

FINAL ROUND INTERVIEW
August 5, 2018



TIGER WOODS (+1)

Q. How do you assess the week?

TIGER WOODS: Well, things could have certainly gone better, but it is what it is and on to next week.

Q. How much are you looking forward to next week now?

TIGER WOODS: I am, I'm looking forward to getting there. I haven't been there in, jeez, what was it, 17 years. From what I've heard what the guys have said, it will be low scoring again next week and check it out.

Q. Tiger, what are you going to miss the most about playing in Akron at this course?

TIGER WOODS: Well, I think not just the golf course, but just the community. This has been just a fantastic event for all these years. I've been coming here for over 20 years and see the same people following. You see them sometimes on the same hole. We're going to miss that. This is one of the classic golf courses that unfortunately we don't get a chance to play very often.

Q. Any irony in the pin placement on 18?

TIGER WOODS: Yeah, how about that, huh? I've made a few birdies there. It was a good way to end it, at least for another eight more years.

Q. Was there anything today you can use to take momentum into next week?

TIGER WOODS: Well, today I was just trying to be as aggressive as possible and fire at everything. It was either going to be 62 or 63 or something in the mid 70s. I was just going to be aggressive and see what happens. I was so far back that I had to play a great round just to get in the top-10. Sometimes it works out, sometimes it doesn't.

Q. What was missing this week compared to two weeks ago when you were right there on Sunday?

TIGER WOODS: Well, I didn't hit the ball as clean as I wanted to. I only putted well the first day. I struggled hitting the putts hard enough this week. It felt -- looked faster than they were putting for me and I just struggled making that adjustment.

Q. Is this the first time all year do you think where you really were not -- you came to

the event without having practiced much. Every tournament you played, it seemed that you spent at least some time the week prior working on your game. Do you think that has any -- is any issue at all?

TIGER WOODS: No. I didn't hit as many balls as I normally would going into an event, but I needed it break. I pushed it hard through The Open and needed a break because this stretch coming up here is going to be a big stretch starting this week and through the Playoffs.

Q. Those "thank you, Tiger" chants, does that seem almost premature?

TIGER WOODS: Oh, man, I'm going to miss this place. I'm going to miss playing here, I'm going to miss the people. I've had so many great memories and it's just -- it's sad that we're not coming back here anymore. I've always enjoyed playing here, I loved playing here, even when it was the World Series of Golf. Now it's become a bigger event, but unfortunately we have to move on. The guys that I grew up playing against are going to be playing here next year. We'll see how they play it.

Q. (Inaudible) you have the cutthroat competitiveness inside the ropes that you grew up watching, but it's changed, you're able to leave that inside the ropes now. Do you agree with that, are you somehow different than you were 10 or 20 years ago in that respect?

TIGER WOODS: Well, I think a lot has changed since kids. When I play a bad round, I fester a little bit, but now I go home and I'll be with the kids or they want to talk and Facetime and that changes. That evolved, that's life. It putt things into perspective. I remember at Doral you guys asked me when I three-putted the last hole, how did it feel. When I saw Sam, I don't remember ever missing a putt. So that's just life and it changes. When it's time to play, it's time to play, and when it's not, it's just different.

Q. Your ball today was going left. Was it just your body or what was the problem?

TIGER WOODS: Yeah, I hit a few pulls this week and also I hit a few blocks. I had them both going this week. I didn't quite hit the ball as clean as I wanted to or I wasn't as sharp, for sure. The first day making a bunch of putts helped kind of cover a few things up. But I need to clean things up come Thursday and I've got three more days to work on it.

Q. (Inaudible) for 16 no matter what today?

TIGER WOODS: No, I only had 238 front. I hit just a terrible golf shot. I tried to hit a 4-iron up in the air and tried to hit up, I thinned it.

Q. What was the approach going into the day?

TIGER WOODS: You know, depends on -- I thought the tee shot was in the fairway and I hit

up the right side. It was borderline whether it was going to be in the rough or not up the right and ended up in the first cut on the left. But I had a chance. It was a simple shot and I hit a bad shot.

Q. Given how consistently well you've been playing, did your struggles this week come as a surprise?

TIGER WOODS: No, it happens. I didn't really play well at the U.S. Open. That was, what, two tournaments ago. So it is -- three tournaments ago. It is what it is, it happens. This week I wasn't as sharp as I needed to be, and as I said, the only day I putted well is the first day. Got three more days to clean it up and I'll be ready come Thursday.

Q. How do you balance those days, Tiger, with needing to see the golf course but also knowing that you've got to kind of ease into it in terms of your physical well being?

TIGER WOODS: Yeah. You know, I'll take a look at it the next few days. I won't be playing that many holes. Normally I just play nine holes each day. But I need to get out there, I need to take a look at it. More than anything, I need to get a feel for the golf course and how the ball's rolling and how it's playing. From what everyone says, it's Zoysia fairways, so that won't be very complicated, but I need to get some reps around the greens and see what the feel is there.

Q. Do you need to take a day off tomorrow?

TIGER WOODS: We'll see. I'm done pretty early today, so I'll have the afternoon off. I'll probably get back after it tomorrow.

Q. Tiger, how sharp is your Aussie accent after these four days? You're surrounded by it.

TIGER WOODS: How about that, huh? All four days. Three good dudes. Enjoyed playing with all of them this week. You know, Wade and I both struggled a little bit today, we didn't exactly play our best. But overall -- we were talking about it today -- we're just trying to move up and try to get a little bit better, and unfortunately today wasn't our day.