

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
August 2, 2018

IAN POULTER (-8)



Q. Ian, very well played. What worked for you today out there?

IAN POULTER: Everything, I guess. When you shoot 8 under par on a notoriously quite difficult golf course, you know, everything has to be right. I drove it in the fairway a lot, I gave myself many looks at birdie, took quite a few of those opportunities. Hit a few shots real close and kind of obviously tapped them in. When I needed to make up-and-down, I obviously did that as well. So it was all -- it was all kind of gelling quite nicely.

Q. Just how good is it to be back here and playing so well?

IAN POULTER: It's great. World Golf Championships are where you want to play. Majors and World Golf Championships mean you're in the top 50 and obviously you're doing something quite well. So to be back here, I know it's our last one here and it's a place I haven't played well. So today was nice to kind of get a decent number on the board, give myself some confidence going into the next three days and hopefully I'll continue that form.

Q. Your performances this season and today, what's been the difference?

IAN POULTER: Enjoying my golf, cleaning up everything behind the scenes, which allows me to focus on the golf a bit more. When you do that, you can enjoy your golf, play free, be more aggressive and that's generally how you get some good results.

Q. Finally, you're wearing the yellow ribbon proudly today. Can you give us a sense of the reaction from the players?

IAN POULTER: I think everyone has got a heavy heart. It was sad news when everyone seemed to either get the message on Instagram or when you've been told. He's battled long and hard from an early age. He's fought it off a couple of times and obviously it's come back quite aggressive. So he's gone through a lot, he's a warrior. He's getting a lot of love from his family and that's obviously what he's going to need.