

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER (-6)

Q. Scottie, off to a great start, bogey-free 6-under-65 today, coming off a top-5 finish here last year. Just a few thoughts about today?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah, solid golf. Clean card's really nice. Kept the ball in play for the most part today. I think I had one hazard ball on our 12th hole, which is No. 3, and was able to hit a great recovery shot after my drop to hit in there tight and make par, which is definitely a good feeling. I hit another one tight on the next hole, so solid golf is fun, stress free.

Q. Just wondering if you could expand a little bit on that stretch, the No. 3, No. 4. Obviously not a good place to be on No. 3, but you kind of rescued yourself there. How were you mentally on No. 4, which you obviously stuck it close there?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah, I hit a few shots today like really, really close to the hole. If I can go back to my round, I hit it to about two feet on 11, I hit it -- I had a tap-in birdie on the par 5, on 16 I hit it to like a foot for a birdie. I felt like a lot of my birdies today I just hit it really close to the hole, like 4 was really close, 5 was a tap-in. No. 9 may have been the longest birdie putt I made today and it was like seven feet.

Q. When you're paired with the guy who's won this tournament two years in a row and he's on such a heater like he was on the front nine, what does that do for you? Are you paying attention to that at all or are you just kind of doing your own thing?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: For the most part you're doing your own thing, but it's nice when you're on the golf course and you can see other players hitting really good shots. I think that's good kind of momentum for the group, when somebody starts playing well, the other guys can kind of feed off of it sometimes.

Q. Is there something about the golf course? Obviously you're coming into this year after a nice result last year. Is there something about this place that fits your eye?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: I think when you're hitting the ball well here, you're going to get a ton of looks. I mean, the fairways are very narrow, but there's a little bit of space. Really, you've just got to keep the ball in play. If you're hitting fairways off the tee, the golf course will really open up for you. And you can get in some trouble in a hurry pretty much on any hole just because off the fairways is jungle.

Q. Most important question, how was the cooking class last night?



SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: It was fun, it was a good time.

Q. How are you in the kitchen usually?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: I mean, I'll get by. Last night was fun having them show us what to do. Yeah, it was definitely a lot of fun.

Q. (No microphone.)

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: It was definitely a lot softer. I played a practice round on Tuesday morning and the golf course was really firm. Fairways rolling out, the greens were rolling out a little bit. And then unfortunately we had a ton of rain I think Tuesday night and yesterday, and then I think we may have had some last night as well, but I'm not sure. Definitely softened the golf course a lot, so it was a little bit different than my practice round on Tuesday.

Q. (No microphone.)

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: It's hard to tell. We're here by the water, you get those little pop-up storms. Sometimes it can blow really hard and then other times a storm can roll through and it can be really calm. You really don't know what to expect here with the weather.

Q. (No microphone.)

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Kind of depends when you're hitting fairways. I think immediately when you get off the fairway and you get yourself into trouble, that's when the golf course starts getting really hard. If you can keep the ball in play, the golf course is gettable.

