

ROUND 4 QUICK QUOTES
June 22, 2025

STEWART CINK (-8)



Q. You were right in there all day.

STEWART CINK: Yeah. I knew if I played a reasonable round of golf, I didn't have to do anything spectacular, that I would eventually be sort of within shouting distance and that's exactly what happened.

I didn't do anything spectacular, I played solid, I didn't make mistakes. Then I made mistakes. I had made a terrible mistake on 16, picked a really bad time to hit my worst iron shot of the week that just came out of nowhere. You know, that's just not a hole you can do that on, made bogey there and that was kind of it.

Q. Got some consolation on 18 with a nice birdie?

STEWART CINK: Yeah, of course it's always good to finish with a birdie, but I was hoping for a little bit more. I might have got just a little bit ahead of myself mentally. I only had a 7-iron in my hand on 16 on my second shot, 7-iron from the fairway. Might have counted my chickens a little bit there and just not consciously but subconsciously it was a pretty easy shot, to be honest. Downwind, out of the left, ball was just traveling 10 miles today. I probably was just a little bit mentally lazy.

And it could have been some of the heat because sometimes when you're really hot like that and sweaty, the focus is really what gets you. It's not physically tiring, your focus kind of starts to wander. I could probably say that that had something to do with it either.

Q. That ball hit the tree and dropped in the water or --

STEWART CINK: It hit the tree and dropped in the water, but I don't know --

Q. If it didn't hit the tree, would it have cleared?

STEWART CINK: I don't know if it would because the water does move out about pin high. It might have, I didn't strike it that great, it was a terrible shot.

Q. Well, you know, you could have made worse than bogey.

STEWART CINK: Could have made worse than bogey. And I was proud of myself for hitting that terrible shot and then sort of in shock kind of pulling myself back out of shock, and even though I hit my wedge over the green, that's a really hard wedge shot from the drop area. The drop area's really close to the front of the green there.



Proud of myself to not let more get away there, and make a good up-and-down and finished well.

Q. Does it seem like a major championship, same pressure? Did it feel familiar?

STEWART CINK: I wouldn't say it feels like a major from the regular Tour days, but it feels like pro golf when you're in contention and you have a chance to win on Sunday on the PGA TOUR Champions. That's what I love about it is that you get a chance to be in contention a lot and test yourself, and on a course like Firestone it feels as close to a major as you can get.

Q. That's the fun part at this age, you get to compete and still feel that.

STEWART CINK: Exactly, that's why we're all doing it out here. It's a great group of guys, competitors, and everybody plays really good golf, and if you put yourself up there in the mix you get that feeling, that joy, that juice, whatever you want to call it, that's what we're all hooked on.

Q. Is that exemption into THE PLAYERS really something you necessarily want or is that like, oh, do I want to play against young guys again?

STEWART CINK: No, I would love to play at THE PLAYERS, it's a great tournament. I would -- yes, my caddie and I talked about that earlier in the week that is a huge carrot --

Q. OK, that's what I wanted to really know.

STEWART CINK: -- dangling out there. It never crossed my mind today --

Q. Oh, sure.

STEWART CINK: -- but today was more about just trying to win. Trying to get up there, put myself in position where I could win and whatever comes with that was extra. We did talk about that earlier this week and certainly I would love to have a chance to go back and play there.

Q. If ESPN's showing one shot of you today, what's the best shot you hit, or most important shot?

STEWART CINK: I hit a really good chip out of the rough on 15 where I missed the green and had a nice little chip from a downhill lie up to a tap-in.

And then other than that, a whole lot of really good drivers. I drove it nice today, long, straight. If you can do that here at Firestone you can make this course play relatively easy and that's what it felt like today.



Q. How many people do you think would have passed out if we had this weather every day last week with no trees?

STEWART CINK: Yeah, we would have had to order some more water I think last week. It was pretty steamy, pretty steamy out there today.

But there are some trees out there, thank goodness. I was in the shade all day, trying to keep my hat from getting inundated by sweat and trying to manage --

Q. You mean your hair didn't absorb it?

STEWART CINK: No, it didn't.

Q. That's crazy. Have you got a flight tonight or what's your travel plans?

STEWART CINK: No. Tomorrow I'm going to Cleveland. I'm going to Cleveland tonight actually. I'm going to play in Dicky Pride's charity event for Ronald McDonald House tomorrow. Then we're going to go over to Colorado Springs after that.

Q. Stewart, overall on the week, how was it for you?

STEWART CINK: It was a good week, I played pretty well. Had a few stretches of lackluster play that in the end are going to cost me from winning.

But it wasn't spectacular, it wasn't like, oh, my gosh I made everything, chipped in from all over the place. It was just a solid four days with a few spots of drought that everybody has those. If you can minimize those and get back on your horse quicker, then that's how you get in the mix and get wins and start racking things up. I didn't this week, I just had some longer stretches, four, five, six holes that I was a little just off.

So I'll look back and try to clean that up a little bit and move on. Next week is going to be awesome, U.S. Senior Open. Never played in that yet so I'm looking forward to that.

Q. Have you played in Northern Ireland before?

STEWART CINK: I did.

Q. Yeah, you played the last time there.

STEWART CINK: Yeah.

Q. Are you looking forward to that?

STEWART CINK: Oh, yeah.



Q. That's a little ways off though.

STEWART CINK: Yeah. Well, starting here I've got four consecutive majors and two of my last three were majors.

Q. How do you stand that?

STEWART CINK: A lot of majors on the calendar.

Q. That's enormous pressure.

STEWART CINK: Well, it's great to play in big tournaments, I just love it. I wouldn't be doing this if I didn't enjoy it.

Q. Big tournaments is probably a better name than majors really?

STEWART CINK: I don't know about that.

Q. Important, significant, whatever. You know what I mean.

STEWART CINK: On Champions Tour, they're majors.

Q. No, they are. On this tour, they are.

STEWART CINK: They're Champions Tour majors.

