

**ROUND 1 INTERVIEW**  
**February 25, 2021**

**RORY McILROY (-3)**



**Q. Rory, 3-under par 69 today, but it looked like you could have been a lot better because the putter at some point today just decided to stop working inside of about six feet for you.**

**RORY McILROY:** Yeah, I missed three putts on I guess the last nine holes that I thought for sure were going to be right to left, and all three on the right edge and they all missed on the right edge. Then I missed one on another hole that was right to left. I gave it a little less break because sort of the reaction to the other putts that I had missed just a little high and that one dove and broke left.

Yeah, it's hard. I mean, even the putt that I hit on the eighth hole there, the 17th hole for us for the day, I saw JT's on the same line as mine and his broke into the hole just off the right. I hit mine on the right edge, thought if it moves just a little bit it's in the hole and it never budged.

Going to go hit some balls. I felt like I got some sort of -- I got a good feeling with what I'm doing with the long game, so I'm going to hit a few balls and try to just groove that in. Then I'll go to the putting green here and try to figure it out a bit.

**Q. You've been working hard on your putting with Brad Faxon and I know you worked this last week end after you missed the cut at Genesis. When you put the good work in, is it a little frustrating to come out here today and just not quite have it even though it feels great up to this point?**

**RORY McILROY:** Yeah, of course it's frustrating because you come off the course thinking you could be three or four shots lower than you were. But I've just got to keep putting the work in, right? I've got to keep doing the stuff. Hopefully it finds its way in there. That's really it. I holed some good putts out there today, it's not as if I didn't hole anything, but I just missed a few that I should have holed.