

**Round 1 Interview: JON RAHM (-4)
March 2, 2017**



Q. How do you feel about today's round?

JON RAHM: It was almost an excellent round. I would say that I only had two mistakes, a three-putt on No. 1 and then a short putt I missed on 11, but aside from that it was a very comfortable day. I played really well, my short game was really good, so there's nothing for me to complain about.

Q. Is it tough to trust when you are putting with the breaks on these greens?

JON RAHM: Well, that's why we have the yardage books. These are tough greens, small greens with many short and quick breaks. We knew before the start that we were going to miss some short putts because of that, but it's the same for all of us, it's tough.

Q. Tell me if playing here this week feels like playing back home in Spain with all the fan support. How did you like the crowds today? How warm have they been?

JON RAHM: The way the fans have welcomed us has been amazing. Those who realize or know that I'm from Spain, because my name is not that Spaniard, they cheered for me. I even heard a few fans from my homeland, from the Basque Country cheering too. I haven't had the chance to play in Spain as a professional yet, but I'm sure it would be this warm as well.

Q. Sergio (García) said he felt a little tired because of the altitude. How about you?

JON RAHM: A little (tired) as well. When you are out there you have to try to keep one same pace when you are walking out there, not trying to rush your walk. Whenever we are walking uphill I try not to speak much just to keep my energy. What we have done really well is hydration. I have drunk a lot of water to stay hydrated. At times during practice earlier this week I forgot about drinking water and I felt dizzy and tired when I did that, so staying hydrated is key out here.

Q. Will you make any changes on your game plan heading into tomorrow?

JON RAHM: If I can play as well as I did today, I would play exactly the way I did today.

Q. Was the adjustment on the distances approximately 15 percent?

JON RAHM: Fortunately, I have the luck of having a very experienced caddie and he did a great job. We heard somebody on the course who had the TrackMan saying that it was 14.5%, but it all depends on the time you are playing, on the wind, the altitude and the way you strike the ball. If you hit it high it would go further and if you hit it low it won't go that far. You just have to trust the number your caddie gives you.

Q. How special does it feel to be playing a World Golf Championship event this week?

JON RAHM: Yeah, it's my first time playing an event of this caliber, a World Golf Championship, and to have a start like this couldn't be better.