

PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW
April 27, 2022



CAMILO VILLEGAS

GERMAN ROZO: Hi, everyone. we're here with Camilo Villegas. First of all, welcome to Mexico, Camilo.

CAMILO VILLEGAS: Thanks. I always love it here. Mexico's a great place.

GERMAN ROZO: How important is it for a Latin American player having a tournament here in Mexico?

CAMILO VILLEGAS: Yeah, I mean, it's a beautiful place, the golf course is in great shape, and like I said, Mexico is very welcoming to all the PGA Tour players. Everybody seems very excited to be here. I've always said it, Mexico has the best service in the world, so we love it here.

GERMAN ROZO: How's your game right now? Tell us a little bit about your season.

CAMILO VILLEGAS: Yeah, I feel like it's trending in the right direction. The season began a little slow. Hoping for a turnaround here in the summer, but I've been working on good things, feeling comfortable and hopefully this week is a little turning point to just kind of rack up some good finishes to finish the year.

GERMAN ROZO: Finally, what will be a key to have a good week this week at Vidanta?

CAMILO VILLEGAS: You're going to have to hit your mid to long irons pretty good. This golf course is very long, it could be one of the longest golf courses we play on the PGA Tour and you're definitely going to have some long irons coming to the greens.

Q. With the Presidents Cup assistant captaincy -- congratulations on that -- when did you learn of that appointment and what was the emotion of that?

CAMILO VILLEGAS: Yeah, when Trevor Immelman called me, I was honored, to be honest. It was a great call. I've always wanted to be part of that team again. I was part of the 2009 playing as a player and now I'm going to be part of the team as a captain assistant. Again, it's an honor. For Trevor to believe in me, to think that I can add some positive to the team and unite the boys to go out there and play against a very, very strong American team will be a fun challenge. And Charlotte's a great place. I know the boys in Quail Hollow are doing a great job to have this event be very special and we're just happy and honored to be part of the Presidents Cup 2022.

Q. What's your favorite memory from the 2009 Presidents Cup?

CAMILO VILLEGAS: Well, it's like going back to college. We play a very individual sport and life on the PGA TOUR, even though you get along with a lot of players and it's a great family out here on the PGA TOUR, it's still a lonely sport because it's an individual sport. So you go from college, playing team events, to playing on the PGA Tour to playing Presidents Cup and going back to that team atmosphere. So again, the team room, the camaraderie, just the stories, getting to know the players from a different perspective was a pretty cool experience in '09.

Q. And you mentioned college. Tyson Alexander, your fellow Florida Gator, he won last week on the KFT and he's close to getting his first Tour card. How cool is that to see for him and what impresses you about him being able to defend a title?

CAMILO VILLEGAS: It's actually a pretty cool story. I was actually chatting with him yesterday. He won on the same golf course he won on last year and with the same caddie he used a previous year, which is a good friend, another guy that played at Florida, Will Strickler. He's not his regular caddie. Pretty special for him. Yes, he's playing good. I sent him a message telling him to keep it up, a few more weeks and he should be in a good spot.

Q. And congrats on the birth of Mateo. What was the emotion like of welcoming Mateo into the world?

CAMILO VILLEGAS: It's great. Mateo's four months old and the family is doing good. Obviously 2020 was a tough year for us, but to have Mateo in our life is pretty special.

We have Mia's Miracles Foundation to just kind of add to the joy of giving back and helping others and giving a little purpose to our life and why we're here and how we can once again give back. It was a tough experience, but without it we wouldn't have Mia's Miracles. And obviously we truly, truly miss Mia, but we're going to do some great things for others and try to make the best of it.

Q. How's Mateo doing and what's his energy like?

CAMILO VILLEGAS: He's great. He's fun to be around. I'm playing five weeks in a row. I'm 40 years old, I usually don't play five weeks in a row, so I'm missing him and I can't wait to just play some good weeks and head back and just give him a hug.