

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
February 17, 2022

JOAQUIN NIEMANN (-8)



Q. Sixty-three at Riviera, where does that rank among the best rounds of golf that you've played in your life?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Yeah, I think it's got to be one of my best days on the golf course, especially in a place like this with this history. Riviera Country Club is one of my favorite golf courses and this event is my favorite during the year.

Q. Did you feel this coming?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: Well, that's a hard question. I mean, you always work to have these kind of days. Yeah, you always know that you're never going to have these days four days in a row. It's a good way to start. I know it's going to be different days during the week, so I've got to be ready for everything and have the best attitude for it.

Q. Where are you on the Saudi situation? Have you had talks with the Saudi-backed league?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: I don't really want to say anything, any comment about it. I just don't want to say anything, sorry.

Q. What was working in your round today?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: I think everything. I hit the ball great off the tee. My iron play, I was hitting it really close so that makes it a lot easier. The greens were pretty good also today and it wasn't that windy. So yeah, I think the whole game was pretty good today.

Q. Does this change your preparation for tomorrow, the rest of the week at all?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: No. I know tomorrow's going to be a cold morning. Got to start hitting the ball good since the beginning, have a good warmup. Yeah, I know it's going to be a different day. Hopefully if it's like it was today, it will be a lot of fun.

Q. What makes this your favorite event of the year?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: I think just everything. The place we're at, L.A.'s beautiful, I like it, and the course is one of my favorites. Just being here, being in a tournament hosted by Tiger also makes it a lot really special. I think obviously all the top players playing this week, so that make it a lot better also.

Q. Do you go out to eat on tournament weeks or do you usually go to the hotel and the golf course? Have you been checking out the restaurants in L.A.?

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: No. I think the last year, probably the last year and a half we've been renting houses; Carlos Ortiz, now Mito Pereira, with Sergio, with Sebastian, so we always try to stay together. We always try to get a chef so he can cook for us and we can have an interesting night, we can have nice dinners, we can talk a lot. We have a great time during the time off the golf course. It makes the week a lot easier.