

**ROUND 2 INTERVIEW**  
**February 14, 2020**

**VAUGHN TAYLOR (-6)**



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**Q. Vaughn, what is it about poa annua greens, man? Most people don't like it, they call it the terrible weed out here on the west coast.**

**VAUGHN TAYLOR:** Yeah, they can be finicky. I put a new putter in this week. Really struggled on the greens last week and just kind of last minute put one in and it's hugging the ground, it's rolling really good, so pleased with it.

**Q. I was going to ask, I've seen a lot of guys, Tiger's hit a lot of putts this week that started bouncing immediately and that's usually not the putter, it's the putter; not the putter-er, you. Got to get that loft right on these greens to get the ball to roll?**

**VAUGHN TAYLOR:** Yeah, absolutely, that's the biggest key out here. That ball starts bouncing early, you're in trouble, it's not going to get in the hole and probably lose its line. I don't know what loft I got on this one, I didn't get it checked.

**Q. The correct loft.**

**VAUGHN TAYLOR:** But it's working.

**Q. I've got to ask you, because you're not a bomber, you've got to play this golf course as a technician. Playing some of these longer shots to these firm greens, how are you figuring it out, just fairway first and then go from there?**

**VAUGHN TAYLOR:** Yeah. I think out here, you know, there's some local knowledge about some of these pin placements and using the slopes and things. It's a really fun track. Some of the holes I don't like having long irons into, but overall, if you can get some wedges in your hand, you can get some looks. If you know the greens, if you know the course, you can play well.

**Q. Scoring spots really, can I play the hard holes in par because birdies are going to be made. Can I stay away from the bogey, that's really the whole program, isn't it?**

**VAUGHN TAYLOR:** Yeah, exactly. You play number two and eight, nine, a lot of holes where you just, par's a good score and you move on, trying to make a birdie on a par 5 or a short par 4.

**Q. I think what so good about Riviera is the veteran guys come to the top because you've got to learn these greens, you can't read them because they don't do what they see.**

**VAUGHN TAYLOR:** Absolutely.

**Q. How many putts have you looked back and go, wait a minute, I know it's supposed to go right, but it's not and you've got to trust it? How hard is that.**

**VAUGHN TAYLOR:** It's extremely difficult. No. 12 yesterday was, I mean, there's no way that, you know, this putt's got to go left and it went right. I had never seen that pin placement. But that's what it is, just experience. I've seen a lot of putts around here and I remember a lot of them, too, because they stick in your head they can baffle you.

**Q. I spent 25 years out here, I never saw that pin at 12 ever.**

**VAUGHN TAYLOR:** Yeah, that was a tough one.

**Q. Just talk about your round a little bit, what was working so well for you.**

**VAUGHN TAYLOR:** I putted well again today, but I did a little bit of everything well. I drove it good and hit some good iron shots and just kind of all in all I hit some good up-and-downs and overall pretty solid.

**Q. Is there something a little bit about the west coast that you kind of seem to like playing out here? Obviously you won Pebble a few years ago.**

**VAUGHN TAYLOR:** It's just beautiful out here. I mean the golf courses are beautiful, you know. I like poa annua greens. I know they bother some guys, but I don't mind them and if I'm putting good, they treat me well.

**Q. This course, obviously it's not short, not overly long at the same time, but it doesn't seem to favor -- obviously if you hit it longer, some courses favor a lot of guys but obviously you're not the longest of hitters. Is this the kind of course that doesn't truly favor one style of play?**

**VAUGHN TAYLOR:** Yeah, I agree. It's a course where there's some long holes and there's some short holes and I feel like experience out here is really key, knowing pin placements and where not to be and where to be. So it's a good track for me. I feel comfortable out here and it doesn't feel too long. There's obviously some long holes that play tough, but try to make a par on those holes and move on. Really enjoy this course.

**Q. What makes the 12th such a tough par 4, one of the toughest on tour? Do you remember playing it before they stretched it out?**

**VAUGHN TAYLOR:** Yeah, I do. It was tough before they stretched it out. That green is just, you know, really difficult to get it close basically. For me, I'm hitting 5-iron in there and it's a tiny target when you actually look at what's going on on the green. You've got to be in

the fairway as well on that hole. Just a good strong par 4.

**Q. Every pin placement they have is complicated?**

**VAUGHN TAYLOR:** There's not an easy one that hole, every one's hard.