

ROUND 1 QUOTES
February 1, 2024



RORY McILROY (-3)

Q. Talk about the round.

RORY McILROY: Yeah, played really well for the first 14 holes and then obviously had a bit of a bad finish there. But for the most of it I hit the ball pretty well. There's a lot of good stuff in there. Had that run of holes on 6, 7 and 8, but I mean apart from that, I actually played very well.

Q. From a start standpoint, two weeks in the desert and here, looks like the beginning of the year has been pretty solid for you. Do you feel that way?

RORY McILROY: I do, yeah. I feel like my game's in really good shape. I'm hitting it well, feel comfortable around the greens, on the greens. Yeah, game feels in good shape. It was just one of those -- I just let it -- I had a really score and then just sort of let it get away from me those last few holes.

Q. I don't want to read too much into it, but is there anything to not being on the policy board anymore maybe loosening you up, letting you focus on golf a little bit?

RORY McILROY: I'd say the golf I played while I was on the policy board was pretty good, too. Not really. I think if anything, just been maybe a little, yeah, a little less burdened by it all, I guess.

Q. We would be remiss if we didn't ask you about yesterday's announcement, your thoughts. I know you're not on the board, I don't know if you would have voted for it or not. What's your thoughts on the agreement?

RORY McILROY: I definitely would have voted for it. I think the group that has been assembled to invest into, well, PGA TOUR Enterprises, I guess, not the PGA TOUR, but PGA TOUR Enterprises. It's a wonderful group of people that have got tons of experience in sports ownership over the past 30 years. I've gotten to know those guys pretty well, especially the Fenway consortium. We worked with them to sell the majority share of my TGL team to them, so we've worked pretty closely for the last year or so. They're a great group of people and have the best intentions for the game of golf, which is great. Yeah, I felt it was good news.

Q. (No microphone.)

RORY McILROY: Yeah, yeah. So I took an unplayable on 7 and I took it back online. Then



unbeknownst to me the rule changed in January 2023 where you used to be able to come back online, take a club length either side. That was changed in 2019 to be able to do that. I wasn't aware that that rule was changed again in 2023, so I took a drop thinking of the 2019 rules when everything was sort of changed not knowing that the rule was changed again in 2023, so got a two-stroke penalty there.

