

ROUND 3 PRESS CONFERENCE
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THOMAS BJØRN
DARREN CLARKE (-32)

Q. Our 2025 AmFam champions, Darren Clarke, Thomas Bjorn. Just take us through the week. You guys have had great chemistry, Ryder Cup partners, and then to get this win, your first to do it on PGA Tour Champions what's it mean?

THOMAS BJORN: It's great. We both are hard workers, always have been. And obviously Darren and I, we've known each other for 30-plus years and been through the Tour life together and played Ryder Cups together and done a lot of things together. To do this together is pretty special.

I think this week has just been -- we got here, we talked about it for a while and then we got here, I think it was a tough golf course in the practice rounds but I think we saw opportunities with the game we have.

The game plan we had, we both are very good drivers of the golf ball and we used that to our advantage, we really did, and that's why we probably got the better of this golf course by having two balls in play. Our Ryder Cup experience tells us having two balls in play, having two putts for birdies always frees you up as a player. You could see that when we certainly holed a lot more long putts this week than we normally do. You have the freedom to play. It was a great week and enjoyable moment for us.

Q. You guys had a three-stroke lead with three or four holes to play and everyone else had ran out of holes. Are you just trying to make pars?

DARREN CLARKE: No, we've both been playing this game long enough to know that a lot of things can happen, strange things can happen in that game.

Yes, no, I appreciate what you're saying, run out of holes and what have you. We just were focused on not doing anything stupid. Like we did all we can try and give ourselves two putts, two opportunities, both hit in the fairway and we did that. It would have been quite easy to get a little bit maybe jolly and stuff in the last few holes and maybe enjoy it a little bit more than we should have done, but there was still a job to be done. We were still focused on what we had to do. Certainly the walk up the last when you have a four-shot lead is a very enjoyable walk, that's a nice walk.

Q. On 15 were you trying to put a little pressure on?

DARREN CLARKE: No, I don't think. The first putt just missed. I went to tap it in and I went, oh, shit. I couldn't watch him putt, I had to look the other way. What have you done? I just

completely switched off. It was somewhat --

THOMAS BJORN: It was a long four-footer.

DARREN CLARKE: I looked -- I couldn't watch, it was oops, one of those things.

Q. Did the break help at all? Obviously (inaudible) rebound with the birdie and then a three-hour delay you guys just came out. It looked like it helped.

THOMAS BJORN: I don't know, I think, one, we just kind of, we didn't do many things wrong. It was our first and only bogey of the week. You're going to make those. Obviously you put that down to nerves and down to you want to get the day done. And always having a big lead is always difficult in this game but our experience kind of came through.

And did the break help? Not particularly I don't think. I just think we were -- I felt very comfortable, and I know in our conversations this morning we felt very comfortable about what was ahead of us. But we also are very aware of who was behind us and what they're capable of. You've got to go and finish the job. I don't think the break was a big thing for us. I think it was more a nuisance than anything really. I think for all players it's -- coming off the golf course is a bit awkward. Kind of dragged on quite a bit (inaudible.)

Q. (No microphone) a couple of birdies?

DARREN CLARKE: I guess we're professionals, aren't we? That's what we're supposed to do. We don't always play on dry, pristine greens like these. That's part of what happens every week, the speeds vary. These greens here were absolutely pure this week. They just slowed down a little bit, it wasn't massive but with that moisture on the greens it sort of -- when we started off early this morning they were really, really fast and then the moisture slowed them down a little bit. Did that help us? I don't know, we still holed a few.

Q. What did you think about the format and is there anything you would change for next year?

DARREN CLARKE: I'm not changing my partner, that's for sure.

THOMAS BJORN: I think when you think about we're on our week four of tournaments in a row here and it comes at a great time for the players to do something different. I think the format is great.

I think, speaking to Steve on the golf course, I think they'll sit down and evaluate if scramble is the right format, if that actually plays into all the right things in the game. But I think the four-balls are definitely there to, you've got to play. It's a different kind of -- I think for the players it's kind of, thank God we're doing something different for once. We play enough for us 54-hole and 72-hole tournaments on our own and this is a nice, different week. I think everybody's enjoyed themselves doing something different.

DARREN CLARKE: Course has been great, practice facility's been great, short game putting and the tournament is perfect here at TPC Wisconsin, so it's been great.

Q. (No microphone.)

DARREN CLARKE: Yeah, we spoke to him about it out there. He's playing in pain. I guess he probably wouldn't have played this week unless he was the host. He's going to have to go and have surgery. As members of the tour, we want to see Strick back out playing. He makes our tour a better place when he's playing. Him and Nicki, (inaudible) off these injuries and stuff and hopefully he gets himself sorted. We want him back out on the tour again full time.