## TIMES COLONIST VICTORIA OPEN Presented by Andrew Sheret Limited

#### ROUND 4 QUOTES September 21, 2025

DREW NESBITT (-20, won playoff)





Q. Drew, what a day; a playoff, you made a couple of clutch putts to get the win. First of all, what are your thoughts on coming out as the winner?

**DREW NESBITT:** Amazing. Just a lot of hard work, a lot of determination. Just a lot of belief that I can still do this. I've been out here a little longer than some other guys, but I've dug deep internally and really just tried to show myself that I know I can do this, that I'm able to play to my potential.

Also, I've got to thank a couple friends. Chris Crisologo and Taylor Funk both helped me with my putting this week. They're both good putters and I was able to capitalize on a few clutch putts, like you mentioned, at the end there.

Just proud of everything I've accomplished, and I'm proud of the work I put in to try to be good at this game. It's incredible how good the competition is now, so many good players even at this level. The quality of play is world class, so to be able to come out on top is a very, very proud and enjoyable feeling.

Q. Tell me about your mindset entering today. You were tied for second, trailing by four, so AJ had a significant lead. And we had wind, the conditions were a little tougher today.

**DREW NESBITT:** Yeah. You know what, I think I had to really learn a lot from last week because I was tied for sixth, only three back last Sunday as well and I didn't play very well. So I dug deep. I really used that as a learning -- steppingstone in the learning block.

I think the conditions favored me. They were not easy but under the circumstances it allowed me that if I was able to play a good enough round of golf that I might be able to chase AJ and I was able to do that, as you said. Turned out we went to a playoff and I was able to come out on top.

Q. Those three birdies in a row on the back nine propelled you to do that.

**DREW NESBITT:** For sure, yeah, exactly. I was able to birdie 12, 13 and 14. Nos. 13 and 14 I made really good putts and I also made a pretty good putt on 17. I did end up giving one back on 18 unfortunately in regulation, but a win is a win, I'm not going to criticize how I got there. I'm happy to be here.



## Q. The playoff, it started with tree trouble, you missed it right. You were able to save par there to give yourself a chance.

**DREW NESBITT:** Yeah. You know what, this is a difficult driving hole for me with the wind in and off the right. That bunker with the temperature today, and I didn't play driver this week, I took my driver out and I played a mini driver and a 3-wood where I would typically just play a driver and one of those two clubs.

So for me the bunker on the left wasn't coverable with this wind so I had to try to take it up the right. I just pulled it a bit and made a really good chip after my recovery shot which kept me in it.

Then I made a really good putt the following 18th hole. Then we went to No. 9 where I was able to close it out.

## Q. The second playoff hole, tell me about that putt, how long was it, and it seemed like you had sealed the deal.

**DREW NESBITT:** Yeah, I would think from where we're standing it's probably close to 40 feet. But you know what? I said if I roll it down there and it happens to go in, great.

Now, I did know that he had a makeable putt obviously to tie at that point once mine went in. You know, I certainly, I wasn't -- it was a possibility he was going to make it and he did. There was no fear or unsettling feeling that came to me when he made that because I had a feeling that he would make it, to be honest. That just meant that it would be an extended playoff and I was able to capitalize on the next hole.

### Q. Tell me about No. 9, the last playoff hole.

**DREW NESBITT:** Yeah, I was aggressive. I knew where that pin was just from obviously playing it this afternoon, and I knew that if I could get it flag high and kind of be a little bit more aggressive than I was earlier, I'd had a good chance to make it. Luckily, it did go in. That's a putt that through the fringe and back onto the green, maybe it can bounce one way or another, things are out of your control, but I put a good stroke on it and it found the bottom of the hole.

#### Q. What did you hit off the tee?

**DREW NESBITT:** 7-iron. So we had it playing 200 yards down off the right and I just hit a nice controlled 7, same club I hit this afternoon in regulation.

#### Q. And the putt for the win, how long was it?

**DREW NESBITT:** Probably about 15 feet, maybe just somewhere around there. Had a little



left-to-right break in it. Pretty flat up and downhill. It was really whether the ball was going to come out of the fringe without being bounced or bumped offline. Came out nice, found the bottom, really happy.

Q. Your father by your side, tell me about having that opportunity.

**DREW NESBITT:** Yeah. You know what, we just made a decision that -- he's retired now so he's got all the time to come and help me when I need it. So we made a decision that he was going to come out here and make a final push, see if I could climb up the Fortinet Cup points list.

Not quite sure where this win will put me now. It's not all done, next week's very important as well. So I can enjoy this for a little bit, but once we get off that plane tomorrow in Vancouver it's back to business.

Q. There's a quote that you told me a couple years ago in Minnesota where you said it was a business trip. I think you were kind of fighting to retain your card. How much more I guess important is it now that you're fighting for a Korn Ferry Tour card next week?

**DREW NESBITT:** It's not any more important. I think that's something that I learned from those trips is you can say things that you mean internally, but at the end of the day this is really just about coming out and playing quality golf.

Something that I learned from last week, I tried to make Sunday too much internally, right? It's still a round of golf. Everyone's nervous, everyone wants to win, but the guy that's successful on Sunday stays within himself and plays a quality round of golf and just puts scores on the card, and I was able to do that today.

Next week doesn't change, it's four rounds. I've got to go out and play one hole one shot at a time and just play as good as I can and add 'em up.

If there's another successful week next week, then great. All I can do is control my attitude and my outcomes and see where I can go from there.

Q. It's interesting that you have played all over the Americas, you won in Mexico, shot a 59, Brazil, played six PGA TOUR events but you have never played a Korn Ferry Tour event.

**DREW NESBITT:** No, never once. So I was a member of the Korn Ferry Tour in 2022 after finishing in the top-10 on the Latin America Tour, but I was unsuccessful to gain guaranteed starts through the final stage of Q-School.

So we'll see. Next week's a big week, of course, and hopefully try and remedy that this year.



## Q. You mentioned you're not one of the younger guys out here anymore. What does a win mean to you as you still chase your dream?

**DREW NESBITT:** I think it means that age is just a number. I think you look at a lot of guys, somebody who I fancy is Justin Rose, I think he's 46 years old now and he's playing incredibly good golf. Keegan Bradley is another one. I think those long-time PGA TOUR veterans have been able to show that hey, you can still do this as you get older.

I've become good friends with Taylor Funk and we've talked about his dad, Fred. Fred was a rookie at 33. It's just, it just shows me that I have the game to play and I know that I can compete both at this and higher levels.

It's really just how you deal with it internally and how you manage your emotions and your prep. I think I've been able to do a good job of that and I've learned a lot over my career here both playing in Latin America and up in Canada. Yeah, it's been fun.

# Q. A lot of Canadians have come through here, Corey, Nick, Adam. You're only the fifth guy to win here on the tour. What's it feel like to be part of a really elite and particular group?

**DREW NESBITT:** That's amazing. I've been able to have a few relationships with those guys. I've had conversations with them. It's amazing, you know, just learning from them and kind of following in their footsteps a little bit, right? These guys all played in Canada and went on to PGA TOUR careers.

I would love to be able to do that, but there's a lot of work to be done between now and then. It's a nice enjoyable moment but it's still a lot of work to be done for sure.

#### Q. What's your father's name and what impact has he had on your career?

**DREW NESBITT:** Yes, my dad's name's Dave. He's been so influential for me. Both of my parents have. They're both very good athletes in their own right. My dad played in the NHL, my mum was a Quebec champion in gymnastics, she was on the national team. So both of them have been super influential to me.

Having my dad out here was just really comfortable and everything like that. Made a huge difference.

And my girlfriend's been great, too. She was on the national dance team, she was a Team Canada dancer. The mental side of the game she's very, very capable of helping me with and she harps on me about a few things and holds me accountable. So the close knit group that I have is really important to my success, for sure.

#### Q. And your mom's name?



**DREW NESBITT:** Her name's Corinne.

Q. You're the first Canadian to win on the tour this year.

**DREW NESBITT:** Oh, that's cool. I didn't realize that. Oh, it's awesome. Happy to be the first Canadian to win. Like I said, one more week and just hammer down.

Q. You're inside the top-10 in the points list, so now it's a matter of defending that position next week.

**DREW NESBITT:** Yeah, exactly. You know what, job's not done. I look at it as holding a lead in a tournament. When you come to Sunday, you still have to play a good round of golf.

Next week's no different. Just because you're in a position that will earn you a Korn Ferry Tour membership, there's nothing for granted. This tour's strong, there's good players and anything can happen. My priority and my goals are to go out next week and just play the best that I can and we'll let the results take care of themselves.

