

So I was really just trying to focus on making the best stroke I can and regardless of where the ball goes, even though everyone tries to do that, it's been really hard for me lately. And I've done a good job this week of that and I think my patience the first two days on the greens really paid off because obviously I made a lot of putts today.

Q. How did you get connected to Mike?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Oh, through actually some friends. So Phil Kenyon, he works under Phil Kenyon, which is Max's putting coach. PK couldn't work with me, so he said this guy, I work with him and he was available. I said, hey, I just need someone to look at this.

By no means did he, I think, have the intentions of changing a lot, but as we kind of talked and went through it here last Sunday, we kind of came up with what -- where I'm at right now. It's pretty nice to see the ball roll where I want and go in.

Q. You touched on this briefly, but how different is trying to shoot 59 and ending up



on 60 at Pebble given the history here? How different does that resonate now and how different do you think you'll look back on it five, 10, 15 years from now?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Yeah, I think anytime you shoot 59 I think those nerves come up even if you're at home. I think that's for any golfer that happens. To put it on in a place like this in a Signature event makes it even a little bit more special. That's where I think those nerves coming down those last six holes, even though it's a Saturday, I really felt like it was the end of a tournament because I did have a chance to do something really special. Even though I fell short on the 59, 60, still pretty awesome.

Q. Can you talk just briefly about your first two rounds because you were pretty far back, you were only 5 under compared to what you did today.

WYNDHAM CLARK: Yeah.

Q. How did you turn that around, or what was going on those first two rounds that wasn't happening for you?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Well, the first round at Spyglass I think I let the conditions of the course and losing a ball off the tee in the rough where we saw exactly where it went, I was cruising at 1 or 2 under I think and then on a layup shot where my caddie was -- he literally walked up there, because we knew we were going to have to hit in the rough, so he walked up there and he saw it within probably a three-foot circle of exactly where it landed and we lost the ball.

Yeah, went into a mud area which I thought was casual water and we had a whole ordeal. Well, that kind of got me off my rhythm and so I was cruising at 2 under going into that hole and felt great. Proceeded to make some mistakes and shoot even par that day.

Then yesterday I had a great round going, I was 7 under through -- let's see, 7 under threw I think 13 or 14 holes and played my last four, five holes 2 over. So yesterday I played awesome. If I finish out at 7 under, it would have been the second best round of the day. So I was playing good yesterday. It just was nice to keep it going today.

Q. How do you handle, kind of you mentioned the struggles or maybe not being in contention the last few months, having those wins last year, realizing you can be one of the best in the world but then not kind of be where you want to be those next few months?

WYNDHAM CLARK: It's obviously tough. I think if you ask some people on my team they probably would have predicted it just because you do have such a great year and then we had some time off. It's kind of hard because for me it was hard to get back to present and to not be frustrated and now your expectations are through the roof.

So that's been kind of a little bit of a struggle in this first part of the year.



Then you add not putting well, so I was really getting frustrated. But I know it's the start of the year, I've been hitting it good and I've been doing a lot of positive things. I just have really been trying to focus on that.

And then even though sometimes I didn't know where I was going with the putting, I had to believe that it was eventually going to come back. It's honestly more than anything it's just really rewarding to finally make some putts, see some putts. I feel like I rewarded myself with being patient and then having a great day today.

Q. Best putting round you've ever had?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Yeah, I don't -- I don't think I've had a better putting round, yeah.

Q. Have you ever shot 59 at home?

WYNDHAM CLARK: No, 60 is my lowest score.

Q. When was the last time you were close?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Last time I was close, actually I had a chance somewhat in Hawaii this year, in Maui. Last round I shot 62, was 10 under going into -- sorry, last hole, par 5 and I had about an eight-footer to shoot 61, so I was somewhat close that day.

Prior to that, on Tour my low score is 62. Yeah, it's been a while, it's probably been six, seven years.

Q. Which was the putt you were most jazzed about making?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Probably that bogey putt, that bogey putt on 12. Honestly, of any of the putts today that I was not really trying to make was that one. I really was just focused on my speed and just trying to get it down there, two-putt, get the double, go to the next hole and move on. For that to go in, it was like all right, man, I'm hot.

Q. What was the thought process on going with the lefty shot?

WYNDHAM CLARK: You know, obviously if I miss that putt and make double I could have gone through my head of all the things I could have done. The ball was so far above my feet and I thought if I try to wedge it, I would hit it off the hosel and didn't know where it was going to go. I guess I could have maybe -- now that I think about it, I maybe could have got a 3-wood or a putter and just try to put it on the green.

I have a decent lefty swing and can hit it. The lie wasn't great and didn't come out awesome but I really thought I could hit the shot. I also thought it was a good mental check for me as well to go lefty because that's something that I think under pressure usually I'd shy away



from. So I kind of challenged myself a little bit and let's see if you can handle this mentally and not be so scared. I tried to pull off the shot, I didn't but it worked out.

