

## PRE-TOURNAMENT PRESS CONFERENCE

October 4, 2023

MIKE WEIR



**MODERATOR:** Mike, thanks for joining us for the third Constellation FURYK & FRIENDS. Just what's it mean to be back here supporting Jim in this tournament and overall support for the community?

**MIKE WEIR:** Yeah, Jim and Tabitha have done a wonderful job. I've known them for a long time. Jim and I played college golf against one another and we've been friends a long time. I wanted to come support him here. He's doing a great job with the event and giving back to charities. We had a fun day today in the pro-am with a couple First Tee kids.

**Q. Mike, how much are you anticipating next year, Montreal, you and Jim?**

**MIKE WEIR:** Yeah, we were up there for the captains' visit a couple weeks ago, Jim and I, so we got to spend three days together up there.

It's coming together. After watching the Ryder Cup, it kind of gets the juices flowing, thinking about it, anticipating it. I'd say it's on my mind quite a bit. I know next year's going to be very busy and probably my own schedule will be less playing next year and more focused on the Presidents Cup.

**Q. In the process of playing Presidents Cups, observing the Ryder Cups, do you have an idea at this point what kind of captain you'll be, what your management style might be?**

**MIKE WEIR:** I think I do. I think at 53 I kind of know what to do, just authentically be myself. It's a bit different for us players to kind of be thrust in that role because we're -- most coaches in other sports start at the high school level, then maybe they go on to college and then maybe they go on to be a professional coach in a league. It's different for us, right? We're players and we're thrust into this role, so it's a bit different. I feel like I have a good handle on it.

**Q. Do you feel like you're going to do changes to the golf course the way that the Europeans do to the U.S. team in the Ryder Cup, or do it because so many international players play here, or is everybody used to the same kind of setups as the PGA TOUR?**

**MIKE WEIR:** I think our team's quite a bit different than the European team, right? Our players are completely different. So course setup could be completely different than what Luke did in Rome. We're still talking through that. When I was up there for my captain's visit two weeks ago, we were definitely taking a look at the course. It's a wonderful old venue,

traditional golf club. Yeah, there's a few things you can do, but it's kind of right there in front of you. We'll see what happens.

**Q. (Inaudible) people are familiar with it, all the players, at least the PGA TOUR players and maybe some of the international players have played it several times through the Canadian Open, so they should know the course a little bit?**

**MIKE WEIR:** A little bit. It's been a while since we played there. The younger guys on the team, there's some of us captains that have played it enough, but maybe some of our players won't. Maybe they'll have a chance to get up there and play it beforehand.

**Q. What's the state of your game and how does it fit an old-school course like this?**

**MIKE WEIR:** My game feels pretty good. I had a better week at Pebble I guess a couple of weeks ago and last week off. It's definitely trending in the right direction. I feel good. Had a nice pro-am practice round today. It's a great golf course. It's a course you have to hit all the shots, you use pretty much every club in the bag. You have to wedge it great and putt great here.

The course is really -- the moisture has really softened up the course compared to last year. Obviously it was new with the changes so it was quite firm. This year's a little bit different, so you can fly the ball right to the hole, which is a lot different than last year. I think scoring probably will be better this year.

**Q. Last season, last year, have you had an opportunity to play with Steve Stricker? Have you been paired --**

**MIKE WEIR:** Yeah, yeah, I played with Strick.

**Q. From that vantage point and everything, what can you say about the way Steve has played the last --**

**MIKE WEIR:** It's incredible. Some of my friends will ask me, you know, boy, he's dominated this year. I'll say, yeah, you put Steve on the PGA TOUR with his short game, I can't think of some comparables to how good Steve's short game is. Not that the other parts of his game aren't great, too, but just how well he wedges it and putts it, all those little things around the greens. Especially Jordan Spieth comes to mind I guess as good as he is around the greens, but Strick's had an incredible year.