

## ASTARA CHILE CLASSIC

### ROUND 1 INTERVIEW

March 30, 2023



### RHEIN GIBSON (-7)

---

**Q. Rhein, obviously a pretty great day out there. I want to start off with just overall how your game felt, how the course is and just how today was.**

**RHEIN GIBSON:** Game feels pretty good. It's been pretty good all year really. It's nice to have a nice long break, to be honest, and happy to be here in Chile. Golf course is nice, similar to Australia again, just like Bogota a little bit. I feel comfortable here and yeah, good start to the week.

**Q. Two eagles on your back nine. Walk us through those two holes. What did you have coming in and how did you get those eagles?**

**RHEIN GIBSON:** Yeah, so No. 3, my 12th hole, hit a driver, 3-iron middle of the green, played about 40 feet and just another putt that you just want to get close and that one went right in the middle, which was nice because I kind of missed a couple coming around the turn.

Then had a great number at 18 and hit a great 5-iron in there that landed just short of the green. And the course is starting to firm up, but that one seemed to hit pretty soft and went to about 12, 15 feet and rolled that in to cap off the day.

**Q. This is your first tournament back since your win, correct?**

**RHEIN GIBSON:** Yeah. On this tour, yes.

**Q. On this tour, yes. So you went back home for a little bit. Kind of tell us about that. How was your time at home?**

**RHEIN GIBSON:** Yeah, it was good. I hadn't been home since COVID, so got home for three weeks, played two events down there, saw a bunch of family and friends and just really enjoyed time off. Then I was in Mexico last week on vacation, so I kind of got some R&R with my wife and some friends there, so happy to be back here in Chile.

**Q. I guess coming off a win, taking a break, coming back to another hot start, just how does that feel for your confidence in your game?**

**RHEIN GIBSON:** Yeah, I played well in those events down in Australia, had a fifth and a sixth down there, so I knew I was playing well. Savannah's a funny one for me, I thought it



was a good one to take off with the idea I would come to Chile and good to just continue the good form.

**Q. You're used to the travels, but how's the week been for you like traveling here and --**

**RHEIN GIBSON:** Yeah, I definitely had some issues getting out of Mexico. Then, unbeknown to me, Australians needed a visa to come here. And the Tour didn't really know either, so there was a 99 percent chance I wasn't coming. But some people with the Tour helped get a visa through. I think I got visa through at 2:00 on Monday for a 5:00 flight Monday night. There was a couple Aussies here that had some issues. But happy to be here now and happy to take advantage.

**Q. What is it about this courses that, you know, is similar to the courses in Australia? Can you kind of walk us through for people who haven't been there?**

**RHEIN GIBSON:** I would say more the terrain than anything. Grass is similar, kind of tree-lined, some dogleg holes. It's not a bomber's course by any means, there's a bit of risk-reward out there if you want to. But to me it's take it where you can and just lay up where you have to. Yeah, I'm comfortable with that and yeah, hopefully keep it going.

