PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW March 1, 2023



MIGUEL ANGEL JIMENEZ

Q. Miguel, thank you for joining us here at the Cologuard Classic by Exact Sciences. You come in as the defending champion. How does it feel to be back here in Tucson?

MIGUEL ANGEL JIMENEZ: Always nice. I've been playing very well here the last few years and defending the title here is nice. Last year when I play here and this year looking forward to start the tournament again. I'm feeling good and just nice, yeah.

Q. Last year you made two holes-in-one en route to victory. What all do you remember about that?

MIGUEL ANGEL JIMENEZ: First round I played with Bernhard and Kelly on hole No. 6 with a 6-iron and making a hole-in-one there in the first round. And then in the third round I was playing with Kelly I think and make another hole-in-one, this time on hole No. 14 with a 5-iron, pin back on the left. Drove with a 5-iron, it's plenty for me. That was probably the highlight for me last year.

Q. Is that helmet one of the favorite trophies you've ever gotten?

MIGUEL ANGEL JIMENEZ: Yeah, all of them, all of them. I wouldn't like to compare with the other ones, every one is unique and last year was unique when I win here on my second victory of the year. It's nice. I've been coming here, as I said before, for several years now to play this Cologuard. Thank the sponsor for supporting the tour with this tournament and happy to be here.

Q. What's your favorite thing about playing here in Tucson and how are you preparing for the possible wind and weather that we are expecting?

MIGUEL ANGEL JIMENEZ: Yeah, well, very well, very well. It's nice to come here to Tucson. It's a long way from home, but it's nice. You're supposed to (indiscernible) given that expecting some snow tomorrow morning, we'll see. It's always nice to come play here. It's a nice golf course you need to play with (indiscernible) and it's good. Just practicing same way I do. I practice today, this morning I've been practicing all aspects of the game. Need to go to putting now, the last thing I have to do today and then ready for tomorrow for the pro-am and like every week.

Q. This will be your third start of the season, you had top-10s in each of your first two, Hualalai and then Morocco. Do you feel good about your game coming into this week?

MIGUEL ANGEL JIMENEZ: Yeah, no, my game is good. As I say, I've been practicing on hitting the ball, hitting well and I'm happy the way the start to the season. As you say, two times on the top-10 there and it's good. You need to be there to have chances to win.

Q. And I think you mentioned that last year you had a couple records, two hole-in-ones. How confident are you that you are going to or how confident are you that this year's going to be a good year for you?

MIGUEL ANGEL JIMENEZ: Yeah, well, I hope it's going to be a good year. I've been working a lot and I still work out, I'm still practicing, I'm still doing my thing over the years. (Indiscernible) works out very nice, the highlight. The people are very strong as you see, Stephen Ames is playing very well, you have Bernhard Langer, you see all these guys, Stricker, Els, Kelly, all of them up there, you know. Almost same places as last year and (indiscernible) interesting, too.