PRE-TOURNAMENT PRESS CONFERENCE May 1, 2024

Steven Alker



Q. Steven, Defending a title is nice. Defending a title two times in a row – talk to us about being back in The Woodlands this week? **STEVEN ALKER:**

Ya, it is great. Obviously I did a bit of practice on the course yesterday. Some good vibes and feelings come back. Looking forward and ready to go. I have a ProAm tomorrow and it's just always good to come back to a place you have won before and to have done it twice is even better. I'm not trying to put too much pressure on myself this week, but it is there. It is what it is.

Q. You already won once this seasao and are coming off back-to-back Top-5s in your last two starts. Feeling confident with where you game is heading into this week?

STEVEN ALKER:

Ya, it feels like it is just kind of getting to where I want it. I think the golf tournaments that I have played – like all areas just got a little bit better. I didn't play last weeks golf course, that was kind of new to me just took a few days to adjust to. Othweriwse, it is more about a build up coming to this week and our first major next week at The Regions.

Q. Looks like weather could be a factor this week. Obviously it's an outdoor sport, the game of golf, it is always a potential. Is that on your mind at all, looking to get off to a quicker start Friday? **STEVEN ALKER:**

Not so much. We have had weather in the past. This place can play two different ways. I have played it very soft and I have played it firm as as well. That is a good thing that I have played it in both of those conditions so I kind of feel like I'm prepared.

Q. Steven, what about this golf course that appeals to your eye as you have clearly done well here?

STEVEN ALKER:

Obviously tee shots, a little bit of working it both ways. And then you know just as small as the pockets are on the greens. I'm a pretty good iron player, that is one of the strengths of my game. A good iron player is a huge factor here. I think that is going to go a long way.

Q. Comfort being in Houston. What do you like about this area and the week leading up to this Tournament? **STEVEN ALKER:**

Well Insperity, and The Woodlands Club here do an amazing job with this Tournament. It is always good to come back to a golf course that you know they run a good event, you are looked after and the golf course is good. Put all of those three factors together and it is going to be a good week.

Q. You are first in Greens In Regulation on the Champions Tour – what are the keys in the consistency with your ball striking? STEVEN ALKER:

For me, it is more about just having a good blue print of what I'm doing. Every week I'm not checking to go back to those things that are working. I haven't really been searching for a long time to get a swing. Those are the real keys, just having that good blue print and going back to stuff that I can rely on and know that I can hit my yardages and hit them flat on.