

American golfer Kevin Na reveals heated exchange with New Zealand caddie Steve Williams



New Zealand golf caddie Steve Williams continues to draw controversy.

American golfer Kevin Na claims he was rudely put down by New Zealand caddie Steve Williams for poor performance and slow play.

The heated exchange came in the scorer's tent after the second round of the 2014 Deutsche Bank Championship in Massachusetts.

Williams was working for Adam Scott who had been partnered with Na and Chris Kirk.

The trio had four bogeys and two double-bogeys between them in their opening five holes and the following day Na carded a 74.

Williams wasn't impressed, according to a story on Na in American magazine [\*Sports Illustrated\*](#).

"In the scoring tent as I was about to leave, Stevie looks at me and goes, 'Do you ever watch a bad movie again and again?', Na told *Sports Illustrated* writer Alan Shipnuck.

"I didn't really know what he was talking about, so I just said, 'Uh, no.' He goes, 'That's what you are, Kevin, a bad movie. I never want to see you play again.'

"And I looked at him, and I said, 'Stevie, you're out of line. If Adam has a problem with my play, he has every right to say whatever he wants. You're in no position to tell me what you just said to me.'

"He got real close to me and was saying basically that he could say whatever he wanted. It was getting pretty heated, but one of the Tour officials stepped in and said, 'Guys, not in here.' And that ended it."

In his biography Williams addressed the issue of slow play and singled out Na as the worst offender.

"Slow play is the biggest problem in golf – for professionals and amateurs alike. It should not take over five hours for three professionals to complete a round golf.

"There are well-known serial offenders out there and top of everyone's list is Kevin Na," he said.

Williams said players would do anything to avoid being paired with Na.

"... players would look at the leaderboard and, if they knew they could avoid playing with him the next day, deliberately make a bogey to sidestep being paired with him. The idea was to spend a shot one day to save a couple the next day – he was that bad to play with."

Williams book also backs up Na's account of events at the Deutsche Bank Championship in 2014 and claims players and rules officials backed his decision to confront Na about his slow play.

"Adam [Scott, who Williams was caddying for] and Chris [Kirk] at this stage have got their heads in their hands trying to hide their laughter. The story quickly looped around the course and I even had a couple of rules officials come up to me and say, 'Well done, that needed to be said.'"

## **SLOWEST ON TOUR**

In 2011 the Wall Street Journal survey of playing speed in the PGA Tour found Na was the slowest player on the greens, and second slowest when hitting from the fairway.

It timed a minimum of three shots from the fairway and three putts for every player, starting the stopwatch when the player stood over the ball and stopping when he hit it.

Na checked the line of each putt from all directions. A year after that, Na slowed down even more. He developed a mental block that meant he couldn't pull the trigger on his shots.

He tried to waggle his club to break the block, but it was difficult for him to take the club back.

## **SLOWEST ON GREENS**

Kevin Na (47.6s)

Sergio Garcia (43.6s)

Jim Furyk (43.3s)

J.B. Holmes (41.9s)

Tiger Woods (40.2s)

## **SLOWEST ON FAIRWAY**

Sergio Garcia (41.4s)

Kevin Na (38s)

Tiger Woods (37.4s)

J.B. Holmes (34.6s)

J. Vegas (32.2s)

## **FASTEST ON GREEN**

Rickie Fowler (12.3s)

G. McDowell (13.9s)

Dustin Johnson (17.3s)

Phil Mickelson (19.1s)

Ian Poulter (21.5s)

## **FASTEST ON FAIRWAY**

Rickie Fowler (13.9s)

Dustin Johnson (14.1s)

Pat Perez (14.4s)

Jim Furyk (18.5s)

David Duval (18.9s)