

ROUND 4 INTERVIEW
October 30, 2022

BEN GRIFFIN (-17)



Q. Ben, come to the 12th hole with a two-shot lead, how would you in your own words describe how the last seven holes played out?

BEN GRIFFIN: Not how I wanted to, but it was playing tough out there. Those are some of the toughest holes coming down the stretch, especially trying to win a PGA TOUR event. I tried my best. I had a couple shots get loose in the wind and you've got to be a little bit better, more precise when it gets windy like that or else you can kind of grind for pars and bogeys quick. That happened to me. You know, I couldn't believe my tee shot on 16, I was able to draw it as much as I did against that left-to-right wind. I figured there was no way if I tried as hard as I could to draw it, it would end up left, so that was a bummer.

Obviously 17, trying to hit a tee shot that wouldn't get to the water, I never really thought about it with the club that I had in my hand and unfortunately it went in the water there. Otherwise, I was -- I talked to my caddie and I was like, you know, I might have played the last four 6 over, 5, 6 over, but if I finish eagle-birdie, I can win this golf tournament. So tried to continue to stick to my game plan, execute on 17 and 18 and unfortunately I was only able to make pars.

Hats off to Seamus, he played great in the wind. He knows how to play in the wind more than anyone out here. So it was a grind for both of us and there was a lot of back and forth most of the front nine and most of the start of the back nine and I just wasn't able to execute and he came out on top, so hats off to him.

Q. After that birdie on 11, what was kind of going through your mind as you were going to 12th tee? Where were your nerves as well?

BEN GRIFFIN: I felt very comfortable. 12's not that hard of a tee shot and I just let the swing get loose. I need to be a little more concentrated on my target in those situations, you can't let up in a PGA TOUR event.

I think I almost got a little too comfortable. I need to just again be a little more precise with my targets and really make sure I execute regardless whether I'm in the lead, one back, two back. No. 13 was playing hard, so unfortunately I missed a short putt on really 12 and 13. Putting in the wind's very difficult, you see it breaking one way but then you're trying to play the wind and you don't know if the wind's going to hold it or if it's going to move it a little bit more. Just not used to it. The last two days I felt a little more shaky with the putter than I did the first two. Again, it's a learning experience and I'm just happy to be out here competing. I know my time will come soon.



Q. I was going to ask, how much did you learn not just today but over the last couple days being in contention, being in the lead, having the lead like you did today? How much did you learn?

BEN GRIFFIN: A ton. I mean, every single time I'm competing out here I'm trying to learn and gain as much as I can from each and every round so I can be better moving forward. One thing I learned is just how -- I'm very comfortable out here. Honestly, I need to be almost a little bit less comfortable in certain situations because I need to make sure I'm again executing and being confident with my swings. I just let a couple get loose and I missed it on the wrong side on a few holes down the stretch, would short-side myself downwind with chips and couldn't get it close. I just put myself in too many difficult spots to come out as the champion this week.

Q. Regardless of how the last seven holes played out today, how much confidence does this give you going forward?

BEN GRIFFIN: Yeah, a ton of confidence. I came into the year pretty confident, I was fortunate to have a good PGA TOUR finish at the Wyndham Championship to cap off the 2022 regular season FedExCup. So kind of moving into the season I felt really comfortable again, felt confident. And I had a pretty solid week at Sanderson, just didn't put four rounds together. Coming into this week, I knew my game was there, just had to go out there and compete and try to not get too caught up in the wind a little bit and try to hit good shots. It was a fun week. Thanks to Bermuda a ton and Butterfield, the title sponsor for having us this week because it's been fun.

Q. Not knowing you very well, I saw during that stretch when things were going backwards you still had a smile on your face, still seemed to be enjoying yourself. Even with the shots that weren't going your way, is that kind of how things were going for you?

BEN GRIFFIN: Yeah, you know, playing golf for a living's just really fun. It just means the world to be able to compete out here and I can't get mad at anything that I do because it's so cool to be able to play on the PGA TOUR.

