

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW: PHIL MICKELSON**  
**January 26, 2017**

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**Q. What did you think about the redesign?**

**PHIL MICKELSON:** It was long, it was hard, but yet there was still a lot of good scores. The course is in good shape. I thought they've done a good job of getting it in shape given all the rain, and the greens were beautiful.

**Q. Would you have done it any differently?**

**PHIL MICKELSON:** Oh, sure. My idea was different, but Tom's got a great track record. He's a wonderful designer. He's done a lot of great courses and the course certainly is a good challenge.

**Q. Phil, you managed to get yourself back out for this tournament. How are you feeling?**

**PHIL MICKELSON:** Yeah, I enjoy this tournament. I'm glad I'm playing. I thought I probably needed this last week and this week to get back, but the game came back fairly quickly. It's not too far off and I feel like I'm starting to hit a lot of good shots. So it's fun to get out and play and I really can't think of a better place to work on your game and to get it sharp than competing here. This is a real test.

**Q. How would you assess your round today?**

**PHIL MICKELSON:** I played pretty well, I thought. I played pretty well. I hit a lot of good shots and shot under par on a really tough course.

**Q. Does it help with the pairing you're in? Getting guys like Rickie and Jimmy, does that give you more motivation or does it not matter as much?**

**PHIL MICKELSON:** It's great to have a pairing like that, it really is. To play with two guys that I really enjoy being around and enjoy teaming with in the Ryder Cup, Presidents Cup events. We've got some great experiences. Their caddies, Joe Skovron and Andy, are two great guys. It just makes for a fun day, a fun couple of days