

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
February 25, 2021



BROOKS KOEPKA (-5)

Q. So you got in Tuesday night, you played the front nine. So what is your brain telling you when you go to the first tee? How do you handle being able to do that? I know you're one of the greatest golfers in the world, but don't you have to have some type of practice, especially on a course you've never seen before?

BROOKS KOEPKA: I mean, Rick walked it, I get a yardage book, it's not too difficult. I don't think anything of it. It is what it is. You've got to look up on the tee, you know on 10 water's right, there's bunkers on the left, so put it in the fairway.

Q. What worked for you today? What were you happiest with?

BROOKS KOEPKA: I felt like my putter, you know, stupid three-putt from like 12 feet, 15 feet on the one hole, what was it, 16. But other than that, I've been striking the ball so well. I love these new irons. The flight on them, it's a little higher and just I'm striking the ball so well, so I expect to be there on Sunday.

Q. How comfortable were you on the greens? How are the greens out here?

BROOKS KOEPKA: I don't know if it's just a couple of the changes I've made in putting, just a couple adjustments or it's just the fact of being on bermuda, it could be either one, I'm not quite sure, but it does feel nice to be on Bermuda, that's for sure.

Q. What'd you make your up-and-down on No. 12 versus how you approach that hole in general and just where you were?

BROOKS KOEPKA: I never should have been right. My neck stiffened up and just hit it right a couple times like that. Just got to accept it and move on. It's already in a bad spot, try to make the best of a bad situation.

Q. I guess you did that. What's it like playing with DJ and Berger, obviously two guys you've spent a ton of time with over the years?

BROOKS KOEPKA: Yeah, it's nice to play with them. Obviously DJ's the best player in the world, so he didn't exactly play like it today, but you know he's going to come back out tomorrow and play good. And I always enjoy playing with Berger, it's fun, get some laughs.

Q. Now that you have 27 holes under your belt, do you go into tomorrow any differently, thinking any differently, or is it just a different day?

BROOKS KOEPKA: I don't think too much. I just try to keep it pretty simple. If it's 300 yards to the bunker or there's a bunker that cuts out, okay, then it's just 3-wood. It's just try to make golf as simple as possible and I think that's where some of the confusion with me gets thrown in there. I try to make it very simple and I don't overcomplicate it. I'm not thinking the club's got to be in a certain position to do this, do that; just get up there, see it and go hit it.

Q. And last thing, how nice was it to get back to Florida?

BROOKS KOEPKA: Yeah, it was nice. I'm excited to be in Florida.