

BILLY HORSCHEL (-6)

Q. What was working, what wasn't today?

BILLY HORSCHEL: Everything worked. I drove the ball in the fairway, I hit good iron shots, I missed one green, I chipped it to a tap-in, and I putted well. So it was nothing that wasn't working, so it was nice to see. My game's been in a really good spot I feel like for the last -- well, especially last week it was. Unfortunately, I missed the cut, just sort of a little mind, mental thing I had to get over. But I feel like it's been rounding into shape for a little while and it was just nice to finally come out and put 18 holes together. I put 10 holes, 14, 12. I haven't put 18 holes together and it was nice to finally do that today.

Q. When you're eventually trying to free yourself and you're in such a good strength of mind, feel of mind, how much does it help when you see everything's going well, this is one less thing I have to think about when I'm on the course?

BILLY HORSCHEL: Yeah, when it's going well it's easy, but for me I've had it going well. Like last week I made the turn at 4 under par and I wound up shooting 2 over par on the front side to miss the cut. When it goes well, it's fine. It's sort of a mind thing to continue to be aggressive, continue to put the pedal down and to have the right thinking out there. I sort of let my mind wander a little bit too much and worry too much and start trying to play too conservative instead of, you know, the old Billy, the Billy that won the FedExCup would go forward and drive harder to get to 6, 7, 8 under par.

Q. So are you saying you're maybe mentally stronger further now than Billy that won the FedExCup?

BILLY HORSCHEL: No, I think I'm trying to get back there. It's still not there, but it's sort of a process of I haven't shot a lot of low scores, so I would get under par early and then I would sort of back off a little bit, which is unlike me. I've never been that way, I've always been an aggressive guy.

So I've been dealing with that for the last little bit. It sort of comes down to last year I hadn't really struck the ball as well, so it's a little bit of a belief in my ability that I can -- my swing's better, I'm not going to hit the shots that I've seen the last year. It's a big combination that goes into it, but really what it comes down to is just believing in my ability that I'm going to continue to hit the shots I want.

Q. How much does it help also that this is a gettable course right now the way this tournament is? You're so pro Tiger, such a big fan of Tiger, now being a compatriot of Tiger, the military background and all?

BILLY HORSCHEL: Yeah, I love this event. This event gave me a spot or Tiger gave me a spot in 2009 when I got out of college. It was over at Congressional. I owe a lot to him to get me out here and testing my ability against the players right out of college. So I'll always support this event.

This course this year is a lot different than last year. It was really firm and fast last year. Winning score was 7 under par and the lead's 7 under par now. So I expect that if we don't get any rain the next few days, the course is going to firm up, greens get firm, get a little bit quicker, but it's not going to be like last year. So you're going to have to go out with the mindset that it's a little bit different course, you can't be as conservative, you've got to still try and make birdies and, like I said, the green speeds aren't really quick, they're really a great pace to hole putts, they roll in, you don't have to worry about three-, four-, five-footers coming back.

Q. I saw you talking during the putting practice yesterday with Tiger. Did you say anything?

BILLY HORSCHEL: Tiger and I were just chatting. He's a good friend of mine and I sort of picked his brain on a couple things and we were just talking about stuff. Golf, life, everything. Sort of asked him what he was doing with his putting and he said something about his posture has gotten off a little bit, hands got a little bit too low. I just said that's all I see from what I've seen, I watched a lot of him since he's been on the Tour. I would say your hands are a little bit low and that was about it. We were just talking about putting styles and technique and what I feel left-hand low and what he feels. Just sort of shooting ideas back and forth, but nothing where I was giving him advice. I mean, he's a 14-time major champion, he doesn't need me giving him any advice.

Q. What did he say about your putting?

BILLY HORSCHEL: Oh, we were talking about mine, how short it was and he's like, I can't get into your setup because of how short the putter is. Obviously his back doesn't allow it. It's just, like I said, everyone has their own style and he was just asking me do I hit down on it, what do I feel. So we were just trying to -- not that he's going to take anything that I do and implement in his game, he was just trying to understand how I putt, how I feel.