

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW**  
**May 6, 2021**

**JUSTIN THOMAS (-2)**



**Q. How would you characterize the round today?**

**JUSTIN THOMAS:** It was good, it was a good round. I played well. It's a hard golf course. It was -- the wind was all over the place for kind of how it was scheduled to be, so had to adapt to that a little bit. But, I mean, the golf course is definitely a lot more receptive than it was say Monday or early in the day Tuesday with that heavy rain Tuesday afternoon. But it's still hard. You have to put the ball in the right spot. I mean, you can have some putts kind of like I did on 2 there, I can get it five or six feet, but you can't even play offense. It's such a quick putt that I could have played a foot -- almost a foot and a half of break on that putt if I wanted to. It's hard to get yourself to trust that sometimes, but everybody has to deal with it, so you just have to be committed and hit the shots.

**Q. When the wind's kind of all over the place like you're talking about, what's the most difficult part about this golf course?**

**JUSTIN THOMAS:** I mean, the golf course is hard as it is and when it starts doing that, it just obviously makes it harder because it might be different from, say, on the tee to the green. It was weird for us today, we played 15 and it was into the wind and it made that whole very, very long. We get off the green, go to 16 tee and all of a sudden that hole's into the wind. 16 being one of the hardest holes on the course, I was pretty excited to get that hole downwind and hopefully hit it over that bunker, but all of a sudden it flipped back into the wind. So it's little things like that. It's golf. I mean, we all have to deal with that, but definitely makes the course a little bit more challenging.

**Q. You haven't been here since the PGA. You were injured and then --**

**JUSTIN THOMAS:** I played in '18.

**Q. So has it changed? Because of that gap, has the golf course changed for you?**

**JUSTIN THOMAS:** It doesn't feel like it. It plays a lot different when it's bermuda. The rough was so penal for the PGA and the greens were faster. I mean, it was pretty soft that week just because of the humidity and had some rain in that week as well. But, I mean, bermuda you can just get faster and firmer if they want versus the overseed.

**Q. This is kind of an offbeat question, but Bryson said he doesn't feel like he really has a stock 8-iron because every day he feels it's different. Same thing for you? Is your 8-iron always 178 or is some days it's 175?**

**JUSTIN THOMAS:** Most days, yeah, it's about what I need it to be. Stock 8-iron's kind of in that 172, 173 range. I know if I draw it, I can get more out of it, and of backfoot it, I can get more. But no, I mean, I think a stock shot is a stock shot for a reason and you should know how far it goes.

**Q. It doesn't change on you from day to day?**

**JUSTIN THOMAS:** It does at says 6:30, 7:00 in the morning and it's cold and stuff like that, but if you give me a 70-degree day and I'm not injured or incredibly sore, then yeah, I feel like I can hit it within two yards about every single day.

**Q. We hear some guys when they have early tee times they have to wake up like four hours in advance. You're still young. When you have an early tee time, how far in advance do you wake up and what are those hours (inaudible)?**

**JUSTIN THOMAS:** Yeah, four hours before I would have woken up this morning would have almost been yesterday.

**Q. That's what Tiger does.**

**JUSTIN THOMAS:** Well, Tiger's a weirdo. It doesn't really count. He doesn't sleep anyway.

I woke up at 4:30 this morning and that gives me enough time to wake up, shower, get ready, do a couple things in the room, takes me about 15 minutes that I usually do, and then I literally come to the course, eat, go see my physio and start my warmup.

I'm not a coffee drinker, so it doesn't really get me going. I have some kind of like a little energy electrolytes that I'll drink on the morning tee times that's my form of coffee. But no, I go to sleep pretty early. I slept probably 8:00 to 4:30 last night. No, I'm not waking up at 1:00 or anything.

**Q. When you wake up (inaudible)?**

**JUSTIN THOMAS:** Yeah, for sure. I mean, It's weird, I think -- I like it a lot more in the morning than at night because if you're scrolling before you go to bed, that's not good for your eyes, but that's how I wake up. I mean, there's times where I'll wake up and just kind of get up right away and turn a light on and get going, but for the most part I'll lounge in bed for kind of that five or 10 minutes and kind of get acclimated with the day and then get going.