



MARC LEISHMAN (-14)

Q. Marc, look, you had it going the front nine beautifully, bit of a tough finish. How was it down the stretch?

MARC LEISHMAN: Yeah, a couple of shots obviously didn't come out how I wanted them to, and that horseshoe on, was that 14, didn't help. Lost a bit momentum really. I think Cam made birdies when he had to. All credit to him. Obviously disappointed that I didn't get over the line, but glad that I gave it a run there. Made it pretty interesting there. Yeah, disappointed, but what can you do.

Q. Equally as happy for Cam? I know he's obviously a very good friend of yours. Obviously you would have loved to have won it, but you've got to be pretty proud of what Cam's achieved?

MARC LEISHMAN: Yeah, definitely disappointed at the moment, but you're always happy for Cam. We had a good fight out there. At the end of the day, you're right, I did want to win. Gave it my best and just didn't make it. He played good and credit to him.

Q. True gentleman of Australian sport, you've done yourself proud.

MARC LEISHMAN: Thanks.

Q. We're here with the man who finished runner-up, Marc Leishman. When you had that par save there on 11, you must have been thinking jeez, I have a chance here, but what happened after?

MARC LEISHMAN: Yeah, just a couple of bad shots. That horseshoe on 14 was a bit of a -- pretty disappointing. Cam did what he needed to do, he made the birdies coming in and I didn't. Credit to him, he played very well. He was always going to be tough to beat today, but I did have it going there early.

Q. I was going to say, starting three shots behind, were you surprised that you're walking on to 5 and you already had the lead?

MARC LEISHMAN: Yeah. I mean, I didn't think it would happen that quickly, but I was hoping it would happen at some point throughout the day. I did get off to a pretty good start, I think I birdied -- I was 3 under through 6, I think. It was a nice way to start. Yeah, lost a bit of momentum there on the back nine. It happens. Obviously pretty disappointed, but Cam played well.

Q. It was hard conditions out there, Marc. I know you're used to that, but what about the wind gusts? It was inconsistent throughout the day, wasn't it?

MARC LEISHMAN: Yeah, it was a bit inconsistent, but same for everyone. I certainly can't blame that. Same conditions for everybody and just got outplayed. Yeah, it was tricky conditions out there.

Q. You are good friends with Cameron Smith. Are you proud to see him go back to back, an international star? I'm sure the Americans will take notice of two individual wins here on the Australian Tour.

MARC LEISHMAN: Yeah, they'll definitely take notice of him. I'm probably -- the disappointment's probably a little bit more than I am happy for Cam at the moment, but no, I am happy for him, don't get me wrong. We had a good fight out there today. I'm pretty disappointed at the moment, but obviously happy for my mate.

Q. Have you seen him develop over the past few weeks?

MARC LEISHMAN: Over the year, I guess. Yeah, always developing. He's turned into a great player.

Q. We wish you the best of luck. I think you're starting off in the Tournament of Champions for the PGA TOUR, is that your next event?

MARC LEISHMAN: Yeah, I've got two weeks in Hawaii. I'm looking forward to getting over there.

Q. Leish, I guess with things with you and Cam, it really was the match between you two for the trophy. That adds a different dimension I guess to what a day stands for when it's head to head?

MARC LEISHMAN: Yeah, yeah. I mean, it was a good match I guess you would call it, up and down, no one ever got too far away until the end there. I had a chance on 18 when Cam missed the green, and just hit a terrible shot. Yeah, I guess made a bit of a run there for a little bit, but at the end of the day probably both of us weren't going to drop that. It was between the two of us, for sure.

Q. What club did you use on 18?

MARC LEISHMAN: It was a 9-iron, yeah. I had to hit it hard to get it there and I guess Cam -- trying to get in that back right pin. It was a tough shot, but I made it look a lot tougher than it was.

Q. Looked like for the rest of the galleries around, I don't know if you felt this, but didn't want anybody to lose this?

MARC LEISHMAN: Yeah, crowds were awesome. They've been great both weeks we've been in Australia. It's nice to play in front of home crowds when we can and good to make a run last week in the World Cup and then be around the lead this week. It was a pretty enjoyable couple weeks.

Q. Did you watch Cam's tee shot on 15, sort of the trajectory of it?

MARC LEISHMAN: Yeah, it looked like it was going in the water and I don't know what it -- I did see that.

Q. Little things that go against you in a round at that point in a tournament?

MARC LEISHMAN: Yeah, that's what you have to do, you've got to handle those things, make the most of the momentum when it's going your way and try to keep it your way. I had it and lost it unfortunately. Cam made some birdies when he needed to make them and deserved to win. Happy for him.

Q. Does this one hurt more than any others?

MARC LEISHMAN: Yeah, it was pretty disappointing. Well, very disappointed at the moment. Yeah, I've lost -- in Boston a couple years ago I was leading by a couple going into the back nine and lost that, that one really hurt, but this is probably equally if not more than that. Life goes on, we'll be all right, I'll be fine. But yeah, pretty disappointed.

Q. Does that light a fire in you or do you just sort of shut down for a month and get over it that way?

MARC LEISHMAN: Oh, I'll be over it in 20 minutes, I'll be fine. I've always said to Audrey, if I have a bad day, just give me 10 minutes after the round and I'll be good. This one might take 20. Yeah, it was a frustrating back nine. You know, I had chances and I actually hit a few pretty good putts. I hit a really good putt on 15 I thought was in and didn't go in. Hit a good putt on 14, the horseshoe. So yeah, I gave it my best crack and couldn't quite get over the line. That's golf sometimes, yeah.

Q. On 15 it sounded like you weren't aware of that rule?

MARC LEISHMAN: I was just checking. No, I wasn't aware of that, but it was worth checking.

Q. Have you ever played that rule before?

MARC LEISHMAN: Obviously a European Tour thing. I'm not sure, we don't have that in the States. Yeah, rules are rules. I wasn't annoyed at all, I was just checking. Being a competitor, I wanted to make sure if he was dropping on the tee if that's where he was

meant to drop it, not in the rough. No hard feelings at all there, I just wanted to make sure he was doing the right thing.

Q. It was pretty quiet between you during the early holes, but then it picked up and started turning a little bit more. Are you too good of mates to try and ice each other out?

MARC LEISHMAN: We were talking most of the way. I guess maybe Cam had a few nerves early. I was saying last night I've slept on leads before and I'm a very good sleeper and it's hard to sleep on a lead, especially when you're a few in front and you're expected to win. Yeah, he was probably a little nervous. You know, we're competitors, so we want to do everything week to win.