

BILLY HORSCHEL (-11)

Q. Nice round today. You're kind of on an upward trend. Can you talk a little bit about that?

BILLY HORSCHEL: Yeah. Listen, you know, we've talked about this enough and it's been well documented, this year's been a real struggle for me.

But since that 84 at Memorial, since that media session afterwards, the game's actually been heading in the right direction. The results haven't shown that until the last week and so far this week, but there's been a lot of positive stuff coming, a lot more confidence in my ability to strike the golf ball, which has been the biggest issue all year.

Yeah, I mean, I'm excited where my game's going. We've still got a long ways to go to get back to where I would like to be in this game of golf, but at least we've got momentum behind us pushing us forward now.

Q. You came in here with a bit of a hill to climb to get into the Playoffs. Is it easier to put that out of your mind now that you're contending for the title?

BILLY HORSCHEL: Listen, I know I have to win or finish solo second, I realized that I think Sunday night when I got here. If it happens, it happens. If it doesn't, it doesn't.

Like I said, I've just, I realized a couple months ago there's a really good chance I may not make the Playoffs based off the way my game is going, so I was just more or less trying to focus on getting the game back in the right shape and getting some momentum going into the fall which would hopefully carry over into '24.

I'm still in that same mindset. I have a trip planned with my kids and my wife to Abaco Club next week if we don't get in. Listen, it's a win-win, I either go to Memphis or I go to Abaco with my kids and wife for the week. So we'll see what happens this weekend.

Q. One last question. You played great here in 2020. What kind of confidence do you take from that, and any particular memories do you have from that?

BILLY HORSCHEL: Listen, I played well here for the last I would say five or six years. I think I've got a second, maybe a couple top-5s, so I feel very comfortable on this golf course.

I like it in the sense that you've got to put the ball in the fairway to score well. If you don't, then you're struggling all day. I'm not a big fan of 20 under par winning, really low scores, but



on this course you have to at least put it in the fairway to score it.

Listen, I feel very comfortable on this golf course and I'm excited to see what the weekend has in store.

Q. Is there something technical that you've changed that you go from shooting 84 to shooting 62 a couple months later?

BILLY HORSCHEL: Yeah. I mean, well, the biggest, the biggest key we found Tuesday of U.S. Open was all my lie angles on my clubs were about two to three degrees too upright. Somehow along the process of switching manufacturers and being on my own and everything maybe my numbers just got a little off.

So we did that Tuesday in the GEARS 3d system out in L.A. That made a massive difference because Michael Neff who we worked with, he's like, listen, there's nothing I can tell you about your swing, your swing and everything is checking all the boxes that I would look for in every box you guys are looking for, but the lie angle was a big thing. So it was causing me not to hit the cut that I would want to hit. So from there it gave me a lot of confidence that everything Todd and I have been doing in our swing was the right thing.

And then recently we just tried to -- very simple, we just realized that the more width and shorter I can keep it, the better the club stays out in front of me. Getting back to a little bit of what we always did back in '13, '14 and '15. Just got a little sloppy in the sense that the club runs off a little bit too much. So simple thing is keeping more width and keeping it more out in front of me in the backswing, which allows the club to stay more out in front of me on the downswing so I can hit my cut easier.

Q. How long has it been since you had your lie angles checked?

BILLY HORSCHEL: Well, I mean, I get them checked, but it was based off numbers that were correct at the time. So somehow along the lines when I went -- I'm using Titleist irons, so whatever irons I was using before Titleist and I sent them to them, somehow they went off those specs.

It wasn't until we got to the GEARS 3D system, realized they're too upright. I went in there, we got them flattened and I found some old numbers, old spreadsheet numbers of my Ping days and realized they didn't match the numbers that Titleist had.

So it wasn't Titleist's fault, it was just, you know, somehow along the lines the numbers got off and none of us was aware of it until, like I said, until we got on that GEARS 3D system, which told us we needed to flatten them.

Q. How long do you think they were maybe off for? What's the time frame?

BILLY HORSCHEL: You know, that's a great question. I'm going to say probably for, you



know, a couple years. Last year coming through impact, my handle was a lot higher, which helped with the lie angle being the way it was.

Now that the handle of the club at delivery is a lot lower, closer to where we were in '13 and '14, that was causing the issue with the ball not cutting.

Like I said, we just sort of just, just didn't -- wasn't diligent enough in everything. It's nobody's fault, but at least -- at least we've got it fixed now.

Q. Billy, you talked about the media session after the 84 at Memorial and how things are coming the right way now. Was that kind of a little bit cathartic to get some of that out (inaudible) maybe just kind of be able to move past it and move on?

BILLY HORSCHEL: Yeah. Listen, I wasn't expecting, you know, to be that emotional after the round. It was just a lot of hard work and grind and everything sort of just built up and finally came out.

And the one thing that I -- and I've shared it with my team, my team knew where I was mentally, my family knew where I was mentally, but maybe just doing that. And like I said, it was just, it just happened and just getting out and sharing it made me so it just relaxed more, feel better about myself getting it off my chest, getting off my mind.

And then the outreach, the people that reached out to me afterwards, I mean, I just could never imagine family, friends, people in business, athletes, who's who text me and tell me how much they care for me and everything.

So from that moment it's just been a surreal moment and I could never imagine something like that going down that way.

Q. What was the club for the hole-out? Lob wedge?

BILLY HORSCHEL: 56-degree.

