

ROUND 4 INTERVIEW
February 28, 2021



VIKTOR HOVLAND (-15)

Q. Viktor, can you think of a better up-and-down that you've ever had than the one you had on 13 today?

VIKTOR HOVLAND: It's certainly up there. Yeah, that was just a guess and it happened to come out just perfect and rolled through the fringe just amazingly.

Q. What sort of options were you going through? I saw you using a fairway metal and you eventually decided on an iron.

VIKTOR HOVLAND: So first I thought I was going to hit a 60-degree and just literally hit it as hard as I could through the thick stuff and hopefully try to catch it clean somehow. I realized that probably wasn't a very smart play. That would have been a fun shot, but a lot of things could go wrong.

And I was thinking about the putter and thinking about the 3-wood, but the problem was I had to get so steep on it, didn't have a backswing and with no loft on it, I might not get it out of there.

So I essentially ended up using an 8-iron doing the same thing because at least I have some loft there that's going to move the ball.

Q. Did you feel like it was a giant boost of momentum that might get you through the next five holes?

VIKTOR HOVLAND: Yeah, I think that birdie got me one back at the time, and I definitely liked my chances because I know obviously Collin had some of the easier holes left to play, but if I could finish strong and I could definitely have a chance I thought because anything can happen out here with all the water and stuff. Yeah, just wasn't able to execute.

Q. Overall, how would you assess your week and how you played out here?

VIKTOR HOVLAND: I've been playing really solid the last few weeks and I'm leaving a bunch of shots out there with that 8 the other day and that three-hole stretch on the back nine here where I three-putted and missed a short putt and another three-putt. So I'm playing really solid. It's cool to play that way.

Q. This golf course, would you like to see a Tour event come back here sometime again?

VIKTOR HOVLAND: I would love it. To be honest, I wasn't really much of a fan when I played the practice round here, not a really big fan of Florida golf courses, but every single round I liked this course a lot better. It's just a good course.

Q. You probably answered this already, but were you watching the leaderboard out there and do you always like to do that when you're in the mix?

VIKTOR HOVLAND: Yeah, I always like to know where I'm at. I don't know if it hurts me or not, but I just like to know where I'm at, especially if I make a putt and see that I'm creeping closer, it kind of gives me more momentum in that sense instead of not knowing where you're at, so I like to check it out.

Q. In your last one you talked about being really nervous coming down the stretch. Are you still equally nervous when you're in the mix or is that a little different when you're actually leading the tournament?

VIKTOR HOVLAND: Yeah, I would say that situation was more like it was mine to lose in a sense. Maybe that's not the right way of putting it, but at least I was leading the golf tournament whereas now it was basically a hail mary from the get-go. Happened to make two sweet birdies on 1 and 2 and kind of get myself into it so that made it really fun on the back nine, but certainly some nerves but wasn't anything close to Mexico.

Q. Lots of tips of the cap to Tiger Woods out there today. Was he a big influence for you growing up?

VIKTOR HOVLAND: Yeah. I remember just sitting in the classroom and we would have our computer up and I would just be on YouTube all day just watching his highlights. Yeah, it's incredible. Hopefully he's feeling better.

Q. Is any of your game modeled after his at all?

VIKTOR HOVLAND: Not really, I don't think so. Definitely don't have the fist pump, I'm worthless at that. No, just try to play good.

Q. You got the orange watch, though.

VIKTOR HOVLAND: Orange is a better color