

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
February 16, 2018

SAM SAUNDERS (-7)



GENESIS OPEN

Q. You turned it around. A little bit of a slow start and then you really had it rolling there. I'm sure you were sad to hear the horn blow?

SAM SAUNDERS: No, no, I wasn't because I knew going into today we weren't going to finish teeing off last. Obviously last night I think one group only got in like 14 or 15 holes last night, so I knew going into today that I wasn't going to finish so I didn't even try. I knew that wasn't going to happen. You know, it was nice to finish those last few holes in the dark with some birdies there. I'm in the fairway on 7 there looking right up the green, so I didn't want to hit that shot, though, because it gets dark and it's hard to see. So looking forward to coming back in the morning and good day tomorrow.

Q. You've put together some nice rounds around this place. What is it about Riviera that suits your eye?

SAM SAUNDERS: It's a shotmaker's golf course, you've got to hit good shots. I don't know that I've played any course where good shots are more rewarded and bad shots are penalized. It's plain and simple. You don't get a lot of goofy bounces out here, not a lot of surprises. If you hit a good shot it's going to be good, and if you don't you may struggle. So I really enjoy that aspect of it and I like the greens here, they roll great. Even tonight after all day, they have some footprints on them and they may bounce a little, but they're still pure. You still hit a good putt, they go in.

Q. A couple guys talking about greens getting firmer, a little bit of wind around here and a bit of a major championship vibe. Talk about the conditions a little bit.

SAM SAUNDERS: Yeah, it's great. It is firm, fairways are running, greens are definitely firm. This poa annua can get bouncy. That first bounce into the green is a big hop, so that's why it's so important to hit fairways because you know that first bounce is going to be big no matter what. So that second one, you really need it to be grabbing a lot or balls are just going to be getting away from you. At that point you kind of have to start planning on, okay, where am I going to miss this to play my next shot.

Q. I know you've got a couple holes to finish, but easy to say you're pretty excited going into the weekend?

SAM SAUNDERS: Absolutely, yeah. Looking forward, hopefully it's going to be early, 7:15 restart. So finish the round off, goal is try to get three good looks at birdie and see if I can't capitalize on a couple of those, and then just keep doing what I'm doing this weekend.