## PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW June 29, 2021



## **MITO PEREIRA**

**DOUG MILNE:** We will go ahead and get started. Mito, thanks for joining us prior to the 2021 Rocket Mortgage Classic, your first official start as a PGA TOUR member and fourth PGA TOUR start overall.

Just some thoughts on being here. Have you had a chance to get out and see the course, and how you're feeling heading into the week?

**MITO PEREIRA:** Yeah, I played yesterday 18 holes. It's in great shape, great place to be my first PGA TOUR event. I'm excited to play. I just want to do the best I can and try to enjoy this moment.

**DOUG MILNE:** We know how you got here, by virtue of the three wins on the Korn Ferry Tour, two of which came in your last two starts out there, so congratulations on that. There's been some -- I was looking at your scores, you've had some really low scores lately, 62s, 63s and 64s. Just some thoughts on how you're feeling confidence-wise. As you're heading into the week, what are you feeling the most confident about?

**MITO PEREIRA:** Well, last couple months I've been playing really solid, so just trying to do the same I've been doing these last couple months. I'm feeling good. Took a week of rest, I went back to Chile, so kind of reset a little bit on rest and I'm feeling really good. I think my game is in a good point and I think it can be a really good week if I just do what I've been doing.

Q. Hi, Mito. How old were you when you first got to know Joaquin Niemann and how would you describe your relationship as you two kind of get ready to represent Chile in the Olympics?

**MITO PEREIRA:** Well, I'd say he was probably 12 or less, 10, and I was 13 maybe, so a long time. We've been practicing together for a long, long time with the same coach, so we're pretty close friends. It's real exciting just not to be playing only on the PGA TOUR but representing Chile, representing in the Olympics. It's going to be great. I hope we both do our best and try to get the much over this.

Q. And just to follow up, do you have a base in the United States? Are you considering buying a place or renting a house?

**MITO PEREIRA:** I don't have anything yet, I just go to Joaquin's house in every off-week in Jupiter, but I'm probably moving to Jupiter close to him. It's going to be a good thing there.

## Q. Do you have your own bedroom in Joaquin's house?

MITO PEREIRA: Yeah. Everybody has.

Q. Everybody does, okay. Thank you.

**DOUG MILNE:** Mito, along those same lines, who are some of the other players out here that you've gotten to be friends with and kind of look up to for advice?

**MITO PEREIRA:** Sorry, I didn't understand.

**DOUG MILNE:** Yeah. Who are some of the other Tour players that you know pretty well that you go to for some advice and guidance.

**MITO PEREIRA:** I know a couple guys. I've been playing on the Korn Ferry for like four years, so there's a lot of Korn Ferry Tour players that are playing here, just saying hi to. At least 15 players here, just try to say hi. And not much of an advice, but just ask a couple questions about course or just tee shots, but not much really of an advice, just to say hi and be in a good position.

## Q. When you stay with Joaquin at his house, who does the cooking, or can either one of you cook?

**MITO PEREIRA:** Either one of us, but I normally do the barbecue and he just orders out.

Q. What's your specialty on the barbecue?

**MITO PEREIRA:** I'd say ribeye or skirt, everything.

Q. You do a good marinade?

**MITO PEREIRA:** Yeah, yeah. I mean, I think here in the States you guys marinate more. In Chile we just put salt and pepper and do it.

Q. And real quickly, who's the coach that you guys share?

MITO PEREIRA: Eduardo Miguel.

Q. And he's back in Chile?

MITO PEREIRA: He's here this week.

**DOUG MILNE:** One more question from me and then I'll turn it over. What would you consider to be a success this week? Are you -- obviously you'd like to win the event. Is there something that you're just looking to do that you would consider to make it successful?

**MITO PEREIRA:** I'd say obviously I want to win, but I'll take this more as an experience to feel good. I'll play like six events this season, so to be more prepared for next season. I'm going to take this as a prepare to be comfortable here, to know the courses. I'd say just to get the right mindset and play.

(Conclusion of questions in English.)