

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
November 5, 2020



SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER (-3)

Q. Scottie, with all the birdies you made, I think I most admired your patience out there because you went nine holes without a birdie. It would be easy to force issues, this course has given up a lot of bogeys. How did you stay patient in the course of your round?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: I think the golf course kind of forces you into being patient just because you can't really miss too many greens. Around the greens out here is very, very difficult to get up and down and you can get into some spots where you start playing ping pong across these greens, it's brutal. Fairways and greens is definitely at a premium this week.

Q. A lot of players have been taking note of that hole location at the 15th. We've seen some others out there and you just took all the drama out of it hitting to within three and a half feet.

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: I was pretty relieved when I hit it on the top tier there. You hit a little bit long left probably about 15 feet, you go down near the hazard and 12 feet, 15 feet short right and you go down to the other side. It's a challenging little hole, especially with the way the wind was swirling back there, but I was relieved to see that ball on the green.

Q. I thought one of the hidden stats of the round, five of six scrambling out here.

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah. Beginning of the round I had some nice up-and-downs, some good pitches and I hit the greens that are really important to hit, like 15 and 13, you can't miss those greens. Hit some really nice pitches.

Q. You're a UT guy, you're playing in your home state, your mom and dad are able to be out here for the first time in I don't know how long. Does that get you a little bit pumped?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah, definitely excited. My parents, they were able to come to East Lake this year, but they're used to coming out a decent amount, so it's fun to have them out here this week. I know they're excited.

Q. About having the fans out here, what was the energy like out there compared to a few months --

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: It's great having fans back out again. The energy was definitely a lot different than us just being out here by ourselves. It's fun, especially for a Thursday, and

with there only being a couple thousand fans, it's just definitely good to see people out here again.

Q. And I believe you made the cut in every start you've made in Texas on the PGA TOUR coming into the week. What is it about playing in your home state that brings out some of your best golf?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah, I like playing in Texas, I like being close to home. You know, this is an easy week for me, I was able to drive down and I just like being in Texas, like being close to home. We travel a lot, so it's good being close to home.

Q. Going back to the fans, are you comfortable having fans out here at this point?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah, yeah, I'm extremely comfortable. I think the PGA TOUR's done a great job keeping us safe and keeping the fans safe. I think it's great that they have the freedom to come out here and watch. Pretty much everyone was wearing a mask that I saw, so I felt very safe out there on the course. So the players, I'm sure it will be fine.