

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
August 19, 2022



PADRAIG HARRINGTON (-6)

Q. Paddy, off to a great start. Just a few comments about the round.

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: Yeah, it's a lovely golf course, but there's plenty of -- you know, it's tight off the tee with a bit of firmness in the fairways. They're running true, there's a lot of birdies to be made, but there's also a lot of bogeys to be made. It's kind of you've got to be patient and hope that you make the birdies and try and avoid the mistakes.

Q. How much momentum are you coming off of? Obviously you're having a great season. Is momentum a big factor to playing as well as you are right now?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: It is indeed. I don't feel you've seen the best of, me yet, so yeah, I like being out here. It's a different sort of test. You're sort of dealing with your own expectations every day. You're trying to figure out, well, look, I should be up here, I should be contending, I should be at the top of the leaderboard and how you manage that. It's a different feeling than hoping. The more I get better at that and more familiar with it hopefully, I know I'm working on the right things and you're kind of incentivized to work on the right things when you know it could come down to just one shot on Sunday.

Q. What is that that you're working on?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: Just my mental game, just really trying to get my mental game solid, routine solid. Physically I have quite an advantage out here, so it really is how good I think, how good I am on the greens. And as I said, you know starting the tournament it's on the line straightaway, so you're incentivized to get your head in the game quickly.

Q. You were in a particularly strong group today. You were talking about the mental game a little bit. Does that affect you at all?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: Yeah, a rising tide lifts all ships, there's no doubt about it. you want to see birdies, you want to see your playing partners holing putts. You know, I think I holed a long one on 10 after Darren holed one. That sort of stuff, when you see somebody holing in front of you, it's positive. There's nothing like a positive affirmation of seeing it happen. Yeah, it's important to have momentum in your group at least all the way until the last nine holes; every man for himself at that stage.

Q. Did 1999 come back at all?

PADRAIG HARRINGTON: No, no, I can't remember -- I can remember the clubhouse and the area, but I can't remember the golf course from '99. I've got to say it's in great condition.

The greens are fabulous, that's why you're seeing putts holed. It really is -- you know, I doubt they were as good back in '99 because they really are top class now.