

**PRE-TOURNAMENT PRESS CONFERENCE**  
**February 20, 2024**

**RAUL PEREDA**



**MODERATOR:** Welcome to the press conference with Raul Pereda.

Raul, welcome back to the Mexico Open at Vidanta. How do you feel for this edition of the tournament?

**RAUL PEREDA:** Definitely, I feel great. It's been a long three weeks that I didn't play. Definitely playing my first two events, American Express and Torrey Pines, was so exciting for me and definitely coming back to the Mexico Open as a PGA TOUR member means a lot to me. It is very exciting to be back in Puerto Vallarta and Vidanta and definitely in front of the home crowd.

**MODERATOR:** How to change the mindset for this tournament being a rookie player on the PGA TOUR?

**RAUL PEREDA:** There's nothing to change pretty much. I'm not a rookie anymore, I've played two events. And definitely last year really brings me a lot of good memories where I can feel comfortable around the course. I can slap it around, but I'll make a lot of putts this week.

**MODERATOR:** How important for Mexico to have these kind of tournaments?

**RAUL PEREDA:** It is huge. It is huge for the growth of the game, it is huge to keep showing the generations that we have coming in the near future to pursue the game of golf. Definitely having the Mexico Open, having a PGA TOUR event or two PGA TOUR events in Mexico, it means a lot for the sport in general, for the country, being able to put more kids out there and showing them being able to be in the big league, it's possible.

**MODERATOR:** Tell us a little more about your goal this year.

**RAUL PEREDA:** I would like to keep my card, it's definitely something I'm playing hard for. I feel like I'm new out here for so many events. The first event I got a couple souvenirs and tried to put it in my apartment. But definitely I'm not a spectator anymore, I'm one of them. I would love to get Rookie of the Year, I think that would mean a lot. Rookie of the Year my first year out here, of course, and definitely the first of many.

**MODERATOR:** What's going to be the key to have a great week here at Vidanta?

**RAUL PEREDA:** Be patient, be patient. I think the course is playing different than last year a little bit, I think the wind direction has changed due to the time of the year that we're



playing. It's softer, but definitely the course is in great conditions, and I'm not hitting it as far as last year.

(Questions & answers in Spanish.)

