



MARK WILLIAMS: We would like to welcome Adam Scott into the interview room at the World Golf Championship Mexico Championship. Adam, you're defending this title, albeit in a different country with a different name. You've had an opportunity to see the golf course. Just give us your thoughts on that first, if you would, and then we'll take some questions.

ADAM SCOTT: Well, yeah, it was fun to play the course for the first time this morning. I was fearful that the altitude would be the tricky part here this week, but I think it's going to be the greens in the end. Really, one look or two looks at the course I don't think is going to make a difference. It's going to be tricky. I think we're going to be referring to our notes a lot when hitting into these greens, some blind and a lot of movement. It's hard to remember every slope with only a couple looks at the course. So the guys who get most familiar, most comfortable with that for the week I think will have a chance of having a little advantage. But it's tough even putting on them, so it's going to be a tricky week.

Q. Mate, sorry if I'm wrong, but you sound a little dusty. Are you doing okay?

ADAM SCOTT: I've had a cold for about a week so I'm trying to fight it off.

Q. Is it affecting you in any way or do you feel close to a hundred percent?

ADAM SCOTT: Well, I feel better today. Struggling a bit yesterday, I went a bit downhill, but today's better. For the first time in two weeks I felt like I swung the club well, so I'm feeling pretty good about myself today. Thanks, Ben.

Q. Adam, the proposed rule changes came out today. What do you think of them, and I guess a more basic question is, if this is a gentleman's sport, why are so many of these rules needed?

ADAM SCOTT: Well, I guess the intentions of all this is probably the correct thing. You know, trying to take up a game that has a rule book that looks like a novel could be off-putting, so I guess trying to clean it up and simplify it a little bit is the right kind of intention.

I think I'm right in saying not all of these rules are necessarily going to be put into place. They're kind of still up for discussion, I guess, but it's an outline. It's a tough one. I mean, you know, the game has just moved so far, especially for the professionals, that I don't know if some of them are relevant for us or not. That might be getting back to more of the gentleman's side of things or competition side of playing golf.

Q. So many of the rules are trying to determine intent and that seems like something

only the person standing over the ball can ultimately say.

ADAM SCOTT: Yeah, it's always been a game where you have to take the player's word or the marker's word, that's why we've had a marker or the card attested by another player. I think we shouldn't get too far away from that. However, I don't know if this is kind of leading us to say that people's intentions have been different than they're saying them, if we have a problem in that sense. I hope that's not what the case is. I think they need to be, if they're making changes, it just needs to be very clear and so there aren't decisions to be made, let's have it as uncomplicated as possible.

Q. Hello. We hear about the challenge of these World Golf but what do you like about this golf course?

ADAM SCOTT: It's a very pretty golf course to play. It's been built -- it's short but it has difficult greens and that's the sign of traditional, old-style golf courses. That's the defense of this golf course is the greens. They're very severe. Hopefully they don't get too quick for us this week or we're going to have some struggles, but that has an affect on the way you hit the shot. It's very important to hit it in the fairway and then hit it on the greens. If your ball striking's good this week, it just takes a little bit of pressure off you because although putts are tough, I would rather be putting than chipping.

It's going to be about precision this week. There's certainly, although it's short, the penalty for missing a driver is quite severe. Trees, unable to hit it on the green and you're going to have to control wedge shots. It's going to be very difficult with the altitude difference. It's tough to just zone in in a couple of days with trying to hit a three-quarter pitching wedge so it doesn't have spin or something like that. So there are lots of challenges this week.

Q. If we could go back to the rules topic for a second, you mentioned the word "complicated." Did they need to be simplified in your view?

ADAM SCOTT: I think where it got, it all just seemed to get away from the simple game that it once started out to be. Lots of things have changed over time and I just don't think we moved the rules and other things quickly enough as the game changed and decisions became a big part of this and having to ask about intent and all these kind of things. It's just, you know, it's difficult. There's competition golf and then there's social golf and I think some common sense should be applied to both.

Q. Just a quick follow along those lines, are you an advocate, I think you've said this in the past, but two sets of rules, bifurcation or no?

ADAM SCOTT: I'm not necessarily for that, but things like this could definitely lead towards that in my opinion.

Q. Adam, you mentioned the penalty for missing a drive is quite severe. Will you hit very many drivers? Dustin was saying he really doesn't plan on hitting driver very

much out there.

ADAM SCOTT: No, because he can hit it too far. He's hitting it over the greens with driver. I think there might be a couple of holes where if you're feeling good, you might want to hit driver and push it up near the green and pitch from 40 yards, which sometimes for us is too close. It becomes a hard pitch. But here, the way the greens respond, that might be a good thing to not have spin on the ball.

So there are a couple of times where you might think about hitting a driver where other guys hit irons. I probably hit five or six today, I think. It's not unusual to any other golf course we play. There's not that many courses where we just bomb away these days that are more traditional-style courses.

Q. I know it's a little weird being in a different spot defending the same title, but is there something to having these events outside the United States? Is it important to move the WGCs around to other countries?

ADAM SCOTT: I think it was how they started, that was the intent of it. I think back, this event was in Ireland and Spain in the early days. Look, for doing good things for the game internationally around the world, absolutely it's important. We've had one in Australia, it was a big deal. I think it's going to have a great impact here this week to bring the best players once a year or every now and again to other places is really important for the game. I think it's a nice thing that we're on the move again and it will be here for the next seven years at least and then it might move again.

Q. Adam, you're in the third week of your first three-week block for the year. How are you feeling in the third tournament and can you assess kind of where your game's at and where you're at?

ADAM SCOTT: I feel good except I've had a cold and it's slowing me down a little bit. I haven't played exactly how I would have liked, but gives me something to work on and I'm just trying to stay patient with my mind to put in for a good week this week and then build up towards the Masters, obviously only one event after this before the Masters to me, and then finally the last couple of days my swing has felt a little more natural and free and that's a nice feeling for me. So I would like to take advantage of that this week and really get in the mix and I'll feel really comfortable with the way I've started the year.

Q. Can you just speak to the uniqueness of being the defending champion without having I guess the good memories to go back on? Are you getting anything out of being the defending champion this week?

ADAM SCOTT: The memories of playing well a year ago this week, I guess, but it's not the only event that this would have happened to. If the Australian Open moves around, The Open Championship will move and Henrik will go back to Birkdale and it won't be Troon. It happens at some events. Yeah, it's nice to go back to the course that you played really well

on, but it's just another week and we're all learning the course, kind of starting on an even playing field. If we were all at Doral, we would all know the course and we're starting on an even playing field.

Q. Adam, your first time watching a big-time golfer, was it in person or was it on television? You had a TV in Australia, right?

ADAM SCOTT: Just black and white, I think it was. No, it was on television, for sure.

Q. What was the difference from watching whoever it was on television, Greg or whatever, and the first time you saw him in person, what kind of impact did that have on you or can you make a difference that way?

ADAM SCOTT: He was a lot smaller in person than I thought. No, the first time I saw guys playing, big guys playing in person was like 199 -- it was the Palmettos Cup and it was quite a big event. Attracted really good fields in Australia. It was on the Gold Coast and I remember going down for the day to watch and seeing all the players, Curtis Strange, Nick Faldo, Bernhard Langer, Greg Norman, Baker-Finch, Grady, all the Aussie guys and it was a real buzz for me to actually see them. You know, although I was 10 and I was playing other sports as well, I would watch these guys on telly a fair bit and to see them in person made a big difference to me.

Q. Was there anything specific that occurred last year during the majors that made you decide that you wanted to change it up and try to play the week before each time this year, or did you just feel a different strategy was important to try?

ADAM SCOTT: Yeah, just the results were average. But that and also I wasn't really close to peaking for them, whereas I had spent the years prior, even an average result, I still felt like I was peaking for this tournament and things just didn't go my way. But I felt my game wasn't sharp enough most of the weeks last year to really contend and win and that showed in the results, and even though some of them were respectable results, I just didn't really feel like I had prepared and got my game to peak for that week, so I felt that a change would be good for me.

MARK WILLIAMS: Adam, we thank you for coming in and good luck in defending your title.

ADAM SCOTT: Thank you.