

Pre-Tournament Interview: CHRIS NIDO
March 22, 2017

Q. So Chris, welcome to the Puerto Rico Open. Your father was born here. Have you spent much time in Puerto Rico yourself?

CHRIS NIDO: Yeah, I come a lot, quite a bit to Puerto Rico, I. Have family who lives here, uncle and grandparents and cousins.

Q. And what do you like most about visiting Puerto Rico?

CHRIS NIDO: The island's great. It's always -- I play a lot of golf out here so I'm pretty used to the golf out here, but normally come for vacation when I was little and just come visit family, so I love it.

Q. Having spent so much time in Puerto Rico, what does it mean to you to make your PGA Tour debut here at the Puerto Rico Open?

CHRIS NIDO: It means a lot. A lot of my family's going to be here. Grandparents haven't watched me much play golf so they'll get out here a couple days and watch me, so it means a lot.

Q. What are your goals and expectations for this week?

CHRIS NIDO: I think take it shot by shot, but I think to make the cut would be a good week and after that go on from there, see where I can get.

Q. Have you played Coco Beach?

CHRIS NIDO: Yeah, I played the qualifier to get into here, and I played it quite a bit, played the Puerto Rican Am a couple times out here.

Q. So what do you like about this golf course and how do you think your game fits with it?

CHRIS NIDO: I think I play pretty well in the wind and it'll always blow hard out here, so got to hit the ball low and keep control of your ball.

Q. What have you done to prepare for this week?

CHRIS NIDO: I think me and my coach, Jeff Leishman, have talked a lot about overpreparing and that's one thing you don't want to do for big events, so kind of just keep it simple like another junior golf tournament and shot by shot.

Q. You've committed to play at Florida. What are you planning to do this summer to

prepare for your freshman season down in Gainesville?

CHRIS NIDO: Play a lot of amateur events instead of junior events, like last year I played a lot of junior -- a couple amateur events, but this year I'll be playing mostly amateur events.

Q. And you're 17 years old, you're a very accomplished player. What has helped you get to this point in your career?

CHRIS NIDO: Worked really hard to get here. Practiced a lot. Coach has helped me a lot. Hung around a bunch of good players, it always helps.

Q. And now a question for my friends at the AJGA. How has playing in the AJGA tournaments, how has that helped you prepare for not only this week but to play college golf at Florida?

CHRIS NIDO: It's big, you're playing against the best junior golfers in the world and you're going to play with them in college and pros and everything. You're going to play with them the whole way through so you have to compete with them.

Q. And on the AJGA they play a lot of Tour courses like you mentioned Innisbrook. What does that do to prepare you?

CHRIS NIDO: It just makes your shot shape and gets you ready for what you're going to have to play in college and the PGA Tour and throughout your life.