

ROUND 3 INTERVIEW
May 1, 2022



STEVEN ALKER (-18)

Q. What did you do during the delay?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, I said to Cookie, I said I actually watched some footage up in the clubhouse of yesterday and some of the play first thing. Yeah, just made a little adjustment, just changed my ball position and felt a little more on top of the ball. Just a tiny little thing and I started hitting some nice shots and driving it better. I thank goodness we kind of did have a little break because I kind of struggled, missed a few fairways early on and made some nice putts, kept me going. Then I got my roll going, so it was all over.

Q. I guess before the break you were on the 10th and I think was it a three-way tie at the time? It was pretty close, you guys were all --

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, I might have had one stroke.

Q. One stroke, okay.

STEVEN ALKER: But that was -- it was pretty tight. Knew Steve wasn't going away and Brandt was playing well, so it only took a few birdies and you're behind. Yeah, just pleased to keep the roll going. I played the back nine great this week, so just pleased.

Q. Talk about getting all those -- you know, you kind of dominated those par 5s this weekend. Talk about that.

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, just hit some really nice shots into the par 5s, gave myself good looks and actually made a couple, so that was kind of the game changer. Then these last few holes you've just got to navigate your way around and stay dry and I did that. I was pleased.

Q. How important was that 5-wood this week?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, it was huge. I love my 5-wood. You know, I can hit all sorts of different shots with it, that's the great thing. The par 5s coming in, I hit some beautiful shots there and as I say, probably won the tournament for me. It was great.

Q. To get this one in Texas, your caddie's home state.

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, Sam.

Q. How important was that?

STEVEN ALKER: It was huge. I think we talked about that yesterday, just to get that win and, as I said, my family talked about and I've got a couple weeks to do it. Didn't quite get it done last week. My prep a couple weeks ago was great, my week off, and I just kind of felt coming in like I can maybe pull one off. It worked out nicely.

Q. Can you talk about this streak you're on? The way you've been playing is unbelievable, truthfully.

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, you know, I'm just so proud of like just the scoring. I'm scoring so well, I'm shooting low rounds and I'm keeping rounds going. If I get into trouble, I'm 1 or 2 under, so that's really pleasing. The win kind of comes with all that, but I'm just most proud of shooting low scores. My short game and putting's come around. Yeah, it's just all coming together. I'm just having so much fun, it's been great.

Q. You're on the top of the Schwab Cup. Was that the goal at the beginning of the season to end there?

STEVEN ALKER: You know, if I could hang with Bernhard Langer and a couple of guys, then yeah, I have a chance. There's a long way to go. I'm just looking forward to still a lot of tournaments I haven't played, majors I haven't played out here. There's a bunch of events I haven't played, so I'm looking forward to just playing those new courses, new venues. That's what's exciting about it, coming to new places and playing new courses.

Q. You're taking a week off before Regions. Any reason?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, my son's graduation ceremony for high school, he's got that next week during the week, so going to do that, then come out fresh for Regions.

Q. You just played so well on that back nine, just incredible golf, but are you surprised a little bit that you broke away from the pack like that?

STEVEN ALKER: Yeah, a little bit. You know, obviously the guys, Steve made a couple birdies there and started getting going and Brandt made a couple birdies as well, so it was only two shots. Then obviously that eagle was the game changer, got me 4 up with, what, three to go. I made a nice -- I didn't quite hit the shot I wanted on 16, but it was close enough and made the putt, so kind of felt that was, you know, a little more comfortable. Still had 17 and 18, which are tough holes.