

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW: JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY
June 25, 2016



MODERATOR: Well, Jean-Francois, 67, 64, 13-under, the leader right now, but maybe just talk about your day. You had two eagles and four birdies?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: No bogeys.

MODERATOR: Yeah, no bogeys.

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: Yeah, everything is, you know, as soon as you play really pretty decent since two days and I don't make too much mistakes. Few weeks ago in U.S. PGA and was 21 birdies for the four rounds and I finished -5. So if I can afford the bogeys, game is okay, putting is okay. And now I feel great because -- emotionally it's hard because it's -- hold on. It is a dream to come and play in the States. I played quite a few pretty decent (inaudible) and it was always a dream to come here.

MODERATOR: Well, let's --

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: You can see how -- I'm like a kid. Sorry about that.

MODERATOR: You started with an eagle on No. 1. What did you -- shot sequence there?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: It was absolutely a tremendous drive, just hit a 52 wedge behind that and spinning and get in straight on, so I wasn't really --

MODERATOR: How far was -- did you have to the hole?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: I had 95 yards to the pin into the wind, which I was 105 and it makes, you know, gorgeous shot. Second birdie, 100 rescue, just by the side of the green, chipped two puts, one putt.

MODERATOR: How far was it?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: The putt was about three yards, I count in yards.

MODERATOR: Yeah. Then you had another birdie on the par 5, No. 9?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: Yeah, hit in the bunker but I lay up a little bit on the 7-iron and make a sand wedge, 58 sand wedge from 105 yards, wind beyond, about five yards.

MODERATOR: And then eagle on No. 11?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: Yeah, I had a drive pretty good into the riff on the left and

made absolutely fantastic rescue from there, about six, seven yards from the pin and I holed it.

MODERATOR: 13.

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: 13 was a driver and I had 85 yards to the pin and I make it just like this.

MODERATOR: What did you hit for your --

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: 58.

MODERATOR: 58-degree, and then No. 15?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: And 15 we could catch the green and it was by the side of the green with the driver and I take two putts from there, so --

MODERATOR: Okay.

Q. Why was it a dream of yours to come play here, what was so important about coming to the States to play golf?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: Why? Because, you know, this game, I was watching the guys playing there, you know. Most of the guy I was watching on TV when I started my career about 23 years old, they were already stars. So I say maybe one day -- I could play maybe in the states when I was 2004, 2005 when I was playing really good on the European tour, but my kid was too young and I didn't want to break off things to come in the States. So I say one day I will try to play on the Champions Tour and play with all the guys who make me dream in the past because when I was watching the majors on TV, I say even Mark Calcavecchia, Tom Lehman, Craig Parry and all the guys, you know. So I was watching them and they say -- I start to play with them and few majors I start to play with them, but now, you know, it's great because it's difficult to get into the Champions Tour. It's really hard. It's really hard. There is only five spot to finish 8 and I was waiting most of the time to get in tournaments. Not it's getting a little bit, you know, for me I got alternate finish 8 and it's getting better and it's what I need, I need to play. So now I play two tournaments, two weeks off, and those are tournaments, you know, my game is getting better and I feel really comfortable. I really enjoy to be in the States, I really enjoy to all the peoples. And now, you know, I'm applying for the P-1 visa, which is for the athletes, so I should have it in September. So definitely I think end of the year I will establish myself in the States to make that dream, you know, really, really real. So I'm going to move to Florida, I think. I don't know where for the moment. It's going to be West Palm Beach or something like that. So as soon as I get my visa, all the family now we're ready to and we're happy to come. So that's, you know, things take time, but it comes. And for the P-1 visa we'll have five years as a residency, so I'm going to give myself five years to see what's going on. Because if I'm not doing that now, it's not at 60 years old I'm going to wake up and play the Champions Tour

because the guy behind me, these guys, 50, 49, 45, they're pushing, you know, you can see that. That's the right moment.

Q. When was the last time you got to go home?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: It's pretty renewed with my fiancée, it's going to be pretty hard year because I spend three times already about four to five weeks in the States. So it's pretty difficult for the family, but for me I love it, you know. I'm going, I play, I practice, I see all the guys, and that's great for me, you know, and so it's difficult for the moment because I don't have everything. It's coming, you know. Like my game, like everything's starting to -- so things are in a good way.

Q. But you are you were at the Monday qualifier this week, right?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: I was a Monday qualifier.

Q. And you lost in the playoff?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: I lost in the playoff but I was pretty sure I was going to get in. So it was great for Mark Mielke so he can get in, and I was pretty sure I'm going to get it. But it's, yeah, the Monday qualifying is hard, it's hard.

Q. But nobody else except the top leaderboard was close to Oregon Wisconsin and here you are in the lead. Do you find that fascinating or just kind of the way of life out here?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: No, I'm working out since more than two years to get by my game because I stopped about five years when I lost my card in 2008. So since two, three years, you know, I'm working hard to get better and be competitive again. And the States since I've got a card in December give me a huge boost, huge boost. I've got a lot of motivation and course condition, practice facilities in the States unreal. So for me it's something pushing and I'm doing the work. So if it come now, it come now. If it come next week, it come next week, I don't know. I'm not focusing on the future. I'm just trying to enjoy the present and emotionally when I feel that it's because from the past and it's something happened now. So I don't want to make, you know, I'm applying for the visa, that's my future for the family, but in term what going to be that tournament I'm just there, you know. And tomorrow is another day.

Q. Do you recall the feeling when you won the Open de France or Open de Paris in 2005, those back to back? I believe that's what you won, correct?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: Yeah, it was unbelievable. It was really unbelievable and I make something strong which I think is not enough recognized in France in my proper country, but it's another story. But it's long time ago. I'm such a different person since 12 years, you know. I'm completely different in term of what my life is, what my future, what I

want in my future, you know. Now I'm playing game completely different and this is really for like a dream, you know. Before it was more like I would like to achieve and show people that I can do things, but now it's not the case. I want to play for me and I want to enjoy the game and if it come, it come. If it doesn't come, I will try again.

Q. I read in your bio that you almost walked away from the game about 20 years ago, 1998, your bio said. What did you find within yourself to keep going?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: I would like to quit maybe a thousand times from that game and I think I'm not the only one. You know, it's a very hard game and, yeah, I think it's maybe '99 which was the (inaudible). I was really close to really completely stop and I was working with somebody in NLP program and my question was at that time do I have -- can I continue my career or do I have to do something else? At that time I was ready to change completely my life, but with the work, we decide to, okay, we have to -- you can compete. So I decide to continue. And few months after, after working on the death of my father, which was pretty hard, I won the Israel Open just like this, just like.

Q. The Israel --

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: Israel Open in 19 -- and I got tournament winners and from that everything goes, so --

Q. What do you know about Brett Favre?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: Sorry?

Q. What do you know about Brett Favre?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: What is that?

Q. The group playing exhibition today.

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: Unfortunately I could not see them, but, you know, what Steve Stricker is doing for the tournament is unbelievable, it's great. It's a big boost for us and he's coming pretty soon and he wants still to compete. He's going to be a guy to, you know, it's what I say, you know, guys like him that are coming and they're going to push the other ones. So that's another story.

Q. I saw several of you people watching the European Cup soccer today?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: Yeah.

Q. How big an event is that in France?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: It's big, it's big, soccer in France is big and in Europe it's

pretty big. I'm crossing the fingers because, you know, after what's happened with the country in Europe are pretty scared and it's great to have that events making good and nothing happen for the moment, probably good to not happen. It's a great event, you know, for people. They want to go out, it kind of, you know, France is not looking good and we are not talking about politics, but, yeah, I think France is playing tomorrow. I will be on the golf course.

Q. I'd like to just ask a world view question. What do you think of Great Britain withdrawing from the European Union and how does that affect the rest of Europe?

JEAN-FRANCOIS REMESY: You know, I know that in politics we think things going to change because of this, things are going to change because of that, but we don't decide anything. The normal people don't decide anything so that's my key of politics. So that's the reason, you know, you work there, you work there, you work for this man, it's blah, blah, blah, blah, blah, it's a lot of lie, you know. We're going to do this, this, this and this and they do completely the opposite. So I don't trust anything in politics. So it's a shame, you know. It's a shame but I don't know what's going to happen. Nothing going to change. Maybe the market, but who cares about the market. I don't care. The grass is going to grow tomorrow, the sun's -- you know, we're going to play, going to enjoy, you win you win and the day after is going to be another day, you know.