

**ROUND 2 INTERVIEW**  
**August 3, 2018**

**JASON DAY (-9)**



**Q. So, what do you think about Tiger's comments about yourself?**

**JASON DAY:** I didn't hear him. I just commented on myself about myself.

No, we had a lot of fun over the last two days. I think his iron play's -- you know, I think he thinks it's not as good as it is, but I've never seen someone -- I think he's probably the best iron player of all time. But being able to hit every shot with an iron is just unbelievable crisp, there's no mis-hit. So, you know, he's primed and ready for kind of the end of the season.

**Q. What's the big difference? You played the first two rounds with him at The Open at St. Andrews. What's the difference in what you saw those two days and what you see now?**

**JASON DAY:** He's either a little bit distracted or he's injured. Mind you, we had to come back in the morning, there was a massive delay. So we kind got the bad end of the draw, which is understandable because, I mean, if you get the bad end of draws over there, it's difficult to play well.

It just -- right now he's just -- he seems a lot more focused on golf, he seems more balanced. When you're competing against the best players in the world, it's just so hard to worry about other things off course or on course or whatnot and be able to play against the best players in the world.

I look at him and he seems focused. You look at him when he starts his pre-shot routine up until when he hits it, he's focused on getting it from here to there, whereas before I think with current swing changes and stuff, it was like you'd see him hit a shot and then he'd rehearse a practice swing or what he wanted to try and do. He's a lot more focused on target and less focused on the swing.

**Q. You didn't have an amazing history of playing with him in tournaments until sort of this week. Do you feel maybe it's a barrier you've maybe overcome?**

**JASON DAY:** It's definitely a good, you know, step in the right direction. He was my idol growing up, so, you know, it's easy to be nervous in front of your idol. He's so cutthroat, he doesn't even care, you know. He's like, he's not going to give me -- it's okay, I'll let you --

So that's kind of what I've learnt over the last, you know, however many years I've known him, that even though he's, you know, been, you know, a friend that's helped with advice and he's my idol growing up, I've got to go out there and beat the guy.

**Q. Is that a group of nerves that you've now put to bed?**

**JASON DAY:** I think so, yeah. I mean, you know, there's just so many good players, I can't focus just solely on him. There's three guys here at 11 under. So I've got to focus not only on myself, but I've got to try and make sure I beat the other guys as well, because Tiger's just one guy amongst a lot of great players out here.

**Q. You really rescued your round in the middle there today. You must be pretty pleased with the way you were able to turn it around mid round?**

**JASON DAY:** Yeah. It was a poor three-putt on 5, and then 8 was -- I mean, that was a tough kind of up-and-down. I hit a good putt there, but for the most part, I hit -- the last two days I hit great iron shots. I just knew that if I can get myself started in the right direction. Down 10 I hit a great 3-wood and hit a nice wedge in there and birdied that.

From there it kind of switched the momentum for me and I actually kind of played really, really nicely and I was happy about how the game ended up panning out. I actually just didn't putt as well as I hoped to on the back side.

**Q. You're in great position heading into this week.**

**JASON DAY:** Great position, and I feel like I'm not putting my best, so hopefully if I can putt better, then I'll get myself in contention on Sunday.

**Q. Jason, are there people you've played with that if they sensed that you were a little nervous around them, they would say something to put you at ease.**

**JASON DAY:** If people would -- I know Tiger wouldn't. He'd be like using that.

**Q. I guess I'm wondering how rare it is that someone --**

**JASON DAY:** Every now and -- every now and then you kind of, if a guy's not playing that well, if he's nervous, you're like, come on, let's pick it up a little bit. But that's usually if they're kind of having a bad trot. But we're just trying to -- I'm trying to beat that guy, so I'm trying to not help my opponents out too much.

**Q. Any empathy or compassion because (inaudible) in the past?**

**JASON DAY:** For him or me or vice versa? Not really, I think we're just, we're competitors and we want to try and beat each other, we want to try and win tournaments. He's trying to get his first this year and I'm trying to get my third. Our sole focus is to play as good as we can each and every day and hopefully we're there on Sunday.

**Q. Jason, do you feel the state of Ohio owes you a tournament, owes you one?**

**JASON DAY:** The state of Ohio?

**Q. Yeah.**

**JASON DAY:** No, no, no. Nothing owes you in the game of golf, unfortunately. I wish it would -- you have to go out and work for it, and unfortunately that's just life. Nothing's ever given to you or owed to you, you've got to go out and take it, so I've got to do a lot of work over the next two days.