

Scott Dunlap (-9) 65-70 Final - Interview Transcripts May 5, 2024

Question: First win in 10 years, shortened to 36 holes, but still a win, take me through your emotions right now?

Soctt Dunlap Answer:

Well, we chatted yesterday when we knew what the forecast was, but still had to prepare. So, wow, I'm just overcome by it all. I did mention yesterday it has kinda been in the wilderness, and hadn't played that well but thinking I could do better, not really knowing if something like this was in the offing, and low and behold it was. Now we get to play some more golf for a year and a bit, and keep hacking.

Question: Did you think this day was gonna come? Scott Dunlap Answer:

I mean, you had to hold out hope. I mean, I just knew I could do better than I was doing and so, you just don't know how much better and what that means. I know I'm going up against, I mean the TOUR has only gotten tougher since I've turned 50. Some really great quality players have turned 50 since I've been out here so it only got harder. So, I knew that I could be better but I didn't know if that meant that I could beat these guys again. There is still a nice living to be made playing golf, but you do play to win. Did I think I could win? Maybe. But I wasn't sure.

Question: You get to go to Hawaii now? Scott Dunlap Answer:

Ya, well, I saw one my first year out and so I got two years, so I guess I got two more. Vacation, Hawaii, geez, I'll see if I can clear my schedule.

Question: What does this mean to you? Scott Dunlap Answer:

Just a little bit of validation and I guess I kind of represent what all golfers are doing – we just kind of wake up each day, just trying to get better, and working it. It was very interesting, Steven Alker spoke at a Evergreen Society meeting in Atlanta last week and I go to these meetings when I'm in town, and I've always, my buddy Louis Brown runs these things and I was like, man you gotta ask him 'what did you figure out when you turned 50' and even I was thinking you must have changed your grip, there must have been some lightening bolt one thing, and it wasn't. I just got a little better, worked the process, got stronger, got fitter, short game, and it's like, you know, that is the way life is and the way golf is. There is no short answer, there is no quick fixes. You just work, get better, wake up each day. And, it was very interesting and maybe that was in the back of my head, kind of help me clear a few things and get a little better immediately. But ya, it's just a trek, that is what golf is. I knew that I could do better than I was doing and here we are.

Question: You drive out of here today, or tomorrow, to Birmingham all smiles right? Scott Dunlap Answer:

Oh for sure. I mean, so, okay, my golf is good enough to win a two round shootout. Now I get to find out if we can play three or four days, and maybe sleep on a lead, but now I can relax and play golf. I mean, Bryan Naugle (Tournament Director) called me after the West Coast trip where I was out there for three weeks, first altered all three of them, only got in one of them. I was not expecting to get in this week, he calls me and hey, you know, Jane and I want to invite you to play and it's like, wow! I almost broke down there – that is just so cool. So just being here, I just told him even if I finished 50th this week, that was the nicest phone call that I have received in months, much less now standing here in the winner's circle. The good graces of others brought me here. It wasn't owed me, my golf's been okay, but not good enough to guarantee my place here and they extended me an invite and to take advantage of that, ya, it feels pretty awesome.

Question: How hard is it to be alternate and not knowing?

At the end of the day, these are real first world problems. I mean, I knew I was going to play twentysome tournaments this year, but I got to make hay if I want to not do that next year I've got to finish 45th to 49th on the Money List, which is what I've done. And once again, like I said, I think I should have been doing better than that. I wasn't. I was getting a little worse each year, but I said this is not an inevitable slide. I should be able to turn this around possibly, but until you do, you don't know if you are going to. And, now we've taken a good step in the right direction. Look at Steven Alker, I mean he found greatness at the age of 50. I don't know if I can find greatness at the age of 60, but I know I can do a whole lot better than I have from the age of 55 to 60 which was some okay to mediocre golf. Now, lets get a little better and have some fun and keep playing.