

**ROUND 4 PRESS CONFERENCE**  
**November 19, 2023**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG (-29)**



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**JOHN BUSH:** We would like to welcome Ludvig Åberg into the interview room, our 2023 RSM Classic champion.

Ludvig, from the last few months, from Texas Tech sweeping all of the college awards, finishing No. 1 PGA TOUR University, and then coming out on the Tour, you've won on the DP World Tour, you've won the Ryder Cup and now you are a PGA TOUR winner. If we can get your comments on what that journey has been like.

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** I'm not sure I'm ever going to be able to put that into words. You know, there's a lot of people I want to thank that are close to me. It wouldn't have been possible without them.

It's been a while, six months, but it's been so much fun. I still pinch myself in the morning when I wake up to kind of realize that this is what I do for a job. It's been so much fun. These experiences that I've had over the last six months has been beyond my dreams and I'll never forget it.

**JOHN BUSH:** The records that you set this week are almost too many to mention, but you tied the low score in PGA TOUR history in a 72-hole event, you won this tournament by a record seven shots, you had the low closing 36-hole score in PGA TOUR history. Just talk to us about your play this week.

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** Yeah, I felt like I was striking the ball very well all week. To be honest, I feel like I've been striking the ball quite well over the last couple of months.

It's just one of those weeks where everything kind of comes together. I made a few putts here and there that are very important. First two rounds I made a few par putts that kind of keeps the momentum going. Obviously today Mackenzie and I played some really good golf. He really pushed me and I think I pushed him as well.

To kind of make those few birdies when it matters is very, very cool.

**JOHN BUSH:** Your win gets you into the Sentry. You finish No. 53 in the FedExCup fall standings, which gets you into the AT&T Pebble Beach pro-am and also the Genesis Invitational.

Just talk a little bit about what this does for setting you on a path for 2024.

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** Yeah. I mean, when you put it like that, it's quite surreal. If you would



have told me this a couple months ago, I would not have believed you. But it makes me emotional to think about it, but it's really, really cool.

**JOHN BUSH:** And lastly, to do it here at Sea Island, which you've talked about your affinity for this place before.

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** Yeah, definitely. I got to play the Jones Cup two years ago here in 2021 and fell in love with it. We played a college event here last year, fell in love with it again. I've played all these courses around here at Sea Island and absolutely love it. To kind of get my name on that trophy is very, very cool.

**JOHN BUSH:** Good stuff. We'll open it up to questions.

**Q. Not to overstate this, but how would you assess your performance specifically over the last 36 holes?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** I don't think I've ever shot back-to-back 61s, to be fair. So that's obviously something that I'll probably never ever gonna do again.

You know, to do it here at Sea Island playing Seaside golf course is one of my favorites, just visually it's really cool. I felt like I was playing well, then kind of got it all together when it really mattered.

**Q. What were your emotions like, if any, coming down the stretch? You looked outwardly very calm, but I'm sure there's a lot going on inside.**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** Oh, definitely. There's a lot of these scenarios running through your head, am I going to win it, am I not going to win. I feel like last couple -- I've had a lot of experience over the last few months to kind of prepare me for those moments. I try not to get ahead of myself. Even though you're playing with the lead on a golf course like this, you still need to make birdies, you still need to chase. Obviously Mackenzie did that as well.

I think I was quite calm, but I was obviously very nervous, I can't really deny that. But it's really cool to kind of see myself do that and it gives me a lot of comfort and validity that I can do it.

**Q. What do you do to handle the nerves, or what did you do today to handle the nerves?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** Sometimes, so my tendency is to get more stuck in the past more so than the future. I tend to get more disappointed and frustrated with myself more so than getting angry. I never get angry, but I do get disappointed and that kind of lingers.

So I think this week I did a really good job of letting that go. Even though coming down the last couple holes, obviously all these scenarios are running through my head of what's it



going to look like on 18, what's Mackenzie going to do, is he going to charge me. I just through the back nine expected him to make a lot of birdies, which forced me to make birdies as well.

Breathing really helps to kind of calm you down. Then you try to just stay where your feet are really.

**Q. Just curious, your golf swing, was it something that came naturally to you? Was there somebody you tried to emulate or a teacher that made it that way? We all talk about your ball-striking. Did you swing always sort of that way and been refined?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** Yeah, I feel like me and my Coach Hollins back home, we did a really good job early on to work on my swing. Whenever I started, the high school I went to where he's a coach, those I think like first two winters where we had this massive winter break in Sweden, we did a lot of work on the technical side of things and that's kind of been maintained over the last couple of months, or last couple years.

But there hasn't really been anyone that I try to emulate. I don't think you can do that in golf. I think each and every body's different and it's going to react differently. I think it's very difficult to try to copy one swing. I just try to play my own game and then try to understand what your tendencies are and kind of pick up on that.

**Q. You won on both tours, Ryder Cup, now this. It's a long way from Lubbock, isn't it?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** Everything is a long way from Lubbock.

**Q. How did you get to Texas Tech?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** So when I was recruited back a couple years ago, my coach, Greg Sands, came over to Europe. I was playing these junior events that European boys and British boys and he came over, recruited me.

You know, there has been a lot of Swedes and Scandinavians in the past at Tech, so I was able to kind of talk to them and get some inside information. Once I did my visit, I fell in love with it. I still live there. I'm about to move, though. I still call it my second home.

**Q. And I know there's been a little bit of a breakneck, whirlwind for you since you got your card. You played a lot in Europe, Ryder Cup, all this. Do you have any plans to take it easy for the next few weeks or are you going to play in some offseason stuff?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** So I'll be playing the Grant Thornton Invitational event in Naples in December. That will be my last event of the year. I'm playing with Madelene Sagström, which is funny enough my caddie's fiancée. So I think he's going to have a tough week that week. I'm going to try to be nice to him. I'll do that and then I'll go back to Europe for a



couple weeks.

**Q. How has Peter Hanson become a big part of your team and what has he done to help you get to where you are right now?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** Yeah, definitely. Peter, I think I want to say just over a year probably, year and a half since we kind of first met. And obviously his resume's unbelievable and he's one of the prolific Swedish players we've had. He's also a very nice friend.

So I think his experiences has helped me a lot. He's been there, he's done that, he's won big events and played in Ryder Cups. I think just his demeanor and small little things here and there that he can teach me. I try to do as much as he says. If he tells me something, I'll try to do that. He's a great mentor.

**Q. You're going to get to go to Augusta. What does that feel like?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** Amazing. I haven't really thought about it that much, to be fair. You know, Augusta's such a special place and I can't wait to tee it up.

**Q. What's the best piece of advice you've received about playing pro golf?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** Best piece of advice is -- I think there's a lot that goes into it. For me, because I was quite good in college, I knew that it was going to translate into pro golf. These guys that I played with in college, they're as good as me. Anyone can come out here and win, I feel like, because the level is so good in college.

I think one of the most important advice is probably, it sounds so cliché, but you need to play your own game. Kind of like I said with the swing, I don't try to copy anyone, I don't try to emulate anyone, I just try to play myself and trust that it's good enough. I think that's what college golf has made me realize and it's made me think that I can do it. Then obviously it's very, very fortunate for me that it pays off this quickly.

**Q. When did you realize you were good enough to do this?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** I started playing very well in college and I started winning tournaments in college. I think the whole concept of winning a tournament, I just fell in love with it. I just absolutely love it. There's something very weird and special about it. You know, you just want to do it again and again and again.

Ever since when I won in Switzerland, I still live off that, and I'm sure I'm going to live off this for a very long time as well. Hopefully I'll be able to do it again. It's really cool.

**Q. Have you ever been to Augusta, the Masters?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** I have, actually. We did a -- my freshman year of college we did like a



weekend trip with a couple of donors. We got to spend a day at Augusta, we played the golf course and we played the par-3 course and just had the best time.

**Q. If you look back since you left Lubbock, I know this is going to be hard, but what stands out? You had so much fun and success at the Ryder Cup, winning in Europe, winning here. Is there one thing that stands out?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** I think there's a lot of things that stand out. Obviously this is going to be very high on the list, but I think the week we had in Rome was unbelievable as well. For me to kind of build a relationship with those guys that obviously I've looked up to for such a long time, to come out on top and to win and to kind of be a part of history, I guess, was really cool. And it's really special to play in that team event and that kind of, to see that whole team dynamic was awesome.

**Q. Where are you moving to and why?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** So I'm moving to Tallahassee, Florida. One of my good friends, Vincent Norrman, who also plays out here, he asked me if I wanted to hop in his guest room and I said yeah. So he's going to be my landlord for a little bit. It will be nice to kind of keep that social connection and social network that I had in college and to stay with him for a little bit.

**Q. Stay away from Tennessee Street.**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** What's that.

**Q. Stay away from Tennessee Street.**

**I look back to Mexico last week until No. 12 today, you had 85 bogey-free holes in a row. When you're on that kind of a roll or when you like birdied six out of eight today, are you aware of that when it's going on?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** I didn't know the 85 holes.

**Q. Yeah, 85 in a row.**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** I was aware my first three rounds was bogey free, so that bogey I made on 12 sucks.

It's really cool. Like I said before, I just try to stay where my feet are, and such a cliché, but hit the next shot as best I can. It's really cool to sit back and look back at those things, yeah.

**Q. Not to belabor your only bad shot of the day, but what did happen on that tee shot?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** Well, it was like 200 meters into the wind and my 4-iron is about 200 and



I tried to hit it way too hard. Whenever I do that, my tendency is to flare it out a little bit to the right. It's just one of them bad swings. I was a little bit in between clubs, but just tried to hit it hard and flared up to the right.

**Q. Ludvig, when you look back at this victory, is there a shot or a whole or moment that's going to stick out in your mind as kind of the signature moment of this week?**

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** I think my putt on 17. Just now when I'm thinking about it, obviously I hit it way too hard and it snapped at the end and went in, but that was quite cool. It makes the 18th hole a little bit more stress free. I think I'm going to sleep well on that one.

**JOHN BUSH:** Anything else? Ludvig, it was fun watching you this week and we look forward to following you for the rest of your career. Congratulations once again.

**LUDVIG ÅBERG:** Thanks so much.

