

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
March 30, 2018



SAM RYDER (-10)

Q. Interesting day, you didn't sleep on the 18-hole lead but you were sleeping on a really good round. You come out here and it kind of took a little while to get the energy going, but I thought you rallied beautifully out there.

SAM RYDER: Yeah, I'm proud of myself for the way I fought back after a tough start. Just weird, I was playing so well yesterday, hitting it beautifully, driving it great, putting well, and then to get called off the course is tough. I knew we weren't going to finish and it was just -- it was a tough turnaround because we came out this morning, it was cold, very windy, and I have like the toughest stretch of holes right there. I have 16, 17, 18. Those holes are like if I played them last night calm, swinging it well, loose, who knows what would have happened.

But it was just the nature, it's just tough. Wind howling in off the left, cold like I said, it's 7:30 in the morning. So it was just kind of a tough draw.

But I just got into a rhythm, I just felt like I loosened up a little bit. I felt good in terms of nerves, just physically I felt like I needed to get up. It was just a quick turnaround and I got into a nice rhythm and just finished the round swinging it beautifully and rolled some putts in.

Q. You're standing on the third tee and you've made four straight bogeys, 17, 18, and out of the gate today -- I guess on the back side, excuse me, 10 and 11, you're standing on the 12th tee. What did shift for you to get into the rhythm that you described?

SAM RYDER: It was just kind of, it was one of those things where I just felt like I couldn't get my rhythm. I tried to hit a couple drivers with my coach in between rounds, I only had like 20 minutes, so nothing really. Just made a couple good swings and I told my caddie, I just said, I finally feel like I'm loose. Came to the gym and I did my normal warmup and everything, it was just hard when it was cold and everything and not a lot of sleep last night. To just feel like I got loose and got into a rhythm, so when I felt like it I was like wow.

And then I (inaudible) the ball was coming out of the middle of the face. It was nice to see some drives doing what I was expecting them to do right away. So yeah, when I felt like I got into that rhythm, I got a little bit of confidence back and was able to go after a couple pins and roll some putts in.

Q. Yeah, and the putter has been hot, you're leading the field in strokes gained putting, at least at this juncture. We know these surfaces are pure, but what have you seen and what sets up well to your eye to make so many putts so far this week?

SAM RYDER: Well, I got some good work in with my coach Jeff Pierce on Monday. We just started working together like a month ago before Valspar and I had kind of blips of good putting there and it's been feeling good. But, you know, I've been trying to turn off the technical side of it because I've made some technical changes and just turn it into putting and just focusing on making putts.

I think I've been done a really good job of that this week. I've built a nice routine where I can just shut off the technical side of it and just get into hitting good putts. And my speed has been what's been so good. My speed's been great, so it's just made the hole a lot bigger, my lag putting's been awesome. So it's definitely nice to see some putts go in. The momentum just builds on the greens, you gain confidence and the rest is history.