

ROUND 4 INTERVIEW
January 27, 2019



TIGER WOODS (-10)

Q. Tiger, you got your 10 under.

TIGER WOODS: I did, I did.

Q. What positives do you take from the week?

TIGER WOODS: Each day I got a little bit better, which was nice. I got a little bit sharper each and every day. My driver started coming around, which was great, on the weekend. Drove it great.

The only thing is my iron game wasn't quite as sharp, but it got a little better. I started -- I've been hitting good putts, but they finally started going in, which was nice.

Q. You're going to come back out again in two weeks, play at Genesis. What's the list of things you work on in that two weeks?

TIGER WOODS: Well, it was nice to shake off some rust and see what I need to work on. Still need -- I think I need to hit the ball a little bit better with my irons, hit the ball more pin high, which I normally do a pretty good job of. This week wasn't as good as I would like to have it.

If I can just continue improving, driving the ball just a little bit better. I know my putting will come around because Joey and I were both struggling reading these things. I struggled on my own, I brought Joey in, we struggled together. It was just one of those weeks where I just didn't quite see the lines quite right. My speed was good, but my lines were just not very good.

Q. If last year was a year that you said, "We'll see what we've got, we'll see how my body holds up," what's this year?

TIGER WOODS: Different, a lot of different expectations here this year. It's not as fluid and a moving target like I was last year. I didn't have to try and learn a golf swing and learn equipment and figure out some way to play golf again.

This year I have an understanding of what I can and cannot do. Finishing the year the way I did in the Playoffs, hitting it like I did was great because I finally built it to a place where I can take a little time off and I know what I'll have when I come back. I don't have to go looking, searching for something, so that helps a lot.

Q. Tiger, talk about the week. I know the top goal always is to win, but all in all, do you think it was a pretty good week?

TIGER WOODS: You know, I got a little bit sharper each and every day and my rounds got a little bit cleaner, made less mistakes. I started to get the feel back for hitting the golf ball under tournament speed, that's a little bit different. You know, I felt like I started to get my irons to hit the ball the right distance on the weekend. I didn't quite make as many putts as I wanted to, but I felt like I was hitting the ball on my line, I just was not reading them right. Even when I brought Joey in there for a couple of reads, we didn't read them right together. So just one of those weeks that it happens, but I burned a lot of lips and made my share today, which was nice.

Q. We'll see you at the Genesis Open, but as you analyze this week, what is it you need to work on? Is there one specific thing you need to go back and maybe really take a look at?

TIGER WOODS: No, just continue improving. You know, if you look at where I was Thursday and look at where I'm at now, Sunday, I got a little bit better. I drove the ball better, hit my irons a little bit cleaner. Again, I hit good putts, some didn't go in, some did. Just continue with the track. I have a couple more months of prep before April, so things are heading the right direction.

Q. Did you figure something out with the putting today or is that just to chalk it up to golf?

TIGER WOODS: No, I didn't change anything. I was hitting my putts on my lines, I just wasn't reading them right. I wasn't where I was panicking, I have to do something different, got to work on this, got to work on that. No, I felt comfortable. I was hitting my putts on all my lines, I just didn't hit the ball on the right line. When I read them right, they went in. Just need to read them correctly.

Q. Big debate on TV this morning about whether that's pink or red or orange.

TIGER WOODS: Yeah.

Q. Do you have an answer?

TIGER WOODS: Yep.

Q. You said you would like to finish in double figures?

TIGER WOODS: Yeah, I did. Felt good. That was the goal starting out the day, and after three-putting there at 6, wasn't ideal. I still had one par 5 left, but I had a birdie at 8, birdied 9, so the goal was to shoot something that got me into double digits and I did. I'm very proud of that. Got to have these little goals when I'm not in contention to win a tournament,

but still something positive to end the weekend and the week on.

Q. (No microphone.)

TIGER WOODS: No, no, no, I feel like I knocked some rust off, which was great this week. Figured a few things out as the week was going along. I just felt like I got better each and every day. I got cleaner, my rounds got cleaner and that's what I want to have happen. I'll be ready in a couple weeks.

Q. You always talk about this course and how comfortable it's always been, but there's been so many changes, how much does that come into play for you where you're still adjusting?

TIGER WOODS: Well, I think we're all adjusting to the North course, that's still a little bit different. The greens were softer this year, which was nice. The last couple years they've been brick hard because they're obviously new. They are faster than the South.

Some of the guys, we were talking about that on the putting green. It's weird to say that because it's usually the opposite, but the North is faster than the South and some of the guys were coming over here and leaving a lot of putts short.

You know, we were discussing -- some of the guys, we were all sitting down together -- that it's probably advantageous to play three straight rounds on the South, get the North out of the way and then play three straight, then you have the same rhythm and the same feel for three straight days. I think Rosie did that, if I'm not mistaken, same with Hideki. I think that's something to be said about that this particular week.

Q. When you talk about peaking four times a year, when does that actually start?

TIGER WOODS: It starts months out.

Q. Just a couple months out?

TIGER WOODS: Yeah.

Q. And secondly, have you given any thought to what it's going to be like to have the PGA stuck in there in May instead of that month and a half --

TIGER WOODS: Right, it's very different because it feels like it's our PLAYERS Championship week. We've been there for 10 years I believe, somewhere around there. I'm familiar with the new date where we are with the PLAYERS. I played it when I came on tour, so that's not a big change for me. But having the PGA in May is going to be a little bit different and feel like we end the major championship season in July, just feels weird. We always felt like we had that August and then the Playoffs.

Q. Does a priority on results become greater the closer you get to a major?

TIGER WOODS: Just want to keep building, keep getting more crisp. It's hard to peak for four major championships, it's not easy. I've only done it 14 times, so -- honestly.

Q. It sounds weird.

TIGER WOODS: I know, but sort of like Jack played in what, I don't know, 150 majors, only did it 18 times. You put it in perspective like that, it's not easy to do. It's hard to have mind, body and soul come together at the same time, and luckily in this sport we have four chances per year whereas if you're an Olympic athlete, it's once every four years. So to get it done one or two times a year, it's fantastic.

Q. The first tournament of the year here at Torrey Pines, what do you take away from this week here at the Farmers Insurance Open moving forward?

TIGER WOODS: I think this whole week was good, very positive. I didn't quite start out the way I wanted to this week, wasn't as sharp as I wanted to be, but each and every day it got a little better.

So figured a few things out with the driver, which was great. Made a couple putts yesterday and today, more so today. I have a little bit of work to do the next couple weeks for L.A.

Q. Tiger, what's going to go into that scheduling decision with a lot of big tournaments coming up after Riviera? What's the biggest factors you've got to look at?

TIGER WOODS: Well, not to play too much but also play enough to keep building. With THE PLAYERS moving into the March slot, it throws a little bit of a wrench into some of the guys' plans and how they like to build because now we have to build for that event and then the back side is the Masters.

So that's where my previous scheduling over all the years I used to play, you know, when THE PLAYERS was in March, comes in handy. Some of the younger guys have never played it while it's been in March. So (inaudible) what I need to do and this year's very different than what it was last year. Didn't know if I could make it to Florida, first of all. This year I have a much better plan. We have a lifting schedule, we have my practice routines, so everything's geared up for the big events instead of getting enough reps and getting enough sharpness to be ready.