



ROSS McGOWAN (-11)

Q. Ross, you played by yourself yesterday and set a course record today, pretty big weekend?

ROSS McGOWAN: Yeah, finishing last or near last on Friday, there's always a risk if you're around the cut mark you'll be off first in the morning on your own, which obviously happened. Played nicely yesterday. Didn't quite get the score going, should have been a few better. And today had a couple of good bounces, yeah, just hit the ball great.

Q. This one could have been a bit better for you as well, you just lipped out on 9 there. Is there a couple of missed opportunities out there?

ROSS McGOWAN: There's always a few missed opportunities, isn't there? I played lovely today. Didn't hit the greatest shot into 9, misjudged the wind there a little bit. Hit a couple of other -- hit a great shot on 17 a yard short and it fell back down the hill. But when the wind's gusting at 30ks, it's not very easy to control the ball. I was really happy with the way I played.

Q. What's your previous best tournament round?

ROSS McGOWAN: Shot 60 in Madrid. Yeah, wasn't too bad.

Q. For a second did you think 59 today?

ROSS McGOWAN: Not around this place, no. This place is brutal. Yeah, really happy to shoot 9 under and didn't really see a score like that out there, but when I hit a few irons close and made the putts, made life a little easier.

Q. Does it change anything in the few weeks -- I don't know if you're in South Africa for next week?

ROSS McGOWAN: Yeah, I'm in next week. I should have been in anyway, but definitely in now. Yes, hopefully we'll get in the Dunhill. May have to go and qualify, we'll see.

Q. The good feelings don't last that long?

ROSS McGOWAN: Yeah, it's true. Back to work next week and start at scratch again.

Q. What about yesterday? Can you tell us the experience of playing by yourself in a tournament like this? Have you ever played by yourself before?

ROSS McGOWAN: I have done, but I think on a Sunday, so normally just try to finish as quick as possible. On a Saturday, it's hard to pace myself. Stupidly three-putted the second hole yesterday morning and realized then I've got to take my time and give myself a breather between shots because you leave yourself a two-footer back, you just feel like got to knock it in where you've actually got to step back, especially with these greens and the grain, got to take your time.

Q. (Question about watching the leaderboard.)

ROSS McGOWAN: Yeah, I feel like a beer, but I'm not sure that's going to be the route to go just yet. Yeah, I'll probably watch a few holes and I guess get some lunch first and see what's going on.

Q. Your form on the Challenge Tour's been really solid as well. Obviously a week like this to get you back to Europe --

ROSS McGOWAN: Yeah, this year I've made a lot of cuts even on the main tour. Got my main tour card at the beginning of the year, felt I should go back to the Challenge Tour because I put more money up there. Just been making lots of cuts, but not really kicking on, and yeah, this was hopefully a step in the right direction.

Q. Did you have a marker playing with you?

ROSS McGOWAN: No, no, just on my own. A guy walking around, one of the volunteers.

Q. Was there anyone -- take me through the gallery.

ROSS McGOWAN: I had great support really. There was nobody else on the course except the volunteers, so I had a big clan of red T-shirts support me, it was brilliant. Every hole we were -- they were out there cheering me on, so it was good fun.

Q. And at what point today do you realize you're sort of getting hot? Do you get caught up in the moment at all? You make four birdies in row, what does it --

ROSS McGOWAN: I didn't realize I made four in a row, to be honest. Chris started off well, he birdied the first two. I think I birdied 3, 4, 5, so we kind of had a good rhythm going. He played really nicely as well. It was helpful to have somebody playing well, too.

Q. Was it ball-striking or putts, or what was it?

ROSS McGOWAN: Basically ball-striking. I drove the ball brilliantly the last two days and that was one thing that was struggling a little bit the first couple of days. Yeah, started getting my yardage control a little bit. First couple days, struggled with that, especially my wedges. Slightly different turf and some were spinning up and just wasn't quite getting the

strike I wanted. Done a little bit of practice after the first couple rounds and seemed to sort that one out.

Q. It's a little bit windy, but is it (inaudible) for those guys making the turn now?

ROSS McGOWAN: Definitely there's occasionally 30k gusts, so it seems to come through every 10 minutes or so.

Q. Do you keep an eye on the TV?

ROSS McGOWAN: Yeah, I'll go and have some lunch and see where we stand. Got to think about getting my flight later.

Q. What time's that?

ROSS McGOWAN: Not until 10:00, so plenty of time.