

ROUND 3 INTERVIEW
January 27, 2023

JON RAHM (-10)



Q. Sixty-six today, another excellent round. I know you've just come off the course, but what will be the biggest things that you look back on that you're proud of today?

JON RAHM: Sorry, what did you say at the end?

Q. That you're proud of most from today.

JON RAHM: Never really lost composure. You know, when I missed that tee shot on 12 to the left and both on 18, my layup on the left, never really lost composure. Actually ended up hitting two great shots into the greens. I think that would be it. I stayed really patient out there and took advantage of the holes I could take advantage of and played what I would say was very smart throughout the round.

Hopefully I can keep driving it like this like I did yesterday and today tomorrow because obviously putting it in the fairway out here allows you to be very aggressive and give yourself a lot of good chances. So there's always a couple different things I could say I was proud of. The most proud of would be the second shot on 9, but throughout the round would be how even and composed I was all day.

Q. Speaking of that front nine, could you just take us through 6 through 9 especially in your mindset during that stretch of golf?

JON RAHM: It's nothing different than any other stretch of four holes. Hit a great tee shot on 6, great second shot, two-putt birdie. Followed with another great tee shot on 7, great shot. I just kept giving myself pretty much the easiest putts; uphill putt on 6, uphill six-footer on 7, uphill eight-footer on 8 and then on 9, put it in the fairway and was contender for best shot the year for me already, which was the second shot into the green. I was just hoping to catch it on the center of the green, but I mean, I tattooed that 5-wood and ended up having 10 feet for eagle, which you don't really expect on that back pin, but I ended up putting myself in a great situation and made the putt.

I'm a very aggressive player by nature, so nothing really changes. I kind of stay true to who I am and the difference between that and the next four holes was just making better swings at the right time.

Q. Speaking of the type of player that you are, as we get to kind of the end of a golf tournament, how aware are you of what other people are doing or you're just foot on the gas, just your game, only what you're doing?



JON RAHM: Couldn't tell you what was going on out there, honestly. I know Sam was at 12 under, I don't know what he's at right now. That's about it, right? Goal is to catch up as much as possible. I was eight shots starting the day, hopefully it's only two starting tomorrow. And that was the goal. I did the job I needed to do on the last basically 23 holes of the tournament, which has given me a chance.

Q. Jon, what's the peace and composure that you're feeling right now with your game that you'll take to the first tee tomorrow?

JON RAHM: Nothing special. I think it helps when you have a lot of ground to make up. We're all going to miss shots out here, we're all going to make mistakes, it's just seeing if you can minimize it and I was able to do that very well today.

Q. But your internal feeling right now is what, just your internal thinking and feeling is what?

JON RAHM: I'm pretty calm honestly. Yeah, there's pressure for obvious things, but I've won my last two tournaments, so I have no reason to believe that I can do it again -- no reason not to believe that I can do it one more time. I've been swinging it beautifully all week and it just keeps getting better and better so hopefully tomorrow I can do what needs to be done.

Q. Jon, you've been outspoken about the World Golf rankings. Does it matter to you if they say you're No. 1?

JON RAHM: No. If I win again tomorrow and I don't get to No. 1, at this point I don't care.

Q. I think you will.

JON RAHM: I truly could not care any less if I did. I'll get the chance to do something incredible and whether the ranking says I'm one or two or three, it doesn't matter. It will be something very, very special.

Q. You love being in this city. Have you been able to do anything special with the wife and family this week?

JON RAHM: Nope, nothing. Very quick turnaround. I came Sunday night, the family came Monday, and with the pro-am Tuesday, we really didn't have time to do much. The kids are having fun, the kids are doing some stuff and I think Kelley might be leaving early right now to do something with them. They've both been a little bit under the weather, so they've had quite a bit of an early bedtime this week.

Q. Jon, you got the largest galleries looks like out here, obviously you've made your love of this area known. Are you starting to feel the admiration back from the crowd



here at Torrey Pines?

JON RAHM: Yeah, they show up for me when I come out here. It's very unique. Very few places where I feel like I'm in Spain and this is one of them. I get a lot of support and it's very nice to see. Obviously helps when I'm out there to get so many people pulling for me.

Q. Jon, is this indeed your favorite golf course or at least one of them?

JON RAHM: Yes.

Q. It is the?

JON RAHM: Yes. It was before I ever did anything really. When I first came here, I said this could be -- this is a wonderful golf course, obviously suits my strengths and I think because I like it so much I've done very well here.

Q. What was it about that shot on 9 that made it shot of the year?

JON RAHM: The fact that that might be the 10th time trying it and I finally pulled it off. I've seen other people do it, but we're talking about I was I think 260 meters, 285, 290 yards from the pin. I needed to get a nice draw on the 5-wood and hope that it was the right distance.

Like I said, I was taking middle of the green. I would have been very happy with 40 feet. To end up where it ended up, I drew it about five yards too many, the wind took it and it ended up where it ended up. That's why. It doesn't happen often. I saw it. He was off the green, hit it to about three feet to a similar distance, but besides that, it's not something that you see. And it's such a difficult shot with the greens sloping left to right that I am very doubtful I'll make a better swing or better shot than that.

Now, maybe circumstances can make another shot better, but on any given day, that was a pretty impressive one.

