

ROUND 1 QUOTES
February 1, 2024



JUSTIN ROSE (-4)

Q. How was your day, honey?

JUSTIN ROSE: It was good, good day of work out there. Is this for real yet? Yeah, have we started? This is good?

It was a good day. I think there's always shots you leave out there. I think if you played well out there today with ball in hand, you felt like you could -- you could make some birdies. But at the same time, this golf course has enough about it where it was playing long obviously, you have to drive the ball in the fairway. That's such a massive difference, ball in hand, perfect lie every time in the fairway versus in the rough, how soft it is and squelchy it is, you can get some pretty tough lies. So the point is I think the delta between good and bad golf today was pretty high.

Q. We didn't get to talk to you yesterday, so I was curious now that you actually have a round in, does it feel the same, the tournament? Does it feel like it did in past years like last year? It's two rounds instead of three, no celebrities.

JUSTIN ROSE: Yeah, I feel like so far it does feel the same. I think there's good vibes, good energy. I think that you're seeing obviously a lot of top players here, which I think is unique and rare and hasn't always been the case. So obviously there's a trade-off, for sure there's a trade-off this week. Like you say some of the celebs that do bring a huge amount of fun and uniqueness to this event, maybe that's sort of not there, but then you're adding in big-time golf to a stage and a setting that deserves it as well.

Yeah, I think it's going to figure out after the event how it feels and what's best. Three rounds at Pebble's always a treat. You play there as much as you can, I suppose, so I feel that's a good thing.

Q. The other thing we didn't get a chance to talk about yesterday was all the great off the course stuff. Did you listen in on the call?

JUSTIN ROSE: I actually didn't, no. I didn't see the email, I didn't even know there was a call happening. That shows how dialed in I was.

I've sort of been keeping my ear close to the ground with some of the guys and anticipated this happening and coming, but it's obviously nice when you finally hear the news.

I think just kind of curious to see exactly what it means for everybody. Yeah, like one, individually on the equity side, curious, but two, like what the strategy is for the Tour, how



much it strengthens us, how much, yeah, like really what it means in terms of driving us forward as an organization.

I think anytime you can engage people with ownership, they do take more pride in their product and pride in their work. I'm hoping that that's the case 170 guys deep.

Q. That's kind of a tricky question and answer frankly, taking ownership in the Tour. Did you not feel ownership before? Different semantics there, isn't it? It's supposed to be your Tour, I think.

JUSTIN ROSE: Well, that's what it's always been, that was the sounding, those were the Cliffs Notes, but I guess when push came to shove I don't think it was until there were obviously a few guys started throwing their weight around a little bit and wrestling back the power, I suppose.

I guess the real acid test is it remains to be seen if it's a good thing having the players in power. That's going to be -- obviously a lot of guys have committed a lot of time here and I think we're in a great -- we have a lot of options I think at the moment. That's a place maybe that we haven't been.

Yeah, listen, I think there's been some good elements in the last couple years and there's been some elements that have obviously not been ideal. I'm hoping that this moment in time now is sort of a soft landing to be able to build something cool going forward.

Q. Were you ever offered to join LIV? Did you ever receive an offer?

JUSTIN ROSE: I guess technically I might have done like two-plus, two-plus, three years ago or something, at least had a conversation around it.

But for me it was always I could never get comfortable with the giving up on the childhood dreams of the majors and I just couldn't see that changing anytime soon. I was in a position, a situation where I was having to earn my way into them so I didn't have those long-term exemptions to buffer it.

Q. I guess what I'm asking and still curious about, in terms of repairing a fractured landscape, the idea of ever bringing everyone back together, is that complicated given the number of players, yourself and many others included, who chose not to go, not to take?

JUSTIN ROSE: Yeah, I think it's complicated and there will never be a one-for-one ration where one guy feels good about everyone coming back because they got something and they didn't.

But I think ultimately, if this is all structured the right way, those guys coming back strengthens the Tour and everybody that's now involved in this new structure is going to



benefit from those great names coming back and being a part of the Tour.

So you have to look at it objectively as well. Anything that's going to strengthen the Tour in the long term is going to benefit the players now. From that point, you've got to get your head around that, I suppose. I don't think there's an easy reintegration anytime soon, but I don't see that as off the table.

