

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
October 12, 2017



XANDER SCHAUFFELE (-7)

Q. Xander, great round, 7-under 65. First time around the TPC Kuala Lumpur. How did it go today for you?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: It was boring, which I guess is a good thing out here. Hit a lot of fairways and kind of made an easy day out of it. The rough has been up apparently compared to last year, that's what Justin told me at least. I pretty much tried to copy everything that he did because I figured he's a good guy to imitate out here.

Q. What's the key for you to this golf course, because I saw you do a few plays or make a few plays out there that I wasn't expecting off the tee. I thought you would use your length a little bit more, maybe be a little bit more aggressive, but you obviously have a game plan around here?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: I'm acting like I have one. I'm just trying to go with kind of what feels comfortable for now. A couple of those ones where I hit iron off the tee, I still had wedge in my hand so Austin and I figured we could still be aggressive. The greens are kind of firm, but I figure with the gap or pitching wedge we could still stop it within a couple feet. So it might change as the week goes on, but we'll see.

Q. You had a phenomenal rookie year obviously and maybe somewhat unexpected, definitely by us. You surprised us at the Golf Channel as analysts with what you did. How have you been able over the last two weeks -- heck of an offseason -- to reset your goals and potentially reset your standards?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah, I haven't really reset any goals yet, or I was supposed to make a list of goals before I came out here and I failed to do so, which might be a good thing. My head's still in the clouds for the most part and hopefully that will work for me this week.

Q. You've got two more weeks in Asia, this week and obviously Jeju Island next week in South Korea and then HSBC Champions in China. How important is it for you to get off to a good start these next three weeks on the Asian swing?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah, I'm just excited to be out here. I always wanted to travel through golf, and the fact that I can kind of play Malaysia, Korea and China is awesome, especially with these events. No cuts is always nice.

Q. Coming off a strong year, Rookie of the Year obviously, how does that momentum carry over to these kind of events?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Yeah, it's just makes you feel just a little more comfortable, you know, finishing third. Obviously I didn't realize but I get a lot of good tee times now playing with Justin. He's kind of the man out here and that's only going to help me.

Q. Do you kind of expect to be in these positions now that you've had some success, do you expect to be up toward the top of the leaderboard?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: You know, I figured if I can kind of stay relaxed and stay comfortable, my game kind of holds strong. So I guess I do expect it. Everyone does at a certain point but this is all still new to me. I had a two-week offseason so my head's still in the clouds with everything.

Q. Strong day, though, bogey free. What's working for you well this week on this course?

XANDER SCHAUFFELE: Just kind of keeping ahead of myself -- or the ball right in front of me. Hitting fairways is the biggest thing, so literally first shot on every hole is really important. The greens are firm and the rough's up from past years is what I heard, so if you can keep it in the fairway you can kind of play a boring, clean round.