## ROUND 1 INTERVIEW December 10, 2021



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Q. Couple eagles really sparked that round for you guys, but the rest was pretty good as well. Just characterize the round if you could.

**MARC LEISHMAN:** Yeah, I think we combined really well. I drove it reasonably well most of the day, but when I was off the fairway Jase hit good tee shots, and I was putting first after the first hole and when I missed, he made, so it was -- yeah, I mean, like I said, we combined well. We get along very well and it was just nice to get off to a good start in this sort of event.

Q. Have you guys paired together in anything before? A team competition?

**JASON DAY:** The Presidents Cup?

**MARC LEISHMAN:** Yeah, we played -- I've got a terrible memory -- two or three matches in the Presidents Cup at Liberty National. Possibly one other, but I can't remember.

**JASON DAY:** Leish is good in a team environment. Obviously him and Cammy Smith at the Zurich, obviously here, so it's just, he's really -- I think he drives -- obviously it's an individual sport. But I think he thrives really well in a team environment, so it's nice to be able to have someone like that as a partner this week.

## Q. What is so good about his game that you like?

**JASON DAY:** I love the way he drives the ball, but I think the biggest thing for leash Leish is that he's -- he's pretty much an all-around player. He keeps it out in front of him, hits a lot of good quality iron shots in regards to like getting it, you know, somewhere around pin high, doesn't get himself into too much trouble and then when he does, he's got a tremendous short game as we saw today on 6 and 10. Just really, really nice short game. His putting, he's always been a good putter, but like it's really impressive to watch. Especially, I was able to sit back and watch him stroke it today and everywhere he aimed it, it was just like perfect role every single time, so it was nice to be able to watch that. For me, just in case he missed one, I was able to kind of get a good sense of where the putt was going and I was fortunate enough to hole some coming in.

Q. You did get some eagles out here. Usually it's somebody hitting in the green twice and then putting. What's it like when you hole out like that?

**JASON DAY:** Well, it's good to watch it. I'll let him explain it.

**MARC LEISHMAN:** It feels good. The one on 6 I had a pretty good read off Jase. It was a very straightforward chip, but obviously it still takes a little bit of luck for it to actually go in the hole. And then the one on 10, the guys all hitting in front of me, it was on a little knoll I guess you'll call it. Jase was in there about 10 feet and had a chance to just go straight at it and went straight at it.

**JASON DAY:** It was nice, the flight was perfect. It was one of those ones where you had to land it onto the front edge of the green, just on the front because if you didn't, if you land it where I was, it was going to pull up pretty quick and if you land it anywhere near the pin, the pin was kind of on this hill so it's just going to bounce forward and you've got a 10-footer coming back up the hill. So he landed it absolutely perfect, nice flight, just beautiful, just spun it a little bit and rolled in.

Q. Tomorrow, modified alternate shot. Do you guys talk strategy of how you like to do it? Is there something in particular you believe is important for that format?

**JASON DAY:** Not really.

**MARC LEISHMAN:** Just got to play good. Doesn't matter what the format is if you don't play well and make the putts.

**JASON DAY:** We've got a pretty good idea. Obviously going to hit each other's golf balls off the tees so the iron shot, you've got your golf ball coming into the greens. I feel like there's not much discussion there because we have played alternate shot before, but this is obviously modified so we both get to tee off. I guess the pressure isn't as much versus a normal alternate format, but I mean, like we're allowed to hit two drives, which is nice. That kind of takes a little bit of pressure off and from then we've -- today's done, we've just got to focus on tomorrow.