

THE BAHAMAS GREAT EXUMA CLASSIC

ROUND 4 QUOTES

January 17, 2024



JEREMY PAUL (-17)

Q. Jeremy, played really solid golf all week. How's it feel to end up with a win?

JEREMY PAUL: It's unbelievable. It was just starting to kick in when I called my family. You know, so much hard work. At some point everybody has doubts and stuff, so it's nice to start the season off like this with a win.

Yeah, just super happy right now. I'm super happy that I was able to pull it off. It's never easy to play with a lead. I had a great grouping with Kevin and Fred, and Kevin was making a lot of birdies down the stretch, so he made me work for it. Yeah, I'm just super thrilled right now with all the work that I've put in for so many years and all the people who believed in me along the way that I can give back a little bit with this win. Yeah, spectacular.

Q. We talked a little bit the other day kind of about your mental approach coming into this year. Just what was it coming into today holding the lead and trying to maintain it throughout?

JEREMY PAUL: Honestly, I didn't sleep too well honestly. When you're alone in your room and with your thoughts, that's always the worst place. Yeah, I was definitely nervous sleeping.

Then once I got on the golf course I honestly felt pretty comfortable. I knew I was hitting the ball really well and it was all about not getting ahead.

I think what actually was really beneficial is that this golf course is very challenging so I was never like, oh, I have a two-, three-shot lead, whatever it was, because I knew coming down the stretch anything can happen. I think that was actually a benefit that this course is very challenging that I was able to stay in the moment.

Yeah, honestly, I felt pretty calm and yeah, basically didn't know where I was at until basically at 18 when I was hitting the putt.

Q. Winning on such a challenging course, how does that make you feel about your game as you go forward into this year?

JEREMY PAUL: That's actually funny, I was talking with my friends, this is probably one of the courses that I would not pick if you have a lead to hold onto just because you don't have much room for any errors.



Yeah, it gives me a lot of confidence going forward. It's obviously a long season, so I'm just happy that it's always great to start with a win. Being my first one on this tour, it feels extra special.

Q. With the end goal of the year getting a PGA TOUR card and starting off with a win, just how does that feel setting off on the right foot?

JEREMY PAUL: Yeah, out here the points are so top heavy that I feel if you want to get a PGA TOUR card, you really have to get inside the top-3 at the events to collect a lot of points. So a win sets you up really well to obviously fulfill a dream of mine to become a PGA TOUR member at the end of the season.

Q. Even if you dreamt, you probably didn't dream of a start as good as today, especially the ease of it.

JEREMY PAUL: Yeah, I mean, I think the most nerve wracking was the first tee shot just because it's an uncomfortable tee shot. The wind off the left, I never really liked that tee shot. Once you get that tee shot in play and I got off to a birdie start, it kind of calmed me down a little bit. Then I hit a great shot on 2 and I had a tap-in birdie, made a nice putt on 3 for birdie, so that set up the round really well and I could just kind of cruise.

Yeah, thank God that I was able to hit a lot of quality shots so I never really got out of position that much where I was stressing, which was really nice.

Q. When's the last time you won?

JEREMY PAUL: Last time I won? I played a lot of -- back during COVID I played a lot of tournaments on the Outlaw Tour, Asher Tour what it's called now. I won a good amount of tournaments there.

But yeah, probably at least three years ago I would say. I think it's probably two and a half years ago. I won a tournament before final stage of Q-School two years ago I think.

Q. What is the mindset of somebody who's just trying to get a top-20 and somebody who's trying to pick up their first Korn Ferry Tour win? Like did you think your mind would be doing out there what it was or were you just -- your mind just kind of racing or what was going on?

JEREMY PAUL: Honestly, I expected it to be racing, I was just waiting for -- I was like at the beginning everything was good because I knew there was a lot of golf still to be played. I was expecting to start racing a little bit once we come down the final stretch.

Yeah, Kevin started making a lot of birdies and I knew it would be somewhat close. I didn't really get ahead of myself because I didn't really -- I never really thought I was going to win



until really the last hole, which helped me I think in the sense that I didn't get too ahead of myself, didn't get too nervous and I was able to hit obviously some good shots down the stretch.

Q. Coming into the week did you think there was like a realistic chance to win? I know everyone wants to win, that's the goal, but I guess coming in what were your expectations?

JEREMY PAUL: I didn't really have goals set where I was like I need to win, I want to win. I knew I was putting in a lot of good work at home, I was doing a lot of stuff on the mental side and I think that really paid off today because I think the difference maker is just at the end of the day is if you are able to stay in the moment, if you can kind of play your game. Everybody out here can play, but it really depends on when it matters can you hit the shots. I'm just really proud that I was able to do that.

Obviously it's a dream to win a tournament out here, but to try to win, it's always difficult. Just try to play and hopefully the win gets in the way kind of.

Q. Is there any advice that Yannik told you, having won on the DP World Tour I guess approaching this?

JEREMY PAUL: Yeah, the good thing was we were able to practice a lot before he went over to Europe or to the Middle East. We practiced a lot together. He always told me my game's in a really good spot and I should just keep doing what I'm doing. We're trying to help each other, you know.

A lot of times when you come over from Europe and you come over here to America, you're just like a player like anybody else and we try to get the mindset that we belong here, we can play with everybody. It takes a little bit of time, you know. I think that's how we helped each other a lot with it.

I knew my brother was doing good and our games are very similar, so I knew that if he was able to have the success that he's having in Europe, there's no reason why I can't have success over here as well. That almost calmed me down a little bit. I knew sometimes you've got to keep believing and sometimes the route's a little longer, but with him playing so well and us being able to practice together all the time, that really helped me because I feel like my game's there. Now I've just got to stay patient and wait when it's my time.

