

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

**TIGER WOODS (-6)**



**Q. Some days it is a battle in this game. You told us yesterday that you fought through the score. How much were you fighting out there today?**

**TIGER WOODS:** Yeah, I was just trying to give myself putts at it. Really putting well, just didn't quite hit the putts hard enough today and to me they felt faster than what they were playing and I struggled with hitting the putts hard enough, but when I did, I made them.

**Q. You got to enjoy some Scottish weather and then you got to go to Switzerland and enjoy a nice little vacation. How much different is the altitude or are you feeling it out there at all?**

**TIGER WOODS:** Well, there's certainly more air here, which is nice. A little different from the altitude last week. Certainly, this is hot, this is humid and, you know, smart thing I decided to wear all black today.

**Q. Yeah, you and me both, a couple Einsteins. When you look at your scoring average on the PGA TOUR, you lead third round, so going into Saturday, which is moving day, last time we saw you at Carnoustie, you made a huge move. How do you feel about your position going into tomorrow?**

**TIGER WOODS:** Well, I'm going to have to. The golf course is playing very soft, very receptive, and when you're able to hit 5-irons and they only roll out about a foot, the guys are going to put up good scores. It's pretty indicative, there's, I don't know, 40-plus guys under par. That's never the case here at Firestone. So tomorrow's going to be one of those days I'm going to have to go out there and post a low one and see what happens.

**Q. Obviously this is a lot different than Carnoustie given the weather conditions and how much you've played here and your success. We saw you change the strategy on Saturday at Carnoustie, get a little more aggressive, will anything change tomorrow?**

**TIGER WOODS:** Not really. I play the golf course for what it has and that's about as aggressive as I'll ever play this place. It's imperative to hit the ball in the fairway here because the rough is thick, but then again, you hit the ball in the fairway you know that you can flag some iron shots, they won't roll very far. So it's imperative for me to get the ball in play and if I'm there, go ahead and attack.

**Q. Can you talk about your options on 14, the degree of difficulty for that chip shot?**

**TIGER WOODS:** I just couldn't get -- obviously couldn't build a stance and I was just trying

to make sure that I got ball. It came out a lot harder than I thought it would. I thought it was going to many come out soft because I was chipping into the grain as well, so I kind of figured that I need to give a little bit more of a hit because it was into the grain and it came out quick.

**Q. Tiger, today seemed a little bit labored maybe, I don't know if that's the word. How would you describe it?**

**TIGER WOODS:** Well, I just didn't hit it as sharp as I would like to. And on top of that, I hit pretty much every putt right on line, I just didn't hit the putts hard enough. To me, they felt faster than what they were playing and I just had a hard time hitting the putts hard enough, but when I did, I poured them. Hopefully, tomorrow they'll be a little bit quicker and what I see and feel is exactly what it is.

**Q. Was that a spike mark on 16 that got you?**

**TIGER WOODS:** No, that was not a spike mark. That was me not hitting it hard enough.

**Q. I mean, it looked like it bounced up.**

**TIGER WOODS:** I just didn't hit it hard enough.

**Q. Tiger, you're leading the Tour in scoring average on Saturdays this season. First, do you know that, and secondly, does that give you some confidence going into the weekends now knowing that you're playing well?**

**TIGER WOODS:** Well, I'm going to have to. The golf course is soft, it's playable, and I think it's over 40 guys right now under par, which I've never seen it like this year at Firestone. So we're all -- in order to make a move out here, we're going to have to shoot low ones because pretty much everyone's going to shoot a good score, so hopefully tomorrow I can do that.

**Q. Your stats are the exact same today as they were yesterday, 7 out of 14 fairways, 13 out of 18 greens. What was different for you?**

**TIGER WOODS:** I felt better with my game than I did yesterday, for sure. I just didn't hit the putts hard enough, but if I did, I would have easily shot 4, 5 under par.

**Q. But off the tee and with your iron game?**

**TIGER WOODS:** I felt a little bit more sharp. I mean, not sharp, but a little bit more so than I did yesterday.

**Q. Tiger, what do you hope to get or want to get out of that match with Phil if it comes to that? What's your motivation?**

**TIGER WOODS:** We're going to have fun. We're going to do something that's never been done before in the game of golf, so that's always fun to do something like that. I did something like that previously with, you know, some of the stuff under the lights and this is a different version of it. But still, it's trying to grow the game of golf somehow and doing something that's different that's never been done before. The way the different media platforms that we have now, we can do something like this now.

**Q. Will that be the only one?**

**TIGER WOODS:** I don't know, we'll see. The plans are for this one and possibly more, but you just never know. When we first did the Showdown at Sherwood, it was basically only one time, a one-time deal, but it ended up going more than that. So we'll see what happens with it this year.

**Q. Tiger, Phil hinted at going to the Bahamas afterwards. Did you talk to him about that or try to --**

**TIGER WOODS:** To play my tournament?

**Q. Yeah.**

**TIGER WOODS:** Oh, he didn't say that to me. That made me feel better today. Thank you, Bob.

**Q. How comfortable is it playing with someone like Jason Day?**

**TIGER WOODS:** Oh, Jason's great to play with. He's been a friend of mine for a very long time. And today, God, he played beautifully today. He played solidly and didn't really do anything wrong today and just kept being very steady. Right now he's only 2 back and he hasn't really done a whole lot. He certainly -- I think he could have done a few more.

**Q. All the times you've played with him, is that the best you've seen him play in person?**

**TIGER WOODS:** You know, it's probably the luckiest he's ever gotten. No, I've seen him strap it before and he's certainly capable of hitting just so many good shots. He doesn't really miss many putts. So you put those two things together on a golf course like this, he's going to be in contention.

**Q. Tiger, you're certainly aware lots of people say they come out specifically to see you. How does that make a person feel? We can't identify with that.**

**TIGER WOODS:** You know, I think it's fantastic they come out to support the event. I know that, you know, I've gotten some pretty good galleries this year as I've come back. The people are very appreciative and very thankful, and so am I. This is very different than the

years past because I think a lot of people knew that -- well, didn't know if I would ever play again. So when they've come out and supported me this year, it's been a little bit more enthusiastic than it's been in years past.