PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW November 8, 2017



PATRICK REED

MARK WILLIAMS: We would like to welcome Patrick Reed to the interview room at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba. Patrick, this is your first start in the event. You've just played the pro-am in the morning. Give us your first impressions of the golf course and the resort itself.

PATRICK REED: Really very impressed. I've heard a lot of great things from other players who have played it. It's kind of not fit the schedule very well since I've always played post season overseas, so finally have it on the schedule. Coming out I was hoping it was going to be as great as everyone said and it far exceeded those expectations. The place we stay, it's unbelievable. The people have been absolutely amazing. The golf course is in absolutely perfect shape. It seemed like every putt you hit, the ball rolls perfectly, goes the line it's supposed to go on. The fairways and rough just seems very uniform. I'm really looking forward to the week.

MARK WILLIAMS: You just mentioned the word of mouth of other players in this event. Was there any other particular reason that you added this to your schedule this season?

PATRICK REED: Well, it was going to be our last kind of vacation with Justine out on the road before shutting it down to expect our little boy, but the doctor and Justine felt like the baby might be coming along a little quicker, so she was told to stay home. So I've been sending her a lot of pictures of it, just of the area. It's definitely a place I could see us coming back and having kind of a family vacation later on.

MARK WILLIAMS: Just before we jump into questions, you've come off a successful Presidents Cup in a season where I think you've had four top-10s. How would you rate your season? Once again you were in the top-30 of the FedExCup four years in a row now. How would you rate the season compared to others?

PATRICK REED: It was a frustrating year compared to previous years. I just felt like I did a lot of things better this past year than I have in previous years, it's just everything didn't seem to click at the same time. Finishes weren't quite as well as I would have hoped. To not get a win last year was disappointing, but yeah, I still have a couple events left this year to keep a winning streak in the calendar year, which is important to me. I feel like I'm playing well enough. I feel like I'm hitting the ball well enough to go out and compete and have a chance to win every week, so hopefully we can close off with a win in these last three.

MARK WILLIAMS: We'll take some questions.

Q. You were talking about last season, you had some ups, some downs. (Inaudible.)

What was that and what wasn't working that past season? And now that there was (inaudible) working on in your game?

PATRICK REED: Really just everything. Honestly, I felt like I was swinging better last year and felt like I was putting better and hitting the ball better than I was previous years. It's just sometimes you have some of those events and some of those, you know, some of those times and periods of time you're going to go through where you feel like you're doing everything pretty well, it's just the results just aren't quite adding up.

There was a lot of rounds that I had out there that I felt like, man, I hit the ball really well but just barely missed a green here or there. Or, you know, had one hole that really just sabotaged your round. It's hard to kind of sit back and kind of pinpoint since I usually do that once the season's completely done. Technically, last season's over with, but the year's definitely not done. I have next week in Dubai and then Tiger's event in Albany. Usually right after that event is when I evaluate everything.

But really going back and looking and just kind of thinking off the top of my head, it's really just like a swing here or there or a putt here or there that turned each week into an okay week rather than a great week. Just sitting back and looking at the majors, PGA Championship I had one day where I hit four greens and still finished second in the event. You can just sit back and pick so many times throughout that tournament that cost me my first win in a major. But you can sit back and look at that every event and those are just things you have to grow from and try to improve. That's the main thing.

Q. Patrick, talking about the majors, when you have a season like this season that we just had where Jordan wins a major and Justin wins a major, do you get a (inaudible) out of that, your Presidents Cup teammates, your Ryder Cup teammates or does that just fire you up even more to get out there and get your own?

PATRICK REED: I try to treat every event like it's the same. I feel like no matter who wins the majors or who doesn't win the majors, to me it's no different. I go in there and I try to play the best golf I can, and if I don't win, then honestly to me it doesn't matter. I go and try to win the golf tournament. If I do it, great. If not, then I need to go back and figure out what I did wrong to keep me out of the winner's circle.

It's awesome to see guys like Jordan and Justin win majors because growing up playing golf with those guys, the younger guys coming out and playing well. It's just kind of one of those things that I don't really focus too much on who's winning the golf tournaments as long as I'm out there trying to do the best I can and trying to play the best golf I possibly can.

Q. (Question about the field.)

PATRICK REED: I mean, really I feel like if I go out and play the best I can and I'm hitting the ball well, putting well in every aspect of the game shows up, there should be no reason why I shouldn't win or can't win the golf tournament.

Having guys like Rickie here or having Pat Perez, who's been playing some really good golf recently, really it comes down to whoever's playing the best that week's going to win the golf tournament. You have -- nowadays the PGA TOUR is so deep from top to bottom that you could like list from the top guy in the field all the way down to the 50th guy in the field, any one of those guys, if they're playing their best golf that week, they have a chance of winning the golf tournament.

Really, I try not to get too far ahead in thinking, okay, I'm the favorite, I'm supposed to win this or I should be in contention come Sunday. That's thinking way too far ahead for me. Me personally, I like to go in, okay, here's what I'm doing today, here's my goal, let's go out, let's try to play some good golf. If I do that and I succeed on my mini goals each week and each day, at the end come Sunday I'll have a chance to win the golf tournament.

Q. (Question about the venue.)

PATRICK REED: All of it's great. I was really impressed with the golf course. The golf course is in just perfect shape. That's something you always worry about not only going to a different country but just going different times of the year. You just never know what kind of greens you're going to have, what kind of -- you know, if the rough's going to be uniform, how the fairways are going to be. I showed up this week and it's just been absolutely perfect. Every green has been really smooth.

Being the last group off in the morning on the pro-am, what I was really impressed with when I got to the back nine, we already had a wave go through, a morning wave of the pro-am, is the lack of spike marks. Normally when you get really grainy greens -- I have them in Houston, they're really grainy -- if a bunch of people walk on them, they're really chopped up, there's a lot of spike marks out there. But today on the last couple holes, there was really nothing. The ball was rolling just as smooth as it was when you're on the putting green first off in the morning. So I love just to see that consistency and just the conditions of the course are perfect, and then to throw the weather we've had on top of it just makes it even better.

MARK WILLIAMS: All right. We would like to thank you for your time, Patrick, and wish you all the best in your first appearance here at the OHL Classic at Mayakoba.