ROUND 3 INTERVIEW December 4, 2021

COLLIN MORIKAWA (-18)



Q. Collin, just your overall thoughts of the round, please.

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Yeah, you know, like I called my coach this morning, Rick Sessinghaus, and I said yesterday that the driver wasn't working. Figured out a little thing on the range and still wasn't working great, but found something on 16, just something that I can use for tomorrow, and everything else feels pretty good from there.

Q. I count only one time you had a 54-hole lead and it was a one-shot lead. When's the last time you had such a big lead going into a final round and does that change your mental state at all?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: No, I've just got to go out and, look, this course, if there's not a lot of wind, a lot of guys out here can make a lot of birdies early on. I just have to go out and just play the way I have been and be ready by hole one and play all the way through. Nothing's going to be a gimme tomorrow.

Q. You won't do anything different with a five-shot lead at all?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: No. Look, I think the game plan I have so far, it's not like I'm playing crazy or I'm playing stupid, I'm playing to my strengths and that's what I have to stick with. I'm going to keep doing what I do and if I don't feel comfortable on a tee shot, maybe play back, but overall I feel really good about the game so far.

Q. It sounds like you don't have your full A-game. You shot 8 under, you have a five-shot lead against the field of 20 of the world's best players. What's your confidence level right now? I have to think that's hugely --

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Yeah, it feels good. Just piggybacking off a couple weeks ago in Dubai. Look, I'm dissecting my game in a really good way of just figuring out what I need to do consistently to be a better player and to be in contention a lot more. Chipping, putting has put me in a spot so far through three rounds that I feel great and I've just got to keep doing that. I really need to figure out how to play hole 18 though a little bit better.

Q. You were a great amateur obviously and you won a lot in college, but you seem to have improved quite a bit since then. What are you better at now than you were in college?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: I think just thinking through a golf course a little bit better. I've got JJ on my bag and he's been the biggest help I could have asked for. Sometimes you just need

a second opinion but someone you really trust and sometimes that's not your coach, right? But having a caddie like him, it's so beneficial, it's so helpful. I think when it comes to that, I do want to keep getting better and that's why I think there's still a lot of room for improvement.

Q. Are you more comfortable now? You're getting in this position quite a bit where you have the lead and closing out tournaments. Is it starting to feel kind of comfortable?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: I don't know if comfortable's the word, it's just exciting. You love being in these spots and you don't get them every week. You wish you did, but when you do, you want to take advantage of them, so hopefully we can take advantage tomorrow.

Q. I just want to test your memory. Do you have any idea how many times you played with Brooks or when's the last time you did play with Brooks?

COLLIN MORIKAWA: No.

Q. He couldn't remember, either. He thought it was just a couple times.

COLLIN MORIKAWA: Yeah, I think we played maybe a couple times.