

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
February 18, 2021



WYNDHAM CLARK (-4)

Q. Joined now by Wyndham Clark, who had a 4-under 67 in the first round of the Genesis Invitational. How would you assess your round today?

WYNDHAM CLARK: You know, I was a little all over the place with the driver, which normally is a huge strong suit for me, but I made my first putt on the first hole for birdie and I kind of -- that gave me some confidence. I felt really good with the putter today, made some nice putts and I'm really satisfied. 4 under out here is always good.

Q. Were you doing something particularly well today compared to your last few starts?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Probably the putting's the only difference. I actually, last few starts I've hit it really good, just wasn't making the putts either for par or birdie that you kind of need to make to have good rounds and today I made them. If the putter gets hot on these greens, it can go a long way.

Q. There's been a lot of talk about the conditions here this week, that they're some of the toughest we've ever seen. What was your opinion on the conditions today?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Well, going off in the morning, the front nine, there's a few pins that I think they planned for a different wind because there were some spots where you couldn't even get to the flag and I managed those really well and I made good pars. And I really took advantage of the downwind holes, which you kind of have to do out here. Yeah, the conditions, it's very firm and very fast, more than normal, and if it continues to get firmer, it's just going to play tougher.

Q. Anything you're taking from this round that you're making sure to keep in mind for tomorrow?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Yeah. I mean, I placed the ball pretty good throughout the round. Twice I put myself in a bad spot, but I actually got up and down. Really just want to keep yourself below the hole on these greens, so that's kind of the strategy all week.

Q. Wyndham, congratulations, super round of golf, five birdies, you shoot 4-under 67. I'm looking at all the numbers, scrambling, eight of nine today. That was huge to make some pars when you could have made other.

WYNDHAM CLARK: Yeah, out here, even if you hit it great, you're going to have at least four or five par saves that you kind of have to make. A few of them were tap-ins and made a

few good six-, eight-footers, so those keep the round going.

Q. Take our listeners through what it's like to come out when it's dark and try to warm up with lights on. You were the first tee time today. What is that like, and just the temperature change over the course of four hours?

WYNDHAM CLARK: It actually starts with waking up. I got really lucky, I was telling my caddie, I set my alarm -- thought I set my alarm for 4:40, I set it for 5:40. That would have given me only an hour, so I actually woke up at 4:40, so I was fortunate to get here on time.

Yeah, it's really cold. You don't get to see much warming up, you kind of shorten your time warming up. I normally take about an hour, I had about 40 minutes this morning just because I wanted more sleep. It's cold and I kind of wanted more time in the gym beforehand. Then, once you start, the first few holes the ball's going nowhere, and then we had some wind. It's definitely different conditions at 6:00 a.m. versus how it is now.

Q. You shot 67 in the opening round a year ago. What did you learn from your experience here last year, your first time in this event that you can take advantage of this time?

WYNDHAM CLARK: You know, I think I'm definitely a more mature player and my game's a lot better. I didn't hit it as good as I do now, so I think that will really help. I feel really confident on these greens. If we keep our strategy, which is kind of playing below the hole and missing in the good spots, I really think I have a good chance this week.

Q. Same score that you opened with last year, obviously really hot. What did you learn specifically maybe on the weekend from last year? Like what was the difference between the first two days and the second two days that you could apply?

WYNDHAM CLARK: I mean, you know, obviously there's a little more pressure on the weekend than you feel maybe Thursday and Friday. Also, the conditions just continue to get tougher. I just think I'm a more veteran player and feel more confident on weekends now than I did maybe a year ago or even six, seven months ago.

You know, it's still early, I've got a lot left in the tournament, there's three rounds. I'd love to shoot a good one tomorrow and put myself in good position for the weekend.

Q. Do you normally just wake up at 5:40? Or 4:40, sorry.

WYNDHAM CLARK: No, I don't. I just have an internal clock, so I got really lucky that I woke up because I would have showed up here at 6:15 and been in a rush and you never know how that goes. No, I do not. I normally wake up 7:00, 8:00.

Q. Do you put more thought into the tee shot, what you're going to do, on 10 or 1?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Probably 10. I mean, 10, really the club is irrelevant, it's just more the placement of where you are and you kind of have to be left. Today I actually hit it too far left and ended up missing the green, but missed in the right spot and got it up and down. So really that hole, if you hit a great shot, you make birdie. If not, you've got to just damage control and try to get out of there with a par.