

**ROUND 2 INTERVIEW**  
**February 26, 2021**



**BROOKS KOEPKA (-11)**

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**Q. When you started your stretch of birdies there at the end starting at 15, I wonder if you could talk about that shot. What did you hit, was it just a stock shot and did it do anything for you?**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** Yeah, it was actually a good number. I think it was 133, we were playing it about 115.

**Q. 15?**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** Yeah, 115, a little downwind, a little bit of heat, ball's kind of traveling a little bit, so figure 115 goes 120, 10 downwind is pretty close. I don't know how it didn't go in, looked pretty good from the fairway.

Yeah, it's one of those things where I feel like if I've had good numbers this week, ball-striking it really well where I feel like I can get it close and can take advantage of those good numbers. Just got to play the par 5s a little better.

**Q. I don't want to belabor the point here, but the one that you almost -- almost went in, I was talking about the hole before it, 15.**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** Oh, the -- which one is that?

**Q. Tee shot over the water and then --**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** I actually hit a bad tee shot there, lucky to get over the water and find the fairway. Yeah, I had a good number. We were playing it 155, I don't know the actual number, but a little 9, chip it in there and, you know, five, six feet.

**Q. You talk about getting out of position on this course. Does it take a really bad shot to get out of position, and when you do get out of position on not such a terrible shot, does it annoy you?**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** Doesn't really annoy me, just got to accept it and move on.

I've had a good game plan, you've just kind of -- doesn't matter what the wind is, you can still kind of put it in the same spot. I don't hit that many drivers around here, a lot of 3-woods and just try to put it in the fairway.

**Q. Does anything annoy you right now?**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** No, I'm good right now.

**Q. Besides this mask? That last question?**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** Yeah, exactly, that last question really annoyed me.

**Q. Brooks, you mentioned a couple putting tweaks. I know it's still a small sample size this season, but it's pretty drastic, your putting stats this season. Anything different in particular?**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** No, just, I mean to get real technical, just taking it a little more what feels inside and then kind of releasing the putter head as the downswing starts. If it goes straight back, it gets a little shut. Yeah, the change has been good and I like where it's at.

**Q. You talked in Phoenix about how you like playing in front of fans. Obviously one is more than zero and it's better. How many fans do you need to actually feel a difference in terms of adrenaline, nerves, whatever the case may be?**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** I don't know, I don't know what that is, but it definitely -- it doesn't matter even if there's probably maybe one, two hundred people following our group if I had to guess. Yeah, it's exciting to play in front of them, it's definitely better than not playing with them.

**Q. In honor of Rickie's birthday, do you have anything to share about your caddie? Has he done anything nice for you this week?**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** No. He's going to come over the house tonight, him and Pete, and then my dad and stepmom are going to get into town. We'll have dinner at my house and just kind of relax.

**Q. I know you were saying this before, but what course does this place remind you of the most?**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** It's just a typical south Florida golf course. I mean, you play -- all these golf courses that we play, you look at Bear's Club, Medalist, Floridian, to some extent doesn't have quite the same bermudagrass, but those little run-off areas around the green, every Florida course seems to have them, that I play. You can get out of position real quick and kind of short-side yourself and you're not far off a good shot. All the courses are kind of the same.

**Q. What's your schedule going forward? I assume you're doing Honda?**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** Yep, playing Honda.

**Q. Match Play and then --**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** Is Bay Hill the next week?

**Q. Yeah.**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** So off that. I'm off there and Valero. It's easier to say what I'm off.

**Q. Is there something about Florida that makes it feel like the Masters is closer than it really is? Can you feel it coming up?**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** Yeah, I guess, because you're trying to peak for it. Usually I can never find my game until THE PLAYERS, that's kind of when it starts to feel like it's coming around, but the fact that it's here a little bit early is nice.

**Q. Why is it here earlier?**

**BROOKS KOEPKA:** Because I think, what was it, I've only been home like 25 days since Boston of the Playoffs last year, so I've spent the entire time in San Diego with my trainer Derek, just grinding, trying to make sure my knee's right. Once my body was right, it was only a matter of time before my swing kind of came into, I don't know, came into a groove I guess you could say. Then once -- I mean, in December it finally was like it started to click, so I put in the work, it's just now I'm starting to see it.