

MEXICO OPEN AT VIDANTA

ROUND 2 INTERVIEW

April 28, 2023



TONY FINAU (-13)

Q. Tony, 65-64, start off with some comments about today's round.

TONY FINAU: Yeah, I played really nicely over the last couple days, was able to capitalize with the putter on shots that I hit pretty close. That was probably the biggest story, hitting it nicely, but being able to capitalize with the putter is very important out here and I was able to do that over the last couple days.

Q. Earlier you touched upon about a runner-up finish last year catapulted you to many top-10s and back-to-back wins last season. What did you kind of find here with your game that helped build confidence for the season?

TONY FINAU: Yeah, I did some great putting work with my coach last week I think and I always feel like I'm a good putter, just sometimes you've got to ride the waves with your putter throughout a season. I haven't putted it great statistically over the last couple months, but things change fast.

This was a place where a lot of things changed for me last season. I was able to post a second-place finish and just have a nice final round, make some putts that were very important and then it carried me into a very nice finish to last season. Hopefully, I continue the good putting into this weekend and into the rest of this season.

Q. I would like to write about your foundation. How can a victory in Mexico can help you to promote your foundation?

TONY FINAU: Yeah. Well, I think if people follow me, my Tony Finau Foundation is extremely important to me. It's the logo I have on my golf bag. Hopefully, the two words that come to mind with our foundation and our mantra is "inspire someone." I have the opportunity I feel like to play in front of the Mexican fans, which is really cool for me, I like traveling the world and playing golf, and hopefully I inspire some of the younger generation to do some cool things not only in the game of golf but in their life. Hopefully, they can relate to my story a little bit and my upbringing and accomplish some cool things.

Q. Have you had opportunity to talk to some of the directors, owners of the tournament, because they wanted really to build something socially responsible. Have you talked with some of the directors about your project?

TONY FINAU: Yeah, I talked to the tournament director last year, we played together in the



pro-am, and some of the guys that help run the tournament about the foundation. Hopefully, we can do some things together to continue to inspire Mexico, the Mexican fans, continue to grow the game here. I think that's extremely important.

Q. I've been following your social media and you congratulate a lot of other athletes of other sports. Have you thought about having a partner make a project like another foundation or something like that?

TONY FINAU: Yeah, you know, I've done some things this year with a guy named Kyle Rudolph and his foundation. We did something together for THE PLAYERS Championship where we had a special guest come in and I did like a VIP experience for him inside the ropes, took him through the locker room, stuff like that.

So I think, yeah, partnering up with some other celebrities, other athletes I think is important and doing some great projects together to again just continue to inspire that next generation I think is important.

Q. After this round, do you feel confident to win this Mexico Open?

TONY FINAU: Yeah, I mean, after 36 holes I'm playing nicely, find myself at the top. With my experience, we're only halfway, there's so much golf to be played. You always want to say that you have what it takes to win a golf tournament. I think luckily for me, I've done that a few times over the last year, but every week has its own challenges, every day has its own challenges, so this is not a time to get ahead of myself. I've got -- get some work done today, hit the pool and then be refreshed and get ready again for tomorrow.

