

**PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW
NOVEMBER 10, 2021**

JIM FURYK



Q. You're in the final four, you've got a shot at this, you win, you don't need any help, how does this kind of feel like you like the position?

JIM FURYK: Yeah, you kind of jockey I would say all year, but I guess this year it's kind of all season and get yourself in a good position where you have an opportunity here.

Yeah, I do like the position, but there's still a lot of work to do. I haven't really figured out scenarios or work. I mean, best case scenario is trying to go out and play the best you can, try to win a golf tournament, so I'm really just trying to worry about playing well and seeing what happens.

Q. What have you learned on this tour since a year ago?

JIM FURYK: That I enjoy it, I know that. I've had fun. Three-round tournaments are a little bit different, it's a little bit of a track meet. I don't know, some folks, I've heard Phil say there's more margin for error, but then there's only 54 holes, so you play a bad nine, it's hard to kind of make that up at times.

I've enjoyed it, to be honest with you. I've liked a lot of the golf courses we played, I think they suit my game well. It's nice that everything's in that 6,900 to 7,000 yards. I don't know what this one is. It's playing a little longer this week because of the overseed and the dampness.

But I'm hitting some short irons, I'm aggressive, I'm making more birdies. That's always fun. I'm not hitting as many 4-and 5-irons into par 4s and I'm playing to center of the green, so it's been fun.

And very competitive. It's still, each and every week it's Bernhard, Ernie, Retief, Miguel, Darren, you keep going down the list. It's a bunch of Hall of Famers and a bunch of great players, so I enjoy the competition and enjoy the camaraderie.

Q. What do you see for yourself schedule-wise from here the rest of the year?

JIM FURYK: Not much. I'm going to play the Father-Son with my son Tanner the third week of December and then I probably won't tee it again until Hawaii.

A little bit of, it's kind of getting used to the new schedule. One of the mistakes I probably made this year is I did play quite a bit on the PGA TOUR earlier in the year when our schedule was thin, but then come May 1 we get going and you play a lot of golf.

So I've noticed the three-round tournaments, one, keep you a little bit more fresh. We're in a cart in the pro-am, we're in a cart for most of the practice rounds. It's the greatest invention of all time I'm going to say right there. I walked today in the pro-am because my amateurs did, but Fluff's on the cart, he gets to save his legs.

Then the three-round events, it just doesn't beat you up as much. So I was able to play more events this year than I have in the past and still feel pretty good at the end of the year.

But also excited for a little time off and getting used to ending in November now where I used to end my season a lot earlier. I could pick and choose a few of the fall events and kind of recharge. Now I'm going to kind of recharge a little bit in the spring. Maybe not in a giant lump of like three months like I used to, but you get two weeks off here, three weeks off there because they sprinkle events in early in the year. It's just getting used to a newer schedule, which I like it, it's good. But I won't play as much on the Tour this year and I'll try to save some energy for the back half of the schedule out here.

Q. Can you speak a little bit to like Sunday and how exciting it could be with like yourself, Bernhard, Ernie and Miguel.

JIM FURYK: Don't jinx it, you're just building it all up. Bernie might run away with it or something, be kind of boring.

Q. I mean, it could be like -- you know what I mean, it could be really cool.

JIM FURYK: It could be really cool and fun, and I think that's what our tour would like to see, the PGA TOUR, the Champions Tour, our fans. You want it to be exciting television. So it would be fun if that were the case, but like I said, we're all going to go out there and play and jockey for position and try to win a golf tournament. That's first and foremost. The rest of it kind of takes care of itself at that point.

It is exciting, but that's for you to build up. We're out there just to play golf and go and see what happens. I know it's exciting, but I think -- I know Bernhard and Miguel and Ernie are all thinking about just this week and the task at hand and the rest of it just falls into place if you play well.

Q. I know you talked a lot this year about the misconception about this tour, people just having a beer or drinking a glass of wine, but like you guys all want to win and win the Schwab Cup.

JIM FURYK: Yeah, we all have a lot of pride in our game. We're still competitive, that's the reason we're out here playing, trying to win golf tournaments, trying to have a great season and at the end of it, just like we had the FedExCup when we were younger, now we've got the Schwab Cup. You want to put your name on that trophy as well.

Yeah, I think a lot of it deals with pride, what keeps us motivated. One, we like to compete. Two, we have a lot of pride in our craft and what we've done our whole life, so you want to come out here and play well and compete and try to win.

Q. Such a rivalry coming online, Greg Norman's now the face of whatever this thing might be. Have you put much thought in it, read much, had much comment, much you can say on whether it's going to be good or bad for the future of golf?

JIM FURYK: The easy route for me, I guess, would be that I have read a little bit about it. I don't know what to really make of what I read. I've heard a little bit from whether it's agents, whether it's from the Tour, the PGA TOUR itself, whether it's from other players, I've heard a little bit about it.

The easy way would be for me to say I haven't and I don't really know much about it and take the easy route out. I'm really inclined to do that because it seems like it's a controversial subject.

I guess what makes me nervous is if, from what I understand, all right, if it were to take foothold, if you did have a bunch of players leave to go play another Tour, it would in my estimate probably leave the PGA TOUR a little bit ruined, right? How would it be able to function with our sponsors, with FedEx, with television at the same -- you couldn't play the same amount of tournaments for the same amount of purses for.

And what happens if this new tour five years down the road isn't funded anymore? What happens if the money dries up? What happens if, you know what, we made a mistake, it wasn't a good idea? Then what? Then do we go back to the PGA TOUR and have to rebuild it again?

There's a question, would Arnie and Jack have done this in the '60s? I'll leave you with that question. It's one I'm not going to answer, but would Arnold and Jack done it in the '60s? They did a lot for the game and probably could have -- probably could have made a lot of decisions to put a lot of money in their pockets back in the '60s, but I think in their minds what was great for the game itself -- I'm not saying this isn't good for the game, but going back to Arnold and Jack, they did a lot of what was good for the game, so I would I guess warn the players that are making these decisions and maybe looking to the future, maybe we should follow the path that was set in front of you and just make sure whatever we're doing, whatever they're doing is good for the game and good for the players overall; not just a handful of them, but all of them.