PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW November 6, 2018



CARLOS ORTIZ

Q. This is a tournament that from the beginning really was kind of a pioneer for the Tour, the Latin American Tour followed, the World Golf Championship followed. Just your thoughts on the growth and being a part of it like you've been coming out and winning on the Web.com Tour, but being part of the growth of golf.

CARLOS ORTIZ: Yeah, it is special and I feel really grateful to the people that put this together. They were the first ones to believe in golf in Mexico. They put this tournament I think 10, 11 years they had it here and I think it talks of how much golf has grown since it happened. Back then there was no members on the PGA TOUR, now we have four members, and the amount of people that are playing high competitive golf from Mexico, it's grown exponentially in the last few years. I feel really grateful to be part of those guys and hope we can see the number of Mexicans increasing in the next few years.

Q. When you're at home, do you see a lot more junior kids playing golf?

CARLOS ORTIZ: It's definitely -- I mean, I live in Dallas now, but definitely I think you see more juniors acting like professionals. You know, they put their head down and they read the greens. You didn't see that before and I think that's because of golf. They're starting to watch golf, watching it on TV. I think it's definitely growing, so that's a thing the people putting this tournament on should be proud of.

Q. Sometimes the Olympics kind of helps with that?

CARLOS ORTIZ: Of course. Making it an Olympic sport, it's been huge for golf in general and I think we're going to see it grow here in Mexico. I don't think we have even reached the potential that this sport can have in this country.

Q. When you come back here, do you have a comfort level when you play?

CARLOS ORTIZ: Yeah. Obviously I love the place, I like it here. When people are cheering for you, it's easier to play. People want you to do well, so that's always good to have good vibes.