

ROUND 3 PRESS CONFERENCE
June 8, 2025



STEVE STRICKER
MARIO TIZIANI (-28)

Q. Here with Steve Stricker, the host of the American Family Insurance Charity Classic. What a great week. I know you guys battled yourself into that final group and got Mario a taste of what it's all about, and I'm sure he's going to learn from that. But reflections on the week? Such a great week, great turnout, great sponsor. Reflect on the week.

STEVE STRICKER: Yeah, super cool. You know, just the opportunity to come and play a team event again. We heard it all week long from the players and even the fans, something different. The guys had a lot of fun. I think the course held up. Difficult driving golf course but green complexes are good and fair. Got a great sponsor in American Family Insurance. Yeah, another special week.

Q. Yeah, the golf course held up, you did a great job. You kept saying it's uncomfortable off the tee.

STEVE STRICKER: It is.

Q. Once you get out there, OK, you've got a little more room. But it held up wonderfully. Again, a great week. You can't ask for anything better. I think the format fits the event. How did you come up with that format?

STEVE STRICKER: Well, I was thinking because it's such a tight driving golf course that it might be good to have a partner, especially this first year. Whether we tweak it again next year, maybe have a modified alternate shot, I think that would work here too where you both hit the tee ball and alternate from there. Maybe have one day of all those formats, best ball, alternate shot and then the scramble, because the scramble yesterday was a ton of fun. I heard it from all the players that they had a lot of fun with that yesterday.

Q. Nothing wrong with tweaking something that's already successful.

STEVE STRICKER: Yeah, thanks. Appreciate you guys being here, too.

Q. Not exactly the way you wanted to end, but all in all a pretty good week for you guys.

STEVE STRICKER: It was.

Q. You and the tournament.

STEVE STRICKER: Yeah, great week. Tournament was well received, players loved the team event. The course stood up to the test. The players enjoyed it.

As far as Mario and I go, you know, we played well but we didn't at times. I left him hanging a few times today, he left me hanging a few times. Especially in a format like today, you've got to have two putts at it and we kind of were getting one putt at it. Yeah, disappointing day today but overall we had an opportunity starting the day to win and we just didn't play our best. But what a wonderful week.

Q. What did you think of the way the champs played? Felt like they were consistent throughout?

STEVE STRICKER: Yeah, we had an opportunity -- they played great, first of all. They played great.

I think that making the turn and then really I had an opportunity at 10 and 11 that we didn't capitalize on. All of a sudden they're 4 ahead at that point where we could have been only 2 behind. That, looking back at it, was kind of the turning moment of the tournament for us. At that point we were just trying to scrap out and see if we get second place alone.

Yeah, they played great, they did a lot of good things. They made putts when they had to, they hit it great. Most deserving.

Q. Looking back on it, did the team format play like you thought it would?

STEVE STRICKER: Yeah, I think so, very much so. I could see us tweaking it maybe next year and doing like a modified alternate shot where both players hit the tee balls and then you alternate the shots from there, I think that would be a nice added twist, but for this first year I think it went over very well, got a lot of positive feedback from the players, the fans, everybody involved.

TPC Wisconsin did an unbelievable job, the course was in great shape. There wasn't really anything that went wrong.

Q. Mario, what does this do for your confidence moving forward into the rest of the season grabbing this finish?

MARIO TIZIANI: Yeah, second place is a great finish for me given where I am on the Schwab list. Great week for me from that standpoint. Yeah, I'll take it, take it into the rest of the year. It's definitely a positive.

Q. This is for both you guys. Your families put a lot into this, and I'm so happy for Dennis and the way things turned out. You guys got to be proud of the old man, right?

MARIO TIZIANI: Yeah, super proud. I know he's proud, we're proud. It's an exhausting week but when we get out there, we had our head down and focused. But it's going to be cool to reflect back on this, see some pictures. Feedback was great, but yeah, massive week for our family, we had a blast.

Q. Steve, I know you don't like to talk about health that much, but was it just tough battling through that this weekend for you?

STEVE STRICKER: It's frustrating that I'm not playing to my potential really. My body just isn't feeling that well. Got some things to deal with, try to take care of it.

I still enjoy playing but I don't enjoy playing the way I feel today. I thought we hung in there. Like I said, I left him hanging a few times.

But he played great. That putt he made on the last hole, that will do him good. We had a lot of fun.

MARIO TIZIANI: We did.

Q. What's next for you, Steve?

STEVE STRICKER: I don't know, to be quite honest. I've got an MRI middle of the week, Wednesday or Thursday, and go from there. I don't know what to get fixed, to be quite honest with you. Got a couple issues going on. I'll get better, I'll be back, I'll play again but I've got it get better first.

Q. On a scale of 1 to 10, what was the pain threshold out there?

STEVE STRICKER: You know, it just gets -- again, I hate this to be the talking point, but it just gets to be the further along we go in the round, drivers are an issue, long clubs are harder. Yeah, it was still a blast, wouldn't miss this for the world.

Q. Mario, what was your experience like overall?

MARIO TIZIANI: Very positive, yeah. Like we said, you try to compartmentalize it so when we get out there, we had a job to do.

And honestly, the Tour, AmFam, all the volunteers, the staff, they take care of everything. It lets us go out there and do what we need to do. The experience was a 10 out of 10.