

**ROUND 1
STATEMENT ON WEATHER UPDATE
February 14, 2019**

STEVE RINTOUL



Q. A pretty wet morning, Steve. You're advance rules official here. A lot of weight goes on your shoulders when you've got to make decisions. We've just heard the news that we're going to wash out the start of -- sorry the pun, wash out the start of Round 1 and restart whenever we get some weather to be able to do so.

STEVE RINTOUL: Yeah, you're right, Phil. A very unusual and unfortunate set of circumstances here this morning at Riviera.

Unfortunately, due to the amount of daylight that we have at this time of year here at Riviera, the field must start at sunrise here, which is 6:39 a.m. this morning. Our first tee time at 6:40, light conditions were marginal. However, as is usually the case here at Riviera, they generally improve as the morning goes on.

Unfortunately, Phil, as the rain moved in and light conditions actually deteriorated and the golf course became unplayable, we had to suspend the round with players on the 3rd and 12th holes.

When our committee convened during the suspension, we had the discussion that we felt that the visibility had in fact deteriorated from the 6:40 first time during the 50 minutes of play, and that conditions had actually deteriorated and visibility was going downhill, so to speak, making depth perception and reading the line of play to be very challenging.

During the suspension, our committee convened. Mark Russell, our tournament director, addressed the players and the decision was made, due to the fact we've played so little golf in the first round and not knowing when the first round is going to resume again, to go ahead and cancel and nullify all scores for the first round and start the field clean again when we get a chance.

Q. Clearly a number of things that were going through your mind that have to be considered. You outlined some of those here.

Do you also take into account that a fair bit of time in this tournament looks like it's going to be lost here on the first day and you start looking ahead?

STEVE RINTOUL: Well, you can only do what you can do right now, Phil. I mean, yeah, everyone would like to have a champion on Sunday evening, but we're dealing with Thursday right now, Thursday morning, and trying to get this first round started. That was our intention at 6:40. Conditions deteriorated quickly, and the fact that we played so little

golf in the first round was a big factor in our decision to nullify the scores and cancel the round.

Q. So when are we expected to get an update, or when do you think that this weather just kind of might give us a little break and we can get on the golf course this afternoon?

STEVE RINTOUL: Good question, Phil. Mark Russell, our tournament director, addressed the membership and the caddies at 9:00. Our information to them was that the next announcement will be at 1:00 p.m. Pacific. Our weather conditions, if you've been outside, have actually deteriorated since we suspended. The golf course was quickly going downhill after 50 minutes of play to where we had teeing grounds ahead of where the first groups were that were quickly becoming unplayable.

So this actual weather that's coming into the L.A. basin right now, the worst of it hasn't even got here yet. So rather than keeping the players around all morning, we decided to make the announcement that we'll get back to them at 1:00 p.m. after the front has moved through. Our committee can assess the golf course further along with Matt Morton, the superintendent here at Riviera, and make a decision on when we can get this first round started.

Q. Steve, it's just an unfortunate set of circumstances, as you said. As you can tell, a lot going on through the minds of the PGA TOUR rules officials here as we work through this first and opening round here.