

PRE-TOURNAMENT PRESS CONFERENCE
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WYNDHAM CLARK



MODERATOR: We would like to welcome Wyndham Clark into the media center here at the Genesis Invitational. The last time you were in L.A. you had a pretty incredible experience. Can you talk a little bit about how your life has changed since the U.S. Open, winning your first major?

WYNDHAM CLARK: It's changed a lot. This is my first time back in L.A. so it feels really good to be back. I did a nice thing last night at LACC with the USGA, we did a little fireside chat kind of reminiscing on all the shots and it was just amazing to be back there, that was my first time. So it was kind of emotional, it was great. It reminded me where I was then and where I am now and how much my life has changed. Played in the Ryder Cup, won another tournament at Pebble Beach, and now I'm a top-10 player in the world. So a lot has changed and, yeah, just excited to be here and compete again this week.

MODERATOR: You're making your fifth appearance at the Genesis Invitational. Can you talk a little bit about what you like about the course as well as the tournament as a whole?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Yeah, this is, I think anyone says this is definitely one of my favorite courses of the year if not, you know, the favorite for me. It's just such a fun week being here in L.A. at such an iconic golf course that is so challenging and has really stood the test of time. We don't have that thick of rough. They haven't really changed any tees in the six years I've been coming here, five, six years, and yet the winner always seems to be right around 14, 15 under and it's always a great test of golf.

It's one of my favorite weeks, I love it. When the weather's good, there's nothing better than playing four days at Riv.

Q. I know you have like a different level of belief as you continue to sort of rise up the rankings and so forth, but do you surprise yourself when you shoot a 60 and is that part of the fun of your life now, kind of surprising yourself in a good way, like wow, I didn't know that was out there, I didn't know that was in me?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Yeah, I think every golfer thinks they should shoot 18 under every round and it doesn't work out. Yeah, you're spot on. I surprise myself almost ever round where I'm nervous on a certain shot and I pull it off and I'm excited and go, wow, impressed and surprised that I did that. You know, 60 at a place like Pebble definitely was something that you dream about and visualize at night, that something like that would happen. To go out there and actually do it is another thing, and to live in that, it was amazing. It truly was a super special day. I honestly, it almost felt like a dream because I didn't even really think about where I was as far as score the whole round until I got to hole 18, and that's when I



realized that I missed a putt on 16 and 17 and would have been at 12 under going into 18 birdieing to shoot 59, that was the first time I thought about score.

It was one of those things where people say you were blacked out and it was like a dream. It was pretty awesome.

Q. Wyndham, what elements of this course here at Riviera do you find to be most challenging and are there any parts that feel like suits your game particularly?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Yeah, Riv is, I think it requires so much precision into the greens. It's typically very firm and there's a lot of slope on the greens, so you have to be very precise with distances and then also your misses. There's definitely some spots to where, if you miss, you know, left to right of the hole, you almost can't get up and down. So you have to be super precise.

And then the greens are very sloped. We come over here on the west coast, similar to Pebble and Torrey, there's so much slope with poa annua and you're 10 feet out and you're playing a foot of break. That doesn't happen that often on Tour. I think those are the two main challenges out here and I think it feeds into my game, to be honest. I feel like I'm really good around the greens, so you are going to miss some greens around here and I feel like I can get them up and down.

And then I've always excelled on poa annua greens growing up in Colorado at Cherry Hills where they had similar greens like they have here, so I'm used to playing away from the hole and bending it in.

I really like this place. I think it also favors someone that hits it far, and I've had some success here. I had a top-10 and I think a top-20 here earlier in my career, but I felt like I played great that week and feel like I can really do well here.

Q. Tiger was just up here earlier and the totals on his career are kind of insane with 82 wins and 15 majors. I have heard one or two other players throw out numbers like, oh, I believe X number of majors is possible for me. Do you think that way or do you just sort of take it as it comes and hope that you rack up a lot of Ws?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Yeah, I haven't really thought about the total number of wins or any of that. Like I've said in previous talks, I really try not to think about winning. I think when I first got on Tour that's all I thought about and I didn't win. Now I try to not think about winning and I'm winning, so I'm going to try to keep that trend going.

Q. Wyndham, you've talked about how great that pairing was with Rickie at the U.S. Open. This week you've got Rory and Max and to us on the outside that looks like a group of guys who like to talk and good natured and it's going to be fun for you. I'm assuming that's the case in your perspective when you see this. Have you played much with Rory and have you ever talked to him about the U.S. Open last year?



WYNDHAM CLARK: I was talking about it with my caddie, John. I don't think I've played a stroke play round with Rory. I played with him at the Ryder Cup, I've played practice rounds with Rory quite a bit, but never a stroke play round. I think, I can't -- I mean, we couldn't think of one. I think this will be the first time that we play stroke play together so I'm excited. I always like playing with the best players, and I like to somewhat compare my game to theirs and see where they're at and go, okay, yeah, I feel like my game's similar to his or I need to get better in these areas and work on X,Y, and Z. I'm really looking forward to it. Max being a really good friend and his caddie, Joe, being good friends with my caddie and myself, I think it's going to be a super fun pairing. You've got Mr. L.A. in Max, so he's going to have a huge, huge crowd. And you've got Rory, so I'm just hoping that I can go out there and play the best golf I can and enjoy myself.

Q. What was the thing that got you emotional when you went back to L.A.?

WYNDHAM CLARK: I just think driving through the gates, instantly you have flashbacks on driving every day that I did that week. Then we had this dinner kind of in their private dining hall and it was overlooking 18 green, and I'm just looking at it the entire time and all I could think about was what happened on 18. That was pretty emotional.

And they gave me an amazing gift, which was my caddie, John and I, about to embrace each other on 18 green, it's a beautiful painting and the clubhouse in the background. That was in itself such a nice gift.

I remember the things he said to me and what I was feeling and the emotions I felt and everything with that. I did everything I could to not shed a tear when they gave that to me, so it was a pretty nice moment.

Q. You seem to be aware of where you rank within the game, you try to size yourself up, like you said, against Rory and other top players. I'm curious, you're ranked sixth in the world. Is there a place where you think specifically there is more growth for you?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Yeah, I don't want to put a limit to myself. I would love to try to get to No. 1 player in the world. I don't know when that's going to happen, if it will happen, but I do know if I continue to do the things that make me successful, I think that's -- there's a chance that that could happen.

I'm just going to continue to focus on my process, which is focus on that mental game, working hard in the gym and working hard on the range and then hoping that results in good results, which ultimately gets me to where I want to be in the world.

Q. In terms of specifics that you are, I guess, pleased with versus displeased with at the moment, is there a specific thing that you look to that will push you to that No. 1 player in the world spot?



WYNDHAM CLARK: I think consistency. The one thing I see, I look at like Scottie Scheffler right now, I played with him last week at Waste Management, I'm just amazed of how consistent he is and how good of a ball-striker and how every week he seems to be in the hunt. That's something I need to get better at. I think I do it in spurts and I obviously had some success in winning, but I think there's some weeks that I go and finish 30th or 40th and it was kind of -- it just doesn't seem -- yeah, I just don't think the consistency's there.

That's something that I'm hoping in the next year or two that I can get to that level wherever every week I'm kind of on the front page of the leaderboard.

Q. Is your putter you used in victory two weeks ago your Valentine or do you have nine putters with you today?

WYNDHAM CLARK: Yeah, that was definitely a nice Valentine gift. I do not have nine putters, I brought one putter this week. I'm hoping I never have to do that again. I think I found a little something at Pebble, which was getting rid of the top line on the putter. So I have no line on my putter and I think that's really helped me. I'm hoping that that's kind of the thing that's been missing the last few years.

MODERATOR: Netflix title announcements came out today. I have to ask you, have you seen your episode yet?

WYNDHAM CLARK: I still have not seen my episode. I don't know if I want to. I know it's bad, but it's weird watching yourself on TV. I don't know, I lived it and so I don't know if I really want to watch it. I know there's some emotional parts in my episode or at least from what I hear. I don't know, it's just weird watching yourself. I'll watch other people's, for sure, and then I'll skip over mine.

MODERATOR: Fair. Thank you very much, Wyndham.

WYNDHAM CLARK: Thanks, guys.

