

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES

January 30, 2025



SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER (-5)

Q. What's it like just starting after a longer layoff and one that included some time away? Was it any different than starting the regular season?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah, I was kind of prepared. You know, tournament golf's always a little bit different than playing golf at home. So I tried to be as prepared as I could for some bumps in the road as I'm sure there always is starting the year. And this is a different place than I usually plan to start my year, so I think having an understanding that I may not be exactly where I want to be to start the year but at the end of the day I'm here and playing some decent golf and overall I'm as prepared as I could be with the layoff.

Q. You talked about trying to refine or -- sorry, how you're watching tape to try to remember how some of your swing feels felt last year. How do you feel now with your swing?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah, I feel good. That was -- it kind of reminded myself I didn't get off to a great start today. It was a bit of a slower start. I felt like it could have been a lot better, but overall, yeah, I've just got to remind myself to stay patient and did a good job of capitalizing on some opportunities there on the front nine, which was my back nine, and post a decent number for the day.

Q. How many tournaments have you usually played by this point in the year?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Usually two. If I'm in Kapalua I'll play and then I'll typically play AmEx as well.

Q. How nice is it to get in a round on the harder of two courses?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah, it's kind of nice for the flow of the tournament getting to start over here and getting to play the rest of the tournament at Pebble. I think that's a nice flow for the event.

Yeah, I liked what I saw today. I hit a few errant shots out there, but overall kept the course in front of me for the most part, so I was able to make a decent amount of birdies.

Q. How much differently do you view Pebble as opposed to Spyglass, especially if it stays calm because I know it's supposed to rain a bit overnight Friday night?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: We're supposed to get a little bit more wind tomorrow and I think it's supposed to pick up as the weekend kind of goes on. The golf course should get tougher

and tougher, and looking forward to the test of going over there and playing.

Q. Out of curiosity, Rory was just in here, he said typically he shuts it down for the entire month of December, doesn't hit balls at all. What's the longest that you typically go not even playing social golf?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: That's funny, Rory and I played a match together in like the dead middle of December, so I think he's --

(Cross talk.)

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah, no, saw an opportunity. That's on me. No, I typically -- when I take breaks, I still play a little bit of social golf just because I love the game, I love being able to go out and play with my buddies.

Typically when I'm playing throughout the season, if I'm going to do something golf wise at home, I'm trying to maximize the amount of work that I can get out of that.

But no offense to my buddies at home, but some of 'em, it's not the best playing with guys, you know, especially at my age just because we haven't quite figured out how the gambling should work and all that.

And I have some different games I like to play in throughout the year, good games during the week at home and good games during the weekend where the shots are enough to where I feel I've really got to grind and I get a lot of pressure putts.

As far as just going out there and playing in the fall, I still get the texts from all my buddies wanting to play. So go out and play with some of my friends from college and then I'll let -- in the offseason I'll let the guys that I play with throughout the year get a little bit of their money back when I'm a little bit more out of shape.

Q. There's a lot of good names on the board already. How important is it to put on a good show this week at Pebble, a Signature and all that?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah, just like any other week, I think we're all trying to do our best. It's an iconic golf course and I think it's a golf course that we're all going to want to play well on. Looking forward to the rest of the week.

I haven't had a chance to look at the leaderboard. I know Rory made a hole-in-one, so I assume he couldn't have had that bad of a day. Six, perfect. Yeah, hopefully it will be a great tournament.

Q. You mentioned Pebble's iconic status, obviously it starts with the ocean, but beyond that, what makes it sort of magical to you? History of the course? You talk about shots you have to hit?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: I think it's a combination. I think the ocean is what really makes people remember it. No. 7 is a hole that is unlike any other that you can play in the world. Yeah, I think there's that aspect to it.

But then when you get really down into the golf course, you know you have to play a lot of different shots, you have to curve it both ways, you have to control your distance well, have an understanding of how far the ball's going to go here close to the ocean where the air's cooler and the wind's a little bit heavier.

There's a lot of stuff that goes into playing the golf course more so than just hitting the same shot every time. You've got to really adjust and do some different things to really play well over there.