

**ROUND 2 INTERVIEW**  
**March 30, 2018**

**MATT KUCHAR (-8)**



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**Q. Can you tell us how it went out there today?**

**MATT KUCHAR:** It started out, it was a beautiful morning. We got lucky I think with the tee times last night. I was one of the last to finish and it was just a perfect evening, one of those ones you remember when you were a kid playing and it just couldn't be nicer out. Shadows were long and there was hardly any wind.

Restarted this morning and there was very little wind, it was awfully nice. Then after about the fourth hole the wind started picking up and the course became quite challenging. I was lucky I took advantage of some early birdies. Then from there, just you try to avoid some mistakes out here with the way the wind's blowing.

**Q. You've got to like your position, though?**

**MATT KUCHAR:** Yeah, I'm playing some good golf. I was anxious to come here after a nice week in Austin. Found some pretty good form and hoping to continue it.

**Q. Did you say the wind started picking up? Is it still picking up out there, kind of steadied off?**

**MATT KUCHAR:** Yeah, it was 10 to 15. It makes a couple holes, it switched directions from yesterday to today and a couple of those closing holes are into the wind. 18 in particular, it's just a bear of a hole. There are a couple other really challenging ones. I think maybe the sixth hole is playing really, really hard as well. So there are a couple holes that you're trying to get a par and move on.

**Q. Matt, what are you looking for in your game heading into next week, building momentum?**

**MATT KUCHAR:** Short game always needs to be really sharp, but around Augusta National everything needs to be sharp. It's one of those things where you do your best to prepare. Hard to control the golfing gods and how well you're playing. But the short game's one thing that you have a little more control over the long game and you hope that's going to be really sharp going into next week.

**Q. Is there anything from your Augusta yardage book from '98 or any of the notes you've kept from way back then on the greens that are still helpful in 2018, like how much is that early knowledge helpful now?**

**MATT KUCHAR:** It's interesting, I think around Augusta there's a learning curve but a fairly quick learning curve. I think we've all seen it so many times and it doesn't take asking one person, asking a caddie, asking a player and you know exactly where to miss -- leave approaches to have a chance. You know the kind of recovery shots you can play off some slopes. It doesn't take too long to kind of figure out where to hit it. The hard thing is executing it, getting yourself to actually do that.

**Q. Because the conditions are also changing almost by the minute given the (inaudible) and humidity levels, right? Is that what you're talking about?**

**MATT KUCHAR:** I didn't go that deep, but I think course knowledge only helps you if you can execute it. Say if you know to not miss the first green to the left and you go ahead and hit it to the left, that course knowledge doesn't help you very much. You knew better, but you still do it. It's kind of like here the 18th hole has water left, you know not to hit it left in the water, but occasionally we hit bad shots, we don't execute and we hit it in the water. So course knowledge is helpful but to a point. You've got to go ahead and execute the shots.

**Q. Speaking of executing, it's been now a full year since you missed a cut, your last one was here in Houston last year. What do you attribute that good play and what gives you confidence now looking to post more good numbers this weekend?**

**MATT KUCHAR:** I enjoy the fact that my game is one where I feel like I can play good week in and week out on any given course. Certainly I've made strides in my professional career to become a consistent golfer, to become a guy that has a chance every week. I think the work I've put in with Chris O'Connell has turned me into that player. He's been my instructor now I think a little over 10 years and I feel like every year we're just refining and getting better and more consistent. Hopefully that leads to some more tournament wins as well.