

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW
November 11, 2022



PATRICK RODGERS (-9)

Q. Patrick, come in in 30 on your back nine, the front nine. How would you kind of characterize the round as a whole?

PATRICK RODGERS: I had great control today, which is wonderful. It obviously starts with the tee shots. I was able to put the ball in the fairway a lot, which makes an enormous difference. You're able to attack a little bit from the fairway versus this bermuda rough to these greens, you're constantly on defense. So hit the ball in the fairway a lot, which gave me some opportunities, and I stayed disciplined on my approach shots, but took advantage when I had opportunities to attack. It added up to a pretty good one.

Q. Stats showed today so far that you really improved with your driving from round one to round two. Do you feel that way as well?

PATRICK RODGERS: I drove it decently yesterday, just a few fairways that I just missed. Like I said, if you're in the rough even a few steps off the fairway, you're on defense, especially the contours and even some of the firmness of the greens. But like I said, I put the ball in the fairway a lot. I'm always going to hit it a decently long ways, so it gave me some chances to score.

Q. You mentioned you really like this golf course. Why do you like it?

PATRICK RODGERS: It's a huge change of pace from what we usually play on Tour. I'm a big fan of Mr. Tom Doak, the designer. I like the strategy that's involved, I like that it's not overly punishing with lost balls, shots in the hazard, but it really makes you think. The bunkers, even like some little kind of dugout areas in the rough are really strategic on all of the holes, and the big slope greens really makes you have to think knots only on your approach shots but being creative around the greens. I like that your brain's kind of needing to be constantly turned on and it's a really fun strategic challenge.

Q. I think this is your 13th consecutive round under par. What's been kind of working so well recently in your golf game?

PATRICK RODGERS: Yeah, I feel like I've got lots in my process to improve. Me and my coach, Jeff Smith, really had a good meeting after the Playoffs and just kind of figured out where we needed to get better, where I'm falling short of sort of the elite players out here and I feel like we're implementing that playing week after week and it's showing up on the course.

Q. Where did you feel like you were maybe falling short?



PATRICK RODGERS: Yeah, I wasn't behind Tour average, but obviously the elite players in the world are incredible tee to green. Rory's been driving it on another planet almost, he's obviously the best player in the world off the tee and that's a huge advantage that I feel like I'm capable of getting somewhat close to. And then you see guys like J.T. and Collin Morikawa and Jon Rahm, the way they hit their approach shots and the way that they're able to attack from the fairway, it's a huge asset in their game and I feel like if I can just kind of chip away getting a little bit closer to those guys, the way I putt it, I should be able to put together a nice year.

Q. You were all those guys when you were coming out of college and going into college and everything like that and you've had the opportunities to win over your nine-year career. What do you learn from some of those experiences that you may put into play this weekend?

PATRICK RODGERS: Yeah, it's a fine line out here. It takes a lot of patience. I can't force a win out here on this Tour and I can't control the conditions and the breaks or what anyone else does. If I do a good job of focusing on what I can control and getting lost in my process of playing, I back myself every time, I feel like I'll have a good chance.

Q. What has becoming a father, how's it maybe changed you as a golfer or how you maybe go through your process and everything, maybe a little less time to put into that?

PATRICK RODGERS: Yeah, I've been fortunate, since I've really met my wife, Jade, and obviously developed a great amazing relationship with her and with her family, it's really kind of changed me as a person and given me great balance off the course. Being able to share being parents to our son now has been just, it's hard to put into words how amazing of an experience it's been. It's been every bit challenging, but it's the most rewarding thing I've ever done. Just having something to really ground myself that I look forward to so much off the course has been amazing, and I still care just as much about being good at my job, but I feel like I have nice balance on and off the course.

Q. You mentioned the course itself, how you liked it. Is there one nine that plays tougher than the other?

PATRICK RODGERS: I think this week so far the back nine is playing a little bit more difficult and I think that's just the back nine brings in more big numbers. I think the front nine you can make a few bogeys here and there, but the back nine, a missed shot can really bring in a big number. I think I saw guys making some big numbers on 15 yesterday, 17. It's just maybe a little bit more punishing. But like I said, I'm a huge fan of the golf course, I like the strategic challenge, I think it's fun for anyone to play regardless of skill level, and obviously it continues to hold up to the test for us.

Q. On a day like this when there's talk there could be some rain coming this



afternoon, maybe 3:00, I don't know what time, some of these guys may not get their round completed, just talk about what kind of relief it is that you got to come out early today.

PATRICK RODGERS: Yeah, it definitely felt like we got the good side of the draw this week. You never will know until it's all the way finished, but I kind of got the bad side of it the last couple of weeks. It's just kind of how it works out here and I think I'm going to be pretty fortunate to be on the good side of it this week.

Q. And you've got a little time. You know, there's no delay. Before you tee off again you've got time to work on your game, relax, whatever you want to do.

PATRICK RODGERS: Yeah, we had great conditions and yeah, having a free afternoon after playing a good round is always a nice feeling.

