

STEVEN ALKER (-9)

Q. We have defending champion Steven Alker. Steven, it's a tight leaderboard out there right now. How is the course playing this year in comparison to last year?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah. Well, weather conditions obviously make a big difference. It's getting a little bouncy out there. The greens are still holding, but I think it's just the heat. It was definitely hotter today. That was the hardest part of today compared to last year, for sure.

Q. Steven, you come off of a round like yesterday and you turn around with a 62 today. What was the difference?

STEVEN ALKER: My wife told me I had to shoot 62 today. Seriously, we were at dinner last night, messing around. We had a six or seven at dinner, they were firing numbers around, like blah, blah, blah, blah, blah. She said, oh, 62 would be nice. Whatever. Sure enough, here it is.

I just wanted to put up a good day to get back in the tournament. Defending champ, so I wanted to kind of give it a good run. Kind of feel like I've put myself in there, three or four back, you never know at the end of the day. Yeah, it was a nice round. Some positive stuff going forward.

Q. Build confidence going into tomorrow?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, exactly. And for next week as well. I haven't played a lot of golf of late. Just trying to get the feelings back. And also my putting stroke I think is the biggest thing.