PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW November 29, 2017

JORDAN SPIETH



Q. Are you more interested in how Tiger plays this year or were you more last year, do you think?

JORDAN SPIETH: Probably equal. He seems more confident this year the way he's walking and talking. He seemed more excited at the Presidents Cup before he was even swinging, more anxious and it seemed to really bother him that he was following doctor's orders, like he really wanted to get going. So once he was given the go, I think, you know, it was exciting for him. So we're all very interested, as we should be, in how it goes for him this week, and obviously hoping that's the start.

This week's a pretty easy week for everybody. I think it's an easy week for Tiger as it is for anybody else versus other weeks; not as many people, the golf course doesn't beat you up, as challenging. But you can start to see it's actually, I think, pretty important, these kind of end-of-the-year tournaments to kind of set a precedent for next year.

Q. Jordan, can you talk in terms of you and Justin and Rickie and the younger generation here that all knows Tiger and has become friends with Tiger now but hadn't had a chance to compete against him when he was, you know, in prime level. How much are you looking forward to the chance to do that? I get this vibe that you guys all kind of want a piece of him --

JORDAN SPIETH: Yeah.

Q. -- and have some fun with that?

JORDAN SPIETH: Yeah, I think Justin said it really well. Growing up watching him kind of dominate and then idolizing and now having gone through similar situations, it makes him underrated, I think, trying to get through how difficult some of the -- just the mental toughness he had is still underrated even though it's rated pretty high. It's rated best ever.

Q. Something you dreamt about competing against him growing up, right?

JORDAN SPIETH: Yeah, and I certainly hope he becomes healthy enough to get rounds in, to get tournaments in to where he can kind of get back into where he's competing week in and week out. And if that's the case, then as long as we stay healthy, imagine paths will cross at some point.

Q. The health questions, when did you start feeling bad and can you talk about your travels?

JORDAN SPIETH: I mean, I feel fine, it's just my throat.

Q. You sound great, yeah.

JORDAN SPIETH: I feel a lot better than I sound. That's okay, too, as long as I feel good, I don't care how I sound or look. I was sick a few weeks ago and then I think I didn't quite get over it. On the plane ride back from Australia, got on the flight and felt weird. Felt fine the next day and I think it kind of caught up with me a little the fact that I just haven't slept, so just trying to catch up.