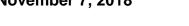
PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW November 7, 2018



JORDAN SPIETH



Q. Jordan, welcome to Mayakoba. Your thoughts on the course?

JORDAN SPIETH: Yeah, it's beautiful. This paspalum grass is really nice to play on, greens are pure. You have to hit it very straight, that's kind of where the mistakes can be made out here is it's very difficult off the tee. Once you put yourself in the right position, you can make some birdies.

Q. (No microphone.)

JORDAN SPIETH: Yeah, with a couple events now and hopefully more going forward. I very much enjoy coming here. The people are fantastic obviously here, and so having a relaxing week with also a championship golf course and tournament is a unique experience for us.

Q. What would be the key for a good week.

JORDAN SPIETH: Again, driving the ball. Yeah, I think if I hit the ball well off the tee, the rest of my game feels really good, the tee ball feels good, too. I'm just trying to sharpen the axe a little bit. Everything feels good, it's just about tightening it up and getting out there and shooting some low scores.

Q. Jordan, first impressions on this course?

JORDAN SPIETH: Yeah, it's maybe a little different than what I thought. It's beautiful, but it's very narrow. It's difficult off the tee. You've got to keep it in between the beacons, you can't let any wayward shots happen.

Q. How do you prepare for the next season? You made some changes in your schedule?

JORDAN SPIETH: Yeah, it depends. Our schedule changes. I'm not sure if I'm going to play any different events or adjust it very much, but I'll know more after this week what the beginning of the year looks like.

Q. What are your goals for this season?

JORDAN SPIETH: Every year I want to obviously try and win a major championship or at least contend in a couple of them and have a chance on Sunday, and then the rest of the goals will -- I'll figure them out within the next month as we look back on the stats for the

whole year and figure out where we want to improve.

Q. Are you back to your old driver and 3-wood this week?

JORDAN SPIETH: I am, yeah, for this week. I've got to figure out the perfect combination going forward with the new stuff. I've got time after this.

Q. You're back to the stuff you played all last season --

JORDAN SPIETH: The last five years.

Q. -- or just driver, 3-wood?

JORDAN SPIETH: Just driver, 3-wood is what I switched, yeah.

Q. Jordan, what exactly made you come to Mexico?

JORDAN SPIETH: Well, I like to play a couple times in the fall and I typically go to Australia and Tiger's event. I'm not doing them this year, so I asked a lot of the guys what were kind of the best events to play in and this one was raved about. Last week was talked about very highly as well, so it was an easy decision for me. Now that I'm here, I'm wondering why I haven't played it every year, it's just so beautiful here.

Q. It's a really strong field with Rickie Fowler, of course. Is Abraham Ancer also a threat for you this week?

JORDAN SPIETH: I think he's one of the guys to beat, for sure. He's been in really good form recently, but then this golf course also fits his game very well. And then obviously having the Mexican crowd behind him I think will be a lot of fun for him and the other Mexican players playing this week. It's got to be a really neat experience for him. Carlos has been playing well, we've got a couple guys that are sure to contend.

Q. Jordan, last week you said you were pretty pleased with the things you saw in your short game, especially in the first two rounds, but is that sort of where you're at going forward into this week, the short game is showing some good signs but the rest of it, not sure?

JORDAN SPIETH: No, not at all. I think it's way more positive than that. Last week I just, I was looking at something different and the performance wasn't -- just wasn't coming out the same. So it's been totally different the last couple days for me here. I've been striking the ball extremely well, hitting a lot of the fairways, and the short game's been just trying to improve a little bit more. I think the ball-striking I feel is good, as good as I've been in quite a while and it's the short game I need to dial in a little bit.

Q. You had some wonky luck last week, too.

JORDAN SPIETH: Yeah. I mean, a guy screaming right at impact, makes the ball go out of bounds. One of those weeks where your ball just seems to kind of find the divots and the lips of the holes. I was doing everything right and I stayed patient with myself, and will continue to this week and hopefully have some bounces go the way that I've seen them go in the past and the way that they need to go in order to contend and win.

Q. Is this your last tournament as a single guy?

JORDAN SPIETH: Yeah, that's right.

Q. Better make it count.

JORDAN SPIETH: Yeah, not much will change, but yeah, I'm just excited to be here. It really is pretty awesome here, as you know. I get the afternoon on the beach.

Q. And what a beach.

JORDAN SPIETH: Exactly.