

**MAX HOMA ( -**

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**Q. Max, you kind of alluded to it there. Was attitude kind of the biggest thing for you today even outside actual golf?**

**MAX HOMA:** Yeah, attitude and patience. Obviously you've still got to hit good golf shots and make putts, leave it in the right spots, strategy, all that, but I really think that it would have been easy to kind of -- I bogeyed 4, had to hit a lot of good shots up to then. Make a bogey on 4 and just try to keep the fun, you know, just going into 14 more holes. It's going to be a hard day, accept that and move along and just kind of make as many good swings as you can and then add them up. I feel like that was kind of my strategy mentally today.

**Q. How would you kind of characterize how you played in those conditions?**

**MAX HOMA:** I played really well. I did kind of what I wanted to. I had a feeling -- not a feeling. I knew today if you drove the ball well, you could at least keep it around par, and I drove it awesome.

I really tried not to take too many chances into the greens, so I didn't really hit any too close, which was okay with me. I didn't have a lot of great numbers today to take anything on. The wind was tricking me a little bit. I thought for the most part I did what I wanted to do. Didn't make a ton of putts today, but like I said, kept myself in the golf tournament. One over today I thought was a pretty good score.

**Q. What's been your strategy kind of with the driver? As you alluded to, keeping it in the fairway and driving it well is important. You do hit the ball a good ways. How have you kind of been taking yourself through that and maybe not going full out on it?**

**MAX HOMA:** There are certain tee shots I can let it go a little bit and then there's some I've gotten comfy with playing my little fairway finder. So just making sure that I'm sticking to that. I'm not trying to smash them when I don't need to. Knowing certain holes set up to my eye really well, I can let those go and the rest just get the ball in the short grass the best I can.

**Q. When you go into tomorrow, you've obviously won a couple tournaments in the last year or so, does that kind of give you a lot of confidence going into tomorrow even though the conditions are going to be tough, knowing that you've gotten it done recently?**

**MAX HOMA:** Yeah, I think obviously winning helps confidence, it doesn't feel super foreign. But just in general I've just been kind of leaning on how well I've been playing the last, I mean, six, seven months. Game feels really good, so I've just been trying to approach each

round and just go out there and play like I've been playing and over the course of four days or a season, I would hope that would add up to something pretty decent.

**Q. You started using AimPoint in New Orleans if I'm right?**

**MAX HOMA:** Yeah.

**Q. How's that kind of helped you on the greens in the last couple weeks?**

**MAX HOMA:** It's been awesome. I always struggled holing putts between 10 and 15 and 20 feet. Always been pretty good inside of eight. Yeah, like Joe said today, every putt I've hit looks like it's got a chance, which is fun. Not really worried about my stroke, just worried about reading them, have good speed. Just the little things I feel like I'm making -- even on the first hole today, obviously a little nervous on 1, hit two great shots, a good chip and still had 10, 12 feet and I still felt very confident in the read. So little things like that are really helping me.

**Q. You started working with Phil Kenyon, correct?**

**MAX HOMA:** Yeah.

**Q. At the Masters, was it?**

**MAX HOMA:** Yeah, Masters, yeah.

**Q. What has he kind of helped you with as well with your stroke?**

**MAX HOMA:** Green reading so far. We've messed around very little with my stroke. I don't read them very well.

**Q. For you, Max, with the AimPoint, what was the deciding factor, whether it was word of mouth or internal thoughts? What was the thought that said, okay, AimPoint's the way I have to go on the greens?**

**MAX HOMA:** Yeah, Phil showed me in New Orleans, I would read them and he would ask me where I thought I needed to start it and then he would show me where I did and I was quite a ways off. So been practicing a ton with my feet, making sure that I'm doing the best I can. Obviously it's still new, I wouldn't say I've mastered it by any means, but just getting a little bit better every day at home really grinding, making sure I'm practicing the percentages and little things like that. So Phil and my coach Mark, I was at his place this past weekend, we went through it all, too. It was pretty obvious when I saw how poorly I was reading greens at least in New Orleans.

**Q. Anirban was talking earlier to us about -- it wasn't about flag hunting today, it was just about picking a target. What was it for you, the conversations, picking a target,**

**committing to a shot and just sticking with a game plan?**

**MAX HOMA:** Yeah, that's exactly what it was. There were very few times today that I was really trying to hit it super close. Very rarely was I aiming at a pin today just because you're hitting a 5-iron, 6-iron, it's wet, the ball can squeeze anywhere. So I was trying my best to give myself a little bit of a bail-out everywhere. Yeah, some solid shots I hit today. Some didn't go quite on the green or anywhere close, but I'm going to use kind of the confidence I know that I hit those really well into tomorrow.

**Q. You mentioned how the ball's not going nearly as far. Was there one shot you hit today where you look and you realize I just hit a drive 250 yards?**

**MAX HOMA:** No, it was more Jason than I hit it. On 13 tee he hit a driver and it looked like he hit it awesome and where I thought it was going to land and where it did land, I was off by about 30 yards. He was, too. He came over talking about how short it went to his caddie. It helped because there's a bunker out there we try not to get to and I realized I was not going to get anywhere near it.