PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW August 18, 2022

PÁDRAIG HARRINGTON



Q. Padraig, it's your first time playing out here in a little while. Kind of what's the course look like, and what are your memories of this place?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: It's hard for me to remember. I think it's 1999. So it was like a new experience today.

The course is very nice. Greens particularly are in particularly good condition. Yeah, I like that I saw some testing shots, a bit of work out there. So, yeah, looks like it will be a nice challenge for the week.

Q. And you kind of had a nice run of form here recently, a lot of top 2's, 3's, including a nice win there. What do you kind of attribute that run to?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: That's a hard one to answer. I hope it's expected.

Q. Is there any part of your game you feel like that has been -- kind of helped you with during that portion?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: I have been playing nicely. I suppose you get into a different environment when you're on the main Tour. You're always a little bit on edge that you got to play great. You can't really take too many knocks and be successful out in the main Tour. There's too many good players. It's too deep. Whereas, you come to the challenge tour -- or not the challenge tour, the Champions Tour, and you feel a lot more comfortable. If you play nicely, you have a chance. You obviously got to go low out there, and you got to shoot some good numbers, and you got to hole some putts, but you still have the feeling that if you play nicely, you will be there, or thereabouts, if you get out Sunday and have a big day, you have a chance of winning.

Q. Padraig, you said hopefully it was expected. Do you expect it?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: That's, obviously -- in my head, I'm going to win every tournament I tee up on wherever I am. We got to think like that as players. You got to -- doesn't matter what the reality is, you got to create that -- your own sense.

And, look, I'm the young guy out here. I am coming out here recently fresh and healthy. And I haven't been putting as well in the regular Tour. Again, I think a lot of that is down to feeling a little bit under the limit; whereas, you come out here, you got more chances. You can afford to miss a few more of them. So, yeah, I think out here I'm a little bit more



comfortable. I would certainly hope to be very competitive out here for a long period of time.

Q. What's kind of the atmosphere you have seen -- have you had the opportunity to kind of talk with some of the locals here?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: Yeah, no, I -- I haven't really talked to the locals, no, but I'm quite impressed with the size of the tournament, the structure of the tournament. I think there's plenty of sponsors here. It looks like a good week to be a sponsor. It looks like a good week for the community. Seems to be a nice pull, there's plenty of a build-out here. So, yeah, it's -- of the Champions Tour events, there's been a few big ones, but this is right up there with the biggest, in terms of the infrastructure and the -- and what I think I'm going to expect in terms of crowds during the week.

Q. Will you be at the Zac Brown concert?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: Yeah, front and center at the Zac Brown concert. Throw on a few shades, that's definitely me.

Q. Anything in particular you're taking from the pro-am that you think you can use to your advantage over the weekend?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: Well, I haven't played the course, so -- and usually for a pro-am -- normally I just play in the pro-ams to enjoy the day and hopefully put out -- when you don't know the golf course -- I was doing a bit of work out there, and trying to gather as much information as I could. I played in the morning, so probably not -- the golf course will play a lot shorter in the tournament than I would have seen today. But I still would have got good, fair idea of the course and what to expect. As I said, there's a good few water holes, and so stay out of the water will be a good thing for the week. And I think outside of that -- the greens look challenging, so that's where you got to -- hopefully have a good week on the greens.

Q. What's your mindset going into the weekend?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: Same way every week. I got my own things to manage in my game, and I look after myself. If I do that, I know I will get myself in a position come the last nine holes on Sunday, where I will have a chance. And you never know how those nine holes will go. Sometimes it goes horribly wrong, sometimes you make a big charge for those last nine holes. But the key is to be in position, if putts drop in the last nine holes, that you're close enough that it does make a difference.

Q. Thank you.

