



Q. Jimmy, how important is it for you to just have a good week and see the game trending in the right direction?

JIMMY WALKER: It's real important. I mean, it hadn't been a lot of fun this year. I mean, I had a few okay finishes, a lot of 30th, high 20s, just stuff that's not moving me around. But it's nice to see some putts go in and make some solid swings and keep rounds going, make some par putts, just the stuff I haven't been doing.

Q. Did you see this coming?

JIMMY WALKER: Did I see this coming? I mean, we're only halfway. There's still a lot of golf on a hard golf course, but yeah, I mean, I know it's there. It's just a matter of it happening. I've been back to work, I've been hitting balls, I've been working, which is something I hadn't been able to do.

Q. How have you balanced your expectation with physical ailments?

JIMMY WALKER: I mean, expectations are tough. I mean, even in the past when I was playing good, I try not to put too many of those out there because sometimes I think it's good, sometimes I think it's bad, the expectations. So I just try to go out and hit the golf shot I need to hit and at the end of the day, if you're adding them up to 65s and in the 60s, you know you're doing a good job. I just keep plugging.

Q. You had a bit of a spark last year in Canada. Any chance you're planning something like that this week?

JIMMY WALKER: I mean, that would be awesome. It was definitely a feel-good weekend for me there seeing some putts go in, hitting some shots, driving it well. Just kind of -- that's what I've done the last two days here. So yeah, that would be great. Whatever happens next week is next week but I'm still just looking forward to going out and doing it again tomorrow. I know it's going to be a challenge and it's been a while, it's been a while, so there's some emotions going on out there, and the hard work, and still dealing with what I'm dealing with.

Q. Do you feel as if you haven't been able to really enjoy your reign as PGA champion as much as you would like because of your Lyme disease?

JIMMY WALKER: I've enjoyed it. I mean, I really have, that's something I'll always be able to take with me, major champion, it's very cool. I've never looked at it like, oh, poor me. This is just life and bad things happen sometimes, you've got to deal with it and that's all we're doing. I'm just glad that I'm feeling better but there's still a lot of stuff that is lingering

and hanging in there. Just I hit weird shots on the golf course sometimes and just lose focus and concentration. I've really tried to step that up this week, really narrowing up the focus because it can slip away pretty fast. I know I've been trying to leave tickets for somebody all week, and I just can't seem to remember to do it every dang day. That's the kind of stuff that happens.

Q. Is that the hardest part, the focus of what's left, you said lingering?

JIMMY WALKER: There's some physical stuff, but yeah, I've kind of -- I didn't really want to give into that. I was like maybe it actually is happening. It's readily available to read out there. I think that's what's kind of been going on. Now that you kind of know it's a problem, you can work on it.

Q. So there's two people that haven't been able to get in all week?

JIMMY WALKER: They need them for tomorrow and I need to go do it. Someone will have to hand-hold walk me in and make me do it.

Q. What have you enjoyed about being the PGA champion specifically? What's enjoyable about it?

JIMMY WALKER: What's -- I mean, what's enjoyable? It's nice, it's fun to sign your flag. It's nice to walk around on the range and go like, yeah, I've done it, that kind of thing. I mean, honestly, it's pretty cool. You walk by a bunch of people, it's something to hang your hat on. Like I've done it, I've done it like that guy, I've done it like that guy has. We're all pretty competitive out here, there's no joke about that.

But it's just a cool, it's a cool thing. You work your whole life and it's just a goal you've set and you reach and you want to go do it again.

Q. If it's not a PGA flag in front of you, do you enjoy signing it as much?

JIMMY WALKER: They're special. If somebody's throwing one out there I always try to sign it. It's been good, I've enjoyed it. It's nice being home and seeing that trophy sitting there.

Q. Are you in charge of or do you have any say in what's been served next week?

JIMMY WALKER: I do, it's my menu, yeah. We're doing a really good meat and cheese and olive plate, and then lump crab and shrimp cocktail, and then a steak, a really nice steak. Real steakhouse theme. French fries. Really good spicy mac-and-cheese, Caesar salad and I think there's another salad if you don't want that. I don't know. It was my menu but they added a lot of stuff.

Q. Since the change, have you been to Charlotte by any chance?

JIMMY WALKER: I have. I did media day there. I haven't played the whole golf course but I saw the new holes.

Q. Initial reactions?

JIMMY WALKER: When I was there, it was ugly and wet and rainy. We'll get a better look at it next week.

Q. It's going to be ugly again.

JIMMY WALKER: That's fine.

Q. You said you're feeling better. Has there been after recent uptick or has it just been a slog?

JIMMY WALKER: It's day-to-day. I mean, I don't know. Like I felt pretty good all week physically and I wake up this morning and I've just got this overall flu feeling in my body, so I take some Advil, it goes away. And then during the last break, it came back, so I took some more. Now it's gone, and so it's just crap like that. You just never know when it's going to spike up.

Q. Leading the way halfway through, how would you describe this marathon day ultimately though a good round at the end of it?

JIMMY WALKER: It did feel like a marathon. I'm still kind of waking up early the last two weeks playing overseas, but a great day. Played solid, made some putts. A few breaks and just solid, solid day of golf.

Q. A week away from going to defend your PGA Championship. How important is it to have a good week heading in there with some confidence?

JIMMY WALKER: It's always important to have a good week. I haven't had too many this year, it's kind of rough. But things have been trending, I kind of feel like, and hopefully this is shades of things to come. It's felt solid the last couple days. Even last week, I hit it well, just didn't put anything together, but it's starting to kind of come together, making some putts and it's nice to see.

Q. How's the body holding up after the Lyme disease diagnosis in April, and obviously it's something that does not go away overnight?

JIMMY WALKER: No, it's still there, I still have to deal with it and it's better than it was, but it's still there. It affects different parts of your just daily life. I just keep plugging away. I'll see a few more guys here coming up and just go from there.