

**Q. Tommy, how would you characterize that round today?**

**TOMMY FLEETWOOD:** Yeah, very happy. Like I said, I did what I needed to on the first few, I made two or three up-and-downs on the first six holes, which kept me at level par and then couple of scoring holes, 7 and 8, that were playing pretty short and managed to make an eagle and a birdie. Round was up and running. Then just really didn't, you know, didn't do anything particularly wrong. I didn't drive it great on the back nine, but I was never like out of position that much, never really hit myself in difficult spots. For the most part that was really good and quite stress free. And then just a good finish on top that. 17 and 18, kind of unexpected birdies there, but you'll take them when they come.

**Q. You've talked about how you're kind of beaten up by this golf course early on when you played it, PGA in maybe like 2018. What have you maybe started to learn about this golf course that maybe helped you today?**

**TOMMY FLEETWOOD:** Well, you have to play well around the course. It has its chances, and the more you look at it, the more you talk about it, you obviously have the par 5s and a couple short issue par 4s which equally you can easily make bogeys on any of those holes and I think that's what makes it such a tough course at times because the scorable holes can actually still kick you.

You have days like today. There are plenty of players that shoot great rounds around here. It's such a beautiful golf course and it's a pleasure to play, it really, really is, but you just have to play well and that's all there is to it. I enjoy the challenge, I loved playing today and having a score going and playing like that. I'm looking forward to whatever the week holds. It's a great course to come and play, but it can just beat you up at times and today was my turn.

**Q. Can you pinpoint the last month and a half where you feel like your game has improved a lot to where you're seeing the scores, seeing some better results than maybe earlier in the year?**

**TOMMY FLEETWOOD:** It's not that much different. Game's tough. I don't think -- in general, if you're doing the right things, you're never that far away, it just feels that way sometimes. For me, just started shooting some scores, playing pretty consistent and then I just have to keep going and wait for those really big results and hopefully start contending again up at the top of the leaderboard and we'll see what we can do from there.

Sure, it's nice to be playing well. It's always nice when we all work so hard and we all put so



much into it, the times when you actually get something to show for it, it's always nice and you have to appreciate those times. Look, today was just another round of golf. There's a lot more to play, a lot more to play in the year. But yeah, good rounds builds confidence and that's the only way sort of you can gain confidence is by going out there and playing well. See if we can keep it up.

**Q. So much can be said and written about the finishing stretch here. Can a golfer almost talk himself out of playing a stretch of holes or some difficult holes well?**

**TOMMY FLEETWOOD:** Well, yeah, I mean, look, you have to hit the golf shots, there's no doubt about that. Yeah, you can obviously look at it as you can make it as daunting or as simple as you want to make it. There's somebody that's going to hit a great shot on all of those holes today, like the shot today at 18, I made a birdie. There's good shots out there and you have to always be looking for them and you always have to feel like you can hit one of those. Whether you do or not is a different story, but believing you can is the first part.

**Q. In the last three months, six months, whatever, was there a tournament or a round even where you've maybe said, OK, things are finally starting to come on the upswing for you?**

**TOMMY FLEETWOOD:** No, not really. I've been working -- I've got great people around me and I'm definitely working on the right things. The standard's very, very high, so just any mistake or minutely being off, it can show.

No, just the consistency of my work and consistency of what I'm doing, that's all I want to do and that's all I want to look at and then hopefully the scores and the results show that. And then yeah, more days like today will be great.

