

ROUND 1 QUOTES

July 11, 2024

RICHARD GREEN (-3)



Q. Richard, just give me a little recap on your round today. Always great to get off to a good start.

RICHARD GREEN: Yeah, absolutely, especially around this course. It's probably one of the tougher courses that we play on tour and it's really, really rewarding to have shot a good score. I'm still playing pretty well, so very happy.

Q. You've been playing some great golf lately. How is that just affecting your confidence? Is there anything you've been working on?

RICHARD GREEN: Same old stuff, just trying to hit good golf shots. It's just -- golf's an ongoing test and got to ride the ups and downs a little bit sometimes. It's been up for a bit for me, so I'm just going to just go with it as long as I can and keep working.

Q. You just said to me that sometimes you don't even know what you shot.

RICHARD GREEN: Yeah.

Q. Like how's that mentally? What's that do for you?

RICHARD GREEN: It's a nice state of mind to be in because you're just focused on what's in front of you. You're not thinking about score, you're not thinking about results or anything like that, you're just thinking about what you've got to do in the moment.

We all know golf's a game to be played right in the moment and I think that was the feeling that I had out there today internal, you know. I didn't even know what I shot when I walked off the last hole apart from seeing the scoreboard at the end. It's just a nice way to play.

Q. Is this a carryover from say the PGA Championship to Rhode Island to here?

RICHARD GREEN: I think so. I love these events, I love all the Champions Tour events that we play. The majors are a highlight obviously. It's a great place to test your game out and test out who you are as a golfer. For me, like I said before, to come off and play -- and have played well on this golf course, which I rate as a difficult one, it's rewarding, very rewarding.

Q. Last year was your first time playing this course, correct?

RICHARD GREEN: I played a couple of the WGC events in the mid 2000s. I got in through top-50 in the World Ranking. I think I played three times prior to last year. I've had some



understanding of this golf course. I love the condition of it, but I find it really challenging, so it will be a good test for the rest of the week.

Q. Anything you learned from last year's event, I know you finished in the top-5 last year here, that you can take forward a year later?

RICHARD GREEN: It's wiped away. You can never really know how you're going to go year to year, just got to take it as it comes when you're here. For me it's just focus on what I'm doing well at the moment and keep it going.

Q. What is it about this course specifically that makes it so challenging?

RICHARD GREEN: I think it's the accuracy that's required off the tee. You've got to be so, so accurate. I call a lot of these trees around here overhead bunkers. They sort of come into play, they overhang the fairways a little bit, so it tightens the fairways even more. You've got to be in the right part of the fairway to have a go at the pin on some holes. Just requires a level of accuracy that if you're a little bit off, it's going to bite hard.

So I think that and a combination of the greens, the greens are really fast. Although they're a bit softer today, which allowed us to sort of fly the ball right to the hole, they're fast and tricky, so you've got to have a real understanding of them. I think the more you play Firestone, the more you understand it. I haven't played it as much as some of the guys, but I've played enough.