

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
March 30, 2018



JUSTIN ROSE (-7)

Q. The last couple days kind of like your season, steady, solid, in contention really. It was cool, calm and collected out there, even in difficult wind conditions today.

JUSTIN ROSE: Yeah, to go bogey free out there today was definitely, I'm pleased with that. It wasn't always as smooth as maybe it looked. I hit a couple poor shots, but caught a good break on No. 5. I thought my ball was in the hazard, then hit it right on the green, made a great up-and-down there to keep the round going.

But yeah, I think my short game's really kept me in it in terms of making pars when I hit poor shots, but unfortunately the putter hasn't been that hot in terms of making those midrange birdie putts. For some reason I haven't read the greens very well this week. There's a lot of sloping sections, but where the pins are there's not a ton of slope. For some reason I'm having a hard time picking the line, but hopefully I can start making some this weekend.

Q. How much did you have to adapt today with the way the wind shifted overnight?

JUSTIN ROSE: Yeah, the course played completely different and I think this is the toughest wind. I think it's shifting back from the south over the weekend and that makes all the tough holes play longer -- much easier, excuse me. All the tough holes played long today. So I hit driver, 5-wood into 18 today, that hole is really tough.

Q. (No microphone.)

JUSTIN ROSE: Yeah, you know, I think obviously there's a wave of players to go out this afternoon. I expect the lead to creep into 10, 11, 12, 13. Through two rounds you can't win it, so I'm in a decent spot.

Q. (Question about playing the week before the Masters.)

JUSTIN ROSE: I've done it both ways, to be honest with you. I've done it really hard and other times when I won at Merion I actually took the week off before (inaudible.) You think about it too soon. We all start thinking about Augusta maybe six, eight weeks ago and I feel like playing this week gives plenty of distractions. It's a good time to (inaudible) just a few days prior to.

Q. Does it have the uniqueness of it because it's the one major that's the same place all the time?

JUSTIN ROSE: No doubt, yeah. I think just the marginality of the golf course. You catch

the ridge, the ball works to the hole, you miss the ridge, make your bogey. That's the thing, you have to be really precise. I think that mental errors will creep in. I think by playing this week you're trying to sharpen up mentally, I think that's what's happening. I think sometimes you can take two weeks off and practice yourself (inaudible) feel great after a couple weeks of practice but then you can find that mental edge.