

PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW
October 27, 2021

STEPHEN COX
PGA TOUR Rules Official



Q. Can you talk about the cancellation, the closure of the golf course? Please explain all the different factors.

STEPHEN COX: Well, we experienced significant winds overnight and we had quite a lot of structural damage to our temporary structures out there. You know, hospitality structure at 16 which overlooks the ocean was probably the worst affected. The structure very much (inaudible) still there and we lost that, and a lot of the other tented structures around the property, even your own Golf Channel facility, were affected.

We had wind gusts of somewhere in the region of 50 miles an hour, and when you get those sort of gusts with sustained winds of anywhere from 35 to 40 miles an hour, then damage is likely. We walked in very early this morning with concerns about how much it's going to take to, firstly, clean up from what happened overnight, and then obviously had concerns very much very quickly was to how we make this property safe for our athletes, both amateur and professional, to go out there for the pro-am.

With the forecast that we got certainly for this morning and into this afternoon being sustained winds of 25 to 35 miles an hour, with gusts of 40 to 45 miles an hour, it became quite evident that not only the existing structural damage, we had concerns about the repair work we had to put on those to make it safe in the vicinity, but the other objects which just go along, the smaller objects that go along with staging a golf tournament of this size, they were getting picked up and thrown around with those gusts. It was evident that it was going to be too dangerous to send people out. It was in an abundance of caution our decision unfortunately to cancel the pro-am.

Q. Do you believe with the weather forecast for the rest of the day that you guys will be able to fix the structures and make the course safe to play on time tomorrow?

STEPHEN COX: Yeah, the first thing we're going to do is discourage people to go out to the property, which is one of the reasons why we've not (inaudible) athletes to practice. We're also encouraging other vendors and contractors not to go out to the property, too.

But in the same breath, we need to try and make sure that those structures are still safe and we've got a golf tournament that we're trying to prepare for tomorrow, too. There's a lot of work to be done and hopefully things do subside later on this afternoon and we continue that work and probably reopen practice facilities later on in the day, but we'll see, we'll see how the wind progresses.