

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
11 October 2018



AUSTIN COOK (-8)

Q. Just talk about the way to finish your day.

AUSTIN COOK: Yeah, I made --

Q. Four of the last five.

AUSTIN COOK: Yeah, four of the last five. So that was -- you know, obviously the front nine went good, 4 under, and then it kind of slowed off there on the back nine to start it and we kind of finished strong, so that was nice. It was just one of those days everything was going my way. Two chip-ins, four -- two of the last four holes, one out of the bunker and there on No. 9, that was a tough chip. Didn't -- still a chip, would only go about four feet by, but got lucky, hit the flagstick to fall in. Great way to start the year, hopefully I can keep the momentum going.

Q. I gather this is your first time to TPC Kuala Lumpur?

AUSTIN COOK: Yeah. This is my first time in Asia, this area.

Q. How are you enjoying the experience so far?

AUSTIN COOK: It's been easier than I thought with the sleeping and everything. That mall, there's so much food there that you can pretty much get whatever you want, so food has been easy to get used to and it's been fun, I've enjoyed it.

Q. And how about the golf course, has it fit your eye?

AUSTIN COOK: Yeah, you know, this course, it's good for me, it's good for my game.

Q. Why is that?

AUSTIN COOK: There's a couple holes where it pays off to be a long hitter, but I think -- I remember getting to one hole, I don't remember what it was. 18, I remember getting to 18 and going, man, it's been a while since I had a driver in my hand, and I started on 10. So I think I went about five or six holes in a row there, 13 was the last hole that I hit driver on. It's a golf course where you don't need driver. A lot of the holes you're having to play strategic anyways and that benefits me because I don't hit it as long as a lot of the other guys.

Q. Coming off your season where you had your first PGA TOUR win and being a new season as you say, how important is it to sort of get a nice jump start on FedExCup

points in events that there are no cuts basically?

AUSTIN COOK: This year, obviously with the win last season I've got full status, but no matter what, it's still nice to get off strong so you can kind of not really take the rest of the year easy, but you've got a good start to the season. You've got a lot of points made, decent money, whatever it may be and you kind of just play your game, you don't have to force it throughout the year. So the better you play sooner, the easier it is later in the season to just play your game and not really be too aggressive and force the ball.

Q. Is today a reflection of how you've been hitting it the last few weeks?

AUSTIN COOK: Yeah, last week was -- I had three weeks off, I took -- no, I had four weeks off. I took two to kind of not do anything. Then I had that third week, I had a few sponsor events that I had to go to, and then last week I started practicing hard again. Once I got over here, the way that I've been hitting it in the practice round and the pro-am, yeah, it's just kind of been -- yeah, I hit it pretty much exactly the way I've been hitting it. I've been hitting it well lately.

Q. After a season like the one that you had, how do you reset your goals moving forward in this young career of yours?

AUSTIN COOK: Yeah, you know, still -- a lot of the same goals as last year, winning, make it to the TOUR Championship, make it into all four majors, get into some more WGCs. Those are all goals. I want to win multiple times, not just once. I would really like to be at East Lake and have a good chance to win the FedExCup. That's the goal every year. Getting off to a great start, hopefully these next three rounds go well, but getting off to a good start would definitely help jump start that process.

Q. Talking about the FedExCup, some new changes announced at East Lake. As a player, how do you react to that?

AUSTIN COOK: I think it gives everybody hope to be able to win the FedExCup, all 30 guys, not just the top so many. It's not mathematical anymore, you're not trying to figure out all that. You start in this position and at the end of the week, whoever is No. 1 wins. So I think it simplifies it, simplifies it for a lot of fans and I think for us it gives more an advantage to guys that played the best all year long. They are now starting ahead, they have a good chance to win or a little bit better chance to win. I think it's good, yeah. I think it will be good for the PGA TOUR, I think it will be good for all of us and we'll see.