## ROUND 2 INTERVIEW December 4, 2020

## TOM HOGE (-9)



Q. Great round today, particularly on the back nine. How big a factor was the fact that the wind was down out there? Did it make the golf course play a little bit easier?

**TOM HOGE:** Yeah, you know, I don't want to say it was easy out there because you never knew when that rain was going to come back on us, but the sun came out there a little bit there on the seventh hole for us and, like you said, the wind was down. I've never seen it so calm around Mayakoba here, so felt like you could make a few birdies, for sure.

Q. Why do you think you've been able to sort of conquer -- I wouldn't say conquer, maybe do so well on the back nine this week?

**TOM HOGE:** Yeah, you know, more than anything for me, I've gotten the ball in play off the tee. I've struggled with that here in the past, so that was kind of my focus this year. There's some tight holes out there and I've tried to steer it a little bit in the past too much. I've just tried to go out and make a confident swing each tee shot. I've got the ball in play and then hit some nice iron shots. Like you said, it's a good start and a long ways to go here.

Q. You and I chatted a little bit walking from 12 green to 13 tee and talked about the greens. While they look like they're kind of bumpy, they're not. How big of a challenge is it for a player when your eyes see something, but you see something different when you actually hit the putt?

**TOM HOGE:** Yeah, you know, it's a unique grass, Paspalum. We don't play it a lot on Tour, so it looks kind of thin, it might be bumpy like you were talking about, but they roll great. We've seen lot of long putts go in for myself and playing partners here the first two days, so the greens are rolling well. You know if you can hit a good iron shot and have it 20, 30 feet you've got a good chance to make it.