

NICOLAI HOJGAARD

Q. Nicolai, 5 under start today, how pleasing was that?

NICOLAI HOJGAARD: Yeah, it's definitely a good start. I mean, I was grinding hard out there today to put a score together. Rolled the putter nicely, so kept me going.

Q. What part of the game was especially pleasing to you?

NICOLAI HOJGAARD: Definitely the putter today. Short game felt good as well. The long game, I feel a little bit off the last couple weeks so it was good to have a good putter today and hopefully we'll find some good long game the next few days.

Q. Making your tournament debut at the ZOZO Championship, how has the experience been?

NICOLAI HOJGAARD: I love it here. I was here back in 2018 playing in Nagoya, and being here this week is unbelievable. We're enjoying it. Good food, people are so kind and playing a really good golf course, so I'm enjoying it so far.

Q. Obviously coming off the successful week in Rome, just quickly tell us about the experience. What has that done for you as you go forward in your career now?

NICOLAI HOJGAARD: It was a great week, couldn't have gone any better. That experience, obviously seeing the best players up close, seeing how they do and what you can learn from them and also giving you confidence in your own game, being part of a group that won the Ryder Cup back, yeah, it was the best week. Now we're trying to build on that.

Q. Last question, how much fun was it with Akshay playing on the opposite side of what you normally do?

NICOLAI HOJGAARD: It was fun yesterday. Yeah, it was good fun. It was tricky. It's so uncomfortable and it's so tricky playing the opposite way, but I mean, most important part, I got the win over him, so that was pretty important.