

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
October 8, 2022



JIM FURYK (-8)

Q. Jim Furyk, thank you for joining us. If you can kind of walk us through your round.

JIM FURYK: I'm actually real happy with the round today. To be honest with you, more solid. Yesterday I got a little loose, hit some awkward tee shots, had some really good saves, especially on the way in.

Today was a little bit more textbook, kind of kept it in the fairway a lot. I hit a bunch of greens. When I did miss greens, I put the ball usually in pretty good positions to get the ball up and down. Really, I was more comfortable if that made sense.

Now, the putter was hot as could be yesterday, I made a ton of putts and put everything on the hole. Today, not so much. Early on I hit some good putts that didn't go and I think I started to press a little bit, trying too hard, a couple misreads out there.

The greens are obviously new. I'm really trying to forget -- like last year I didn't call Fluff in for a lot of reads because I had played so much golf here, I felt just trust what I do. Now things have changed a little bit, so you have this memory of what used to happen and that's not always the case. So I pulled him in a lot more just for a second set of eyes and solidify what I'm seeing if I'm not still kind of in my mind inventing the old breaks, if that makes sense.

Q. Jim, you're hitting the ball well, not making a lot of putts, one birdie in the first 12 holes. Are you more patient when that's happening than you are when maybe things are -- you're spraying it a little bit but you're saving yourself with some --

JIM FURYK: I think it depends on the day. On this golf course, I think you have to stay patient. It's really firm, it's really fast. If you start hitting it at the pins you shouldn't, ball's going to run off the green, get in some bad spots.

I think when you're hitting it good and not making putts and you get impatient, it's usually when the golf course is playing easy when you have to go low. Like PGA TOUR's playing in Las Vegas this week. That's a tournament I won it 25, 28, 29 under. If you start hitting greens and putts aren't going in there, you get real impatient fast because you feel like everyone's passing you on the leaderboard. At a U.S. Open or a difficult golf course, not so much. You're happier hitting it good, trying to stay patient, hit some good shots. I was able to do that today. Really, I didn't hit a shot where I felt like it was a mental error and trying to hit it too close to the pin.

Q. That said, when you've got a guy like Strick play really good, even three shots



behind, do you still have to keep that patience no matter what he does?

JIM FURYK: You do, you do. He's playing really solid right now. I played with him yesterday, he drove it really well. Short-sided himself a couple times. Honestly, that 3 under could have been a lot better than it was. I think the guy's played like less than 50 events out here and he's won over 10. His conversion rate's pretty solid. We're going to have to go catch him.

Q. Can you talk about your birdie with no putts on 15?

JIM FURYK: Yeah. I drove it perfect and I kind of got in between clubs. I didn't know if a 4-iron was really going to be enough where I was bringing water into play, but 5-wood was too much. There's no way I could hit the 5-wood easy enough.

What I was trying to do is hit that 4-iron in that right bunker. I felt like I had a much better chance of getting that bunker shot close than I did the wedge shot kind of tucked up to the back of the green with that instead of false front, we'll say false back. You kind of have to be real conservative with a wedge.

I aimed in that bunker, but you see the pin over here and I kind of hit kind of a hard draw. It got through the green and it ended up getting pretty far behind it. So I tried to putt the first one and it came out hopping. It came out of that, it was like this much bermuda and then Zoysia and it just came out with a big bounce, it never made it up the hill. But you're really protecting from the water on the other side. It got in a nice area where I really felt like if I didn't get the first one up the hill, I should be able to get the second one up and down, make par and get out of there. Just lucky enough to have one go in.

Q. Jim, I talked to Allen, the super here, before the round, and he says --

JIM FURYK: I told him not to talk to you.

Q. I found him maybe. He said 4 under a day here is good. How good is that 8 under by Steve?

JIM FURYK: It's a really good round. I was on I think 13 green the first time I looked at a leaderboard. Looked up, saw Strick was at 10 and kind of went, wait a second, what did he shoot yesterday? Kind of put it together, he's already like 7 under today with a couple to play. It's a good, solid round.

The golf course is stressed, I'll say that. Allen does his job very, very well. I think I'm surprised a little bit at how new the golf course is and how much they can stress it, but that's his job and he's really good at it. I think he probably worked very closely with the BC and our rules staff in trying to figure out how the course can play. That's going to dictate where they can put pins, if that makes sense. But it's very firm, very fast. Those pins, some of them are really close to edges. We've seen guys putting the ball off the green, I saw one today. I did it

yesterday actually, so I saw one firsthand. It's not hard to do.

The golf course demands patience in that case. You definitely have to put the ball to the fat part of the green and putt to the pin. There are times where even with a wedge in my hand, 15 feet's a really good shot because the margin of error on the edges is small.

Q. Do you enjoy playing courses like this?

JIM FURYK: I love this golf course, so I mean, start there. I like playing golf courses where you really have to think your way around and put the ball in good places. I'm not a bomber, so the mindless let's let it fly and fly it at the pin isn't my style. There's nothing wrong with it, but I would much prefer kind of meticulously picking your way around the golf course.

Q. You had one bogey I think at 16?

JIM FURYK: Yeah.

Q. What happened there?

JIM FURYK: Let's just pick on the one bad one.

I actually hit a drive down the right side and just hit a really bad iron, kind of thin heeled an iron over there short right of the green. I had, I don't know, maybe -- I had 5-iron in, I had maybe 50 feet to the pin and it was breaking a lot right to left and I just never really matched up the line with the speed. I had a bad third shot, left it maybe six, seven feet under the hole and I hit it straight up the hill. I think I hit it too easy. I didn't trust myself to hit the putt, I hit it a little too easy. It broke underneath the hole. Wasn't my best stroke.

Q. Jim, in any way when you get older is it tougher to trust yourself, trust what you were able to do when you were 30 to 35?

JIM FURYK: No, not at all. I think when I'm playing well, I think I understand my swing probably better than when I was 35. I was a much better ball-striker in my mid 40s than I was in my mid 30s, so trusting what I see and what I know with that experience might at times be a little bit easier. Plus, you also have that experience along the way. If you don't trust yourself, you're probably not going to hit a good shot anyway. so I'd rather trust myself and miss than not trust myself because that one has no chance.

Q. Is it possible for you to rattle Stricker tomorrow and sneak by him?

JIM FURYK: I'm going to just do my best. No one's going to rattle Steve, he's too good and too much of a veteran. Like I said, we're going to have to go out there and fire a good number because he's not going to back down.

Q. You're playing, but you're obviously hosting, too. Today being military

appreciation day, what does it mean to be able to have that and have all the military out here for that?

JIM FURYK: It's really nice. We've got the Great Patriots Outpost there left of 7. It's been pretty full all week, which is great to see. It's a fun hole.

Then having the folks there tending the pin at 18, I got to meet a couple of them today, one before I went out and the gentleman that was there afterwards. Great to have them. This is a big military town. I've played some golf over at Mayport, NAS Jax has been a great parter in this and really helped us out in a lot of ways, so it's nice to give back.

We have free tickets to military, to retired, you name it. Love seeing those folks out here. And I've been missing the flyovers because I've been inside signing the card, but I heard it, how's that?

