

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW: JEFF MAGGERT
May 6, 2016



JEFF MAGGERT: I thought the play was pretty tough. Even with the new technology and everything, it's a hard course to overpower. You've got to come out here and you've got to hit all the clubs in your bag. You can't hit driver every hole. You've got to hit some different shots off some of the tee boxes, so just kind of thinking golf course all the way around, making smart decisions and hitting good shots and making putts.

Q. How many rounds do you think you've played on this golf course? Do you have any idea? Did you ever count?

JEFF MAGGERT: I don't play here any more. I'm lucky -- to play here once or twice outside the tournament is a lot, but certainly junior high, high school age, I played here four or five times a week, so just a lot of rounds.

Q. Over a thousand?

JEFF MAGGERT: Probably, yes. And all the tournament rounds I played here over the years. They've changed the greens a few times over the years, so that's the hardest thing for me, is there's little subtleties in the greens that you get used to, and then three years ago, they resurfaced the greens, they didn't change the slopes, but even though they resurfaced them, some of the little tendencies on the greens changed, so that part of it is kind of new, and I have to really pay attention on the greens, what the breaks are doing. But tee to green, I could almost play it in my sleep. I know what every shot, the shape needs to be, the different wind directions. I'm real comfortable on all that.

Q. We were having a discussion, there was never bent grass out on these greens.

JEFF MAGGERT: No, it's always been Bermuda.

Q. But they switched to different kinds of Bermuda, a couple different kinds?

JEFF MAGGERT: They switched several times, and then for the Shell tournament they used to overseed the course with rye grass because we played in the spring.

Q. Right.

JEFF MAGGERT: So the greens really the whole course played a little bit different with the rye grass, a little bit more rough, a little thicker rough, and the greens probably putt a little bit better when they're overseeded, but these greens are putting really, really well right now.

Q. Is it Miniverde? Is that what they've got on there?

JEFF MAGGERT: I think they put either Miniverde or Tif Eagle. There's so many strains now. They had Champions Bermuda that they put in about 20 years ago which at the time was the rage, and things change

Q. It came from Hutsel?

JEFF MAGGERT: Yes. Actually, there's some Champions still on the greens. There's kind of a mixture of both, which is not what they were hoping for. I think the golf course owners are not too happy with the construction crew, because they should have killed all that Champions off, so there is kind of a mix. It doesn't really affect the putting surface, but you can see looking at the greens the different colors in there, and some of that is the two strains of grass, but they're putting very well.

Q. So when you come back here to event, what's your comfort level? I mean, it's got to be off the charts, right?

JEFF MAGGERT: I always feel like it's a little bit harder to play at home. Everybody everyone says oh, it's easy, but I do all the things I normally do at home this week, so it's a very busy week for me. You know, my twins are in school and they're good going to school in the morning and so we're doing all the things that we normally do, plus I'm trying to play a golf tournament, so in that regard, I always feel like it's a lot busier than it would be in a normal week. But that kind of balances out the fact that I know that this golf course so well, and, you know, just a lot of confidence on it, so, you know, I don't feel like I have to spend a lot of extra time on the practice round or whatever preparing on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, so it was pretty low key early in the week. I played nine holes on Sunday afternoon and then I played my proam on Thursday, so that's were the only two times I was practicing on the course.

Q. Is your comfort level good with your game? I mean, obviously

JEFF MAGGERT: It's better. You know, it's funny. Our schedule's so, you know, we play a couple and it's hard to get into a rhythm and my game's kind of really coming around right now. I'm really looking forward to the rest of the schedule. And really kind of very similar to the way I felt last year. I actually probably had a little better start to my year this year than I did last year, but certainly around this tournament is when my game, I really felt like it started to get better. I played well here. I think I finished in the top 10, maybe top five, and then went on to win the Regions and just had a great summer. So looking forward to that again. So my game is really kind of getting in good shape. I had a good summer.

Q. Would it mean a lot here to you to win here?

JEFF MAGGERT: Yes. I had three close calls on the regular tour. I lost a playoff one

year to work brooks, and, you know, a lot of other years where I was right there, but, you know, it is what it is. It would be fun, but it's I won't lose any sleep if I play my whole career and not win here. Just having fun playing well.