

THE JOHN SHIPPEN NATIONAL INVITATIONAL

FINAL INTERVIEW

June 25, 2023



CHASE JOHNSON (-9)

Q. If you could just comment on your feelings now earning this exemption after a couple great days of playing golf. What are your thoughts?

CHASE JOHNSON: I feel great. I really worked hard the last year and a half to fine tune some things since I lost my Korn Ferry card and it's been paying off over and over again. I just was able to play boring, steady golf this weekend. I felt great and I'm really excited for the week ahead.

Q. When you take a minute and start to think about it, obviously your immediate goal was to win this event, earn an exemption. Now that you've got a few days to think about Thursday, Friday, hopefully the weekend, how do you approach that?

CHASE JOHNSON: I mean, I was talking to someone earlier and Kobe said in an interview one time, you know, the famous "the job ain't finished" quote from him, so this was an awesome opportunity. I had to get job No. 1 done, but it's not over and I definitely want to be able to take advantage of this opportunity. Just play as well as I can for the rest of the week.

Q. You've had some other opportunities to play on the PGA TOUR. What are your thoughts? You go out there, playing with a great field here, some great players, how do you mentally approach it, or what's it going to be like to be out there later this week?

CHASE JOHNSON: Yeah, just going to look at it as like another round of golf. I'm going to see some familiar faces out here this week, definitely some guys I've always looked up to. Tony Finau, past champion, I've always been a fan of him since I was like 11 years old watching him in junior golf. It's just another round. Just keep it simple, play smart, boring golf and hit fairways, hit greens and make some putts.

Q. We talked earlier, you mentioned a nice opportunity to kind of get some practice rounds in the last couple days, really familiar with the course as you were before. How does that maybe help you a little bit knowing you got to play a couple rounds here in the last couple days, kind of set yourself up for knowing how you want to attack this course on Thursday and Friday?

CHASE JOHNSON: Absolutely. I mean, they have the course set up, we tipped it out this week. We had some challenging pins that I'm sure probably will come up later in the week. It was good to have the competitive reps under my belt to see how I handled it this weekend.



Then I can call on that when I'm in a very similar spot and I have to hit a shot, I can think back and say I've already done this one, let's do it again.

Q. Talk about the last 36 holes. Sounds like every part of your game was pretty solid.

CHASE JOHNSON: Yeah, I played really solid golf. I hit a lot of fairways, drove it really well this week, only missed a couple. My distance control was good, I didn't leave myself above pins too often and short-side myself. When I did miss greens, I got it up and down and I made some big putts, especially today early in the round, to kind of get the momentum going. We'll just hope to call on that the rest of the week.

Q. We talk about The John Shippen, it's an amazing opportunity certainly for you to get the exemption, different winners each year previously. Can you speak to the opportunity that John Shippen has provided, along with Rocket Mortgage and other sponsors, to get you guys out here on Tour?

CHASE JOHNSON: Absolutely. I mean, this whole event, Intersport and Sommer Woods and Jason (Langwell,) the way they've worked to put this on for us is incredible.

And then Rocket Mortgage obviously giving the sponsor exemption to the winner who goes out and earns it this weekend, it's awesome.

And then DGC and all the volunteers who helped get us out here, get us finished yesterday and today, huge thank you to everyone out there.

It is an awesome opportunity because they've given us the chance to change our lives completely, because a PGA TOUR event, you play well in that, you cannot only get status, rework everything that you do in life.

Q. I think it was maybe a surprise to a lot of the players today, including you, that in the awards ceremony here we announced that we now have a purse for The John Shippen. You walk away with a \$20,000 check. Did you have any idea of that?

CHASE JOHNSON: No. We did know, they had mentioned to us beginning of the week that right when he gave us our speech for The Johnny that the members had gotten together and put up a purse for us that he was very adamant about not telling us what it was. He saved the big surprise for the end and it was a huge surprise. That one definitely caught me offguard and very grateful for it. Every penny helps, especially when you're in the status that I am right now. Huge thank you to Gregory and the members. Just looking forward to the week.

Thank you to my family. Honestly, the last year I've gotten a lot of support from my parents, my fiancée and a lot of close-knit people that I'm in constant contact with. They know who they are. It's been a long journey since I lost my card and we're on the up and up and I'm excited to be back and have another chance.

