

ROUND 4 INTERVIEW
March 20, 2022



CARL YUAN (-14, won 1st playoff hole)

Q. Carl, first win on the Korn Ferry Tour. How are you feeling?

CARL YUAN: It's exciting, for sure. Still a bit unreal, but yeah, it was a tough battle today. I knew coming off the gate I needed to get hot and make some birdies to have a chance, which I did in the middle of the round. It's really amazing to get it done in this way.

Q. How much -- after having a T-2 earlier in the year, a T-3, finally coming out on top, how much gratification is there in that?

CARL YUAN: Definitely a lot. For those two top 3-finish I came really close to the win as well. Even though I didn't get the job done, but I learned a lot from those and really improved in like the last couple weeks. Have a better mindset, better stuff coming down the stretch so I know what to do a little better, and glad I performed and got it done this week.

Q. I know it's already sweet to win it, but does it make it even sweeter to win it on your birthday?

CARL YUAN: Oh, yeah, of course it is. My wife said the birthday boy got to win one. I really believed in her and I did the whole day, even though I was a few back to start, but yeah, I was very happy how I played today.

Q. Talk about that final putt.

CARL YUAN: It was a little downhill left to right, probably a cup and a half out. You know, I think last couple weeks I really worked on a good mental routine, a mental loop before the putt. So under those circumstances, I was a lot more confident and I knew what I need to do, just stick to my routine, see the putt and really stroke it well. Glad it went in.

Q. How far was the putt?

CARL YUAN: It was about 12, 15 feet, 12 feet-ish, yeah.

Q. Is that a nerve-wracking putt or did you feel like you had to make it and Peter was going to make his?

CARL YUAN: I knew like I had to -- kind of I had to make mine, but my mentality was the same. I didn't think it changed a lot. My coach and I worked on a couple things last two weeks just having the confidence over a putt. No matter a three-footer or a 40-footer, I have the same confidence of making it. I had that on the last putt and I really proceeded to do it

and I hit a good putt and glad it went in.

Q. Everyone dreams of having that putt, whether it's the last hole, playoff. Is it better than the dream maybe was when you were growing up?

CARL YUAN: I mean, this is definitely special. And I have practiced kind of putt like this hundreds of times when I practice. Definitely dream about having a putt to win a tournament like this, playoff or 18. Yeah, glad it happened today on my birthday, too.

Q. Did you know where you stood most of the day?

CARL YUAN: Kind of, yeah. I didn't really look at a leaderboard that much, but I had a pretty good idea. I thought I needed to get to 15 to have a better chance being a playoff, but glad I got in at 14.

Q. And then the 72nd hole, is that a tough up-and-down out of the sand?

CARL YUAN: It wasn't too bad. A good lie. I was really good out of the bunker this week, so I had good confidence. I had the flag out, sort of rolled it in like a putt. Came out a little dead, but it wasn't that tough an up-and-down, I would say.

Q. What was the reason why you won this week? What was the club, what was the reason, the club in the bag?

CARL YUAN: I mean, I think everything was really consistent. I would say I had a really good mindset. Didn't make many big mistakes, only had four bogeys for the week. So I thought I did pretty good on managing the tough holes because there are a couple holes, a stretch of holes that -- 12, 13, 14, they're definitely a tougher stretch. I knew I needed to par them in, find a way to do it and I did a good job of doing that. First three days I didn't really capture birdies on the par 5s really well and last day I really put a better focus on that. Glad I made three birdies on the par 5s today.

Q. The string of 7, 8, 9, 10 turned out to mean something?

CARL YUAN: Yeah, yeah, of course. Every shot out here is going to mean something, especially on this Korn Ferry Tour. You never know coming to the last tournament where you stand on the points list. You might need one extra shot to, you know, mean something. Definitely, I treat every shot the same way.

Q. In the playoff, how far did you have on the second shot?

CARL YUAN: I had like 83 yards. It was a little downwind. I knew if I strike it solid, it's going to be past the hole and I just had to hit a good putt. I didn't really try to be too cute to get it close. Gave myself a chance at a putt.

Q. You mentioned confidence earlier. What does a weekend like this do for your confidence moving forward?

CARL YUAN: I think definitely like a lot. I know what I'm working on is paying off and I can stick to what I've been doing. Yeah, it's definitely in the right direction. Looking forward to more tournaments like this.

Q. And just how special was it to be able to play the Olympics last year and now come back this year and basically, you know, come so close and now approaching a PGA TOUR card?

CARL YUAN: I mean, there were some sacrifices made last year, but it was definitely a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to play the Olympics, representing my country. Definitely something special and I don't regret doing it. This year, I mean, a little more fire coming out of this year. I knew I needed to get it done because I had a good chance last year. Yeah, glad I came off a good start and looking forward to the rest of the season.