

## DICK'S SPORTING GOODS OPEN

### ROUND 3 INTERVIEW

June 25, 2023



### PADRAIG HARRINGTON (-18)

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**PADRAIG HARRINGTON:** You've got to stay patient. I made a nice par on 11 which kind of turned things around. Then I got on a roll, and after making -- I think after I made three in a row, I kind of said, you know, how many am I behind now? I started looking at the leaderboard. Normally, I wouldn't look at the leaderboard, but I was really consciously looking to see, OK, what do I need to do? Knew I needed to keep pressing. It just seemed everything went right for the last seven holes.

#### **Q. Padraig, what was going right on the stretch of 12 to 17?**

**PADRAIG HARRINGTON:** Well, I played well early on in the round and I had three three-putts, which when you're chasing you can't afford that.

I hit a few wedges close and then 13 was a -- 12's a reasonable par 5, I chipped it close. Then I hit a pitching wedge, nearly holed it out on 13. Basically, I feel like I'm playing well then, you have momentum.

I hit a lovely 6-iron into 14. Then after that, you know, it's funny, golf. I've hit wedge into 15 and of course it's a nice shot, but when things are going for you, it's amazing that everything goes pin high and everything finishes up. Another day it would have been 15 feet, today it was like five feet. I just tried not to get in my own way then after that.

#### **Q. Yesterday we talked about how you would rather be chasing the leaders going into Sunday.**

**PADRAIG HARRINGTON:** There's less stress when you're chasing. There's less pressure when you're chasing because nobody sees you if you lose. The leader is putting himself out there and if he doesn't win, he's going to finish up on Sunday and he's going to lament the mistakes that he made or the chances he missed even if he didn't make mistakes, whereas the guy chasing has a free run. If he has a good day, he has a good day. It's easier to chase, but I'd much prefer to be leading, there's no doubt about it.

#### **Q. Confidence, obviously winning last year, but what really turned things around today for you, the way you caught fire early and kept going?**

**PADRAIG HARRINGTON:** Yeah, as I said, 11 I made a really good up-and-down from 31 yards out of the bunker for par. I hit a lovely putt from six, eight feet, rolled it in solid and I felt good about myself.



Sometimes if I hit it in there to 20 feet and two-putt it, I still would have said, oh, whereas holing that putt gave me some momentum and I got on a really nice run because of it.

**Q. Obviously your family here on the green, how good was it to share that with them?**

**PADRAIG HARRINGTON:** It's great. My two sons were here all week but one of them left this morning after one hole. He's gone back to -- he's flying home. He's been on the phone watching obviously.

It's great having them with you during the tournament because they get you away from golf. When you're on the road you could be 24/7 about golf and that's not great at times. Probably not great ever, especially with the early starts as well. In the afternoons, as I said, we went shopping, we went to the movies on Saturday afternoon, just things you do with your family. Yeah, I'll enjoy the celebration with them tonight.

