

**FINAL ROUND INTERVIEW**  
**June 24, 2018**



**STEVE STRICKER ( -13)**

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**Q. Hometown tournament, couldn't get it done at the end, but can you talk about the weekend as a whole?**

**STEVE STRICKER:** Yeah, we had two great days of weather, we had a lot of fans come out to enjoy the tournament. It was the way to end up the tournament, you know. Personally, played a good round today, just got too far behind with that round that I shot yesterday and that really put a damper on my weekend, that round yesterday.

But the way it ended up, couldn't have asked for anything more. Great turnout of people, the players loved it, and we got a great field and some exciting golf down the stretch.

**Q. Did you watch the leaderboard and what did you think when McCarron climbed up to the top?**

**STEVE STRICKER:** Yeah, when we were coming in, I told Nicki we've got to try to get to 15. That was the number in my head as we were somewhere in that 12, 13, 14th hole mark. I saw that these guys are behind me, so I knew they had the same holes to try to birdie as I did. I just thought that I needed to get to that number and just came up a little bit short. Had the opportunities, I just didn't make those putts I needed to coming in.

**Q. What was it about those putts down the stretch that were confusing or difficult?**

**STEVE STRICKER:** A couple of them I didn't get the read right and a couple of them I hit poor putts. I pulled the putt at 14. Hit a good putt at 15 and it never broke. 17, I don't know why I didn't think that was going to go to the right. The whole back of that green slopes away and I was playing it fairly straight and I don't even know what I was thinking there. 18, I actually hit a good putt, thought it was going to move to the right and it never really moved to the right. So a little frustrating on those putts coming in, but hit the ball way better and gave myself the opportunities today.

**Q. As a host, you had some great names up at the top, including yourself and Jerry. It was a pretty cool tournament this year, wasn't it?**

**STEVE STRICKER:** Yeah, very cool. This may be one of the best fields all year out here on the PGA TOUR Champions. So we're very fortunate the word is out that we're doing some good things here, and obviously we're raising these monies for charities. But to get the support from the community and the players alike. You know, if we don't have the players come, no one else is going to come out. So to have Freddie play well again and

Bernhard was up there, Colin Montgomerie up there, Jerry and Scott McCarron, guys that have been playing great all year were there at the top. It's cool to see, it's exciting for everybody to stick around and see that excitement.

**Q. Scott McCarron's a good champion?**

**STEVE STRICKER:** Yeah, he's a good guy. He still plays very well, he's won a lot out here on the PGA TOUR Champions. He's a good guy to have win and it just -- like I said, there was a bunch of different storylines today that could have happened, so that's what makes it exciting for a day like today.

**Q. Why do you think the cream was able to rise to the top today on that leaderboard on the back nine?**

**STEVE STRICKER:** It kind of always does it seems like. Guys will find the way to the top that have been playing well. The guys up there at the top have played well for the most part of the year and they find a way to get up there.

**Q. Steve, given how far you had to come to get into the conversation today, do you look at this as progress?**

**STEVE STRICKER:** Yeah, a little bit, but it was also a week that I -- you know, a tournament that I've been doing a microcosm of my year really. Some really good things and then throw some not-so-good things. Like yesterday, the whole round yesterday, that was the worst round I've played all year on any of the tours. That just killed me. If I could have just shot even par yesterday it would have given me a better opportunity.

But yeah, it was a struggle, but I bounced back and did some good things and kind of keeps me excited after the two weeks that I'm going to have off to tee it up again at the John Deere.