

JUSTIN THOMAS (-3)

Q. How would you sum up the first round here?

JUSTIN THOMAS: It was a good day. It was a pretty easy day. I felt like all the birdies I made, I mean I hit it close. It's not like I made any long putts or anything. I drove it beautifully. That's probably the best round I've had driving the ball in a while. Been working hard at it so it's nice to see the work's paid off. But feel like if I can keep driving it that well, I feel really confident.

So the bogeys I made, I made a bad swing on 9, but I mean I really didn't feel like I hit a very bad swing on 11 there. And then 17, I mean that putt could have gone in just as easily as it didn't. So definitely left a couple out there but it was a great start.

Q. (Question about playing with Jordan.)

JUSTIN THOMAS: I don't know, I guess. I mean, we've played together so much these Playoffs, it's pretty normal I guess you can say now. But we're both doing our own thing out there, we're not out there to entertain each other or do anything. So it's just a nice bonus sometimes between shots but that's about it.

Q. You're not finishing each other's sentences?

JUSTIN THOMAS: No, we're not.

Q. Would you be happy if you played all four rounds together? You were both playing pretty well, I guess 69?

JUSTIN THOMAS: As long as it's late, I don't care who I'm playing with.

Q. What did you do to fix the driving?

JUSTIN THOMAS: Just worked on it, just practiced.

Q. Fix it?

JUSTIN THOMAS: I was getting a little bit long. This is a course where I don't really need to -- the fairways, it's not like they roll very much but I kind of hit that one where I tee really low. And the holes out here are so straight, the fairways are really hard to hit sometimes and I probably only had two tee shots where I really tee it normal. Everything I'm just hitting it head high and really straight as opposed to a lot of weeks I can carry bunkers, I need to

work it one way or the other so I'm teeing it normal height. So teeing it down I hit it a little bit straighter and stuff like that, but just getting it a little bit shorter and just trying to be more confident with it.

Q. Since the par 5s are a premium here, today you managed to make birdie on 18, what about tomorrow? And on 17, was that a comfort level issue with that short putt?

JUSTIN THOMAS: Not at all. I guess in terms of it was kind of a tough read and I had a huge spike mark in my way so I kind of had to get it around it a little bit, but ended up not being in my way.

But like I said, it could have gone in just as easily as it didn't. I mean, that was a pretty nasty lip-out for as firm as I hit it. I tried to hit it with pace so it didn't break, which I usually don't like doing, I like hitting putts a little bit softer, but we had a little harder time reading it so I just tried to give it a little bit more pace and it lipped out.

But yeah, for the par 5s, parring 5 I guess or 6, that was pretty bad. I had a 6-iron in my hands, I was between clubs a little bit, but if I just missed that right or if I'm right of the hole it would end up being perfect. Yeah, that was definitely a bummer parring that hole.

Q. For the Presidents Cup next week, what do you have planned for the (inaudible)?

JUSTIN THOMAS: Well, I only have a couple days off and then I go to Malaysia so I don't have a lot planned after that. I go Malaysia, Korea, then I'm off until Tiger. So I'll take some trips with it. I'm excited to be to Tuscaloosa, take it to Bama with the guys, and then I'll take it home to Louisville, take it around some people there, but I'm just more excited to not play golf than anything.

Q. (No microphone.)

JUSTIN THOMAS: I haven't been home since the hurricane, yeah.

Q. (No microphone.)

JUSTIN THOMAS: I hope.

Q. Jordan said it felt kind of weird, strange teeing off last on the first day of a tournament. How does it feel to you? Does it feel like a tournament within a tournament? What do you think?

JUSTIN THOMAS: It is different. Playing in twosomes on the first day is weird, that never really happens other than match play. And then definitely playing that late is different. I don't know, the morning went by pretty quickly this morning. I slept well last night, slept until 8:00 which is pretty good for me. Then once I woke up and just was laying around, everything just kind of fit into schedule so it wasn't too bad but it definitely is different playing

in a twosome at 2:00 on Thursday.

Q. Justin, you said (inaudible) with the driver, how do you feel (No microphone.)

JUSTIN THOMAS: I didn't make very many putts today but I felt like I hit a lot of good putts. I hit a lot of big breaking putts where if your speed wasn't perfect, it just wasn't going to go in.

That's the thing about these greens, it's such a premium in getting it in the right spots or just making sure that you're on the correct side of the hole. So I felt like I did a decent job of that for the most part. Hit some wedges in there close but I definitely could have made a couple more putts than I missed. But at the same time I made a lot of really good five- and six-foot putts like that one on 18 that can easily be missed.