

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
August 2, 2018

PHIL MICKELSON (-4)



Q. Phil, we'll immediately go to the commercial. How did they approach you about the original thought?

PHIL MICKELSON: They showed some of the videos like they had done like with Tim Tebow and JJ Watt and they said, "We have this idea about dancing." Obviously, you know, it's not my -- it's not the thing I'm most comfortable doing. But then Amy said, "You should just tell them that you know how to do the worm." So after she said that, it was over, we were doing it.

I don't know, I think it's fun to laugh at yourself, and certainly that's what I'm doing in this commercial because it was a lot of work just to get those moves out of me.

Q. How long did it take?

PHIL MICKELSON: It only took an hour, yeah.

Q. How many takes did they do?

PHIL MICKELSON: We probably did 15 to 20. I mean, it was a lot -- it was a lot for me to get even just that much out of me. It looks pretty benign, but it wasn't easy.

Q. When was it?

PHIL MICKELSON: We did it probably a month ago.

Q. The worm is in all 15 takes?

PHIL MICKELSON: No, we did like a major run-through and then we just did some of my more solid moves like that.

Q. What was left on the cutting room floor?

PHIL MICKELSON: There were a few, there were a few that we cut out just for time. Maybe we'll put them in outtakes because they're pretty good.

Q. Have you always had that attitude of I'll put myself out there, make fun of myself, or have you had to sort of grow into that?

PHIL MICKELSON: No, I've kind of always laughed at myself, you know, since day one.

I've not ever taken myself too seriously and this is kind of obvious with that because it's certainly outside my comfort zone. But I had a lot of fun doing it and it just really shows and demonstrates how comfortable and versatile the shirt really is.

Q. I think you mentioned, did the kids help you pick out some of the moves? Are they embarrassed by dad at all?

PHIL MICKELSON: How can you not be, you know? I'm sure they are, but they're also used to it.

Q. There was a report on ESPN this morning that the match with Tiger is going to be in November.

PHIL MICKELSON: Yeah, Thanksgiving weekend.

Q. Can you confirm that?

PHIL MICKELSON: Yeah, that's right, yeah.

Q. Are there any other details on the match?

PHIL MICKELSON: Not at this time, but we'll have more shortly, we'll have more shortly. We'll have -- yeah, we'll start -- as we firm up more and more details, we'll let everybody know. Right now we just know that it's going to be Thanksgiving weekend for sure.

Q. Will you go to the Bahamas and play in Tiger's event then?

PHIL MICKELSON: Maybe, yeah. I've actually been looking at that because if I'm going to be practicing and playing and getting my game sharp at a time when I'm usually not, then I may end up playing an additional tournament or two. So I would not rule that out, yeah.

Q. It's in Vegas?

PHIL MICKELSON: Yes, yeah.

Q. What about today?

PHIL MICKELSON: What about today. Oh, I played today. You know, Justin and I had it going. We were 4 under through 10 and we had some opportunities to go low. There were a lot of low scores out there, I get that, but we still played well and had opportunities to get it to 6, 7, 8, 9 under par. I had a few birdie putts that I thought might have gone and didn't quite. I also holed a chip for par. It was a good solid start. I didn't put myself too far back. We get to go out tomorrow and have some fresh greens, and I'm putting well, so I'm looking forward to getting back on the course because I feel like I'm playing well.

Q. Are you surprised at how low the scores are today?

PHIL MICKELSON: Well, the course is pretty soft. It's a hard golf course, but when the fairways are soft, the ball stays in the fairway. When they're firm, they run and deflect off into the rough. The greens are receptive, and not only were they receiving shots, but the ball wasn't backing up, either, which allowed us to get to back pins, too. So I'm not surprised because it played susceptible to low scoring. But it's still fun, it's still really fun to play a course like this.

Q. Are you surprised your results haven't been better here?

PHIL MICKELSON: Yeah, I won in '96, I thought I was going to really light this place up. The last decade or so I've struggled here, but I'm driving the ball much better than I have in a long, long time, and because of that I'm going to have more irons into these greens from the fairway, I'm going to make a lot more birdies. Plus, I have a real strong motivation right now, we have two more weeks, I want to get on that Ryder Cup team without having to be a pick. It's been 11 times now without being a pick, I don't want to be a pick now. I want to get on that team here in these next two weeks, so I'm really motivated to bring out my best.