

**PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW**  
**October 26, 2022**

**SEAMUS POWER**



**MARK WILLIAMS:** We would like to welcome Seamus Power into the interview room here at the Butterfield Bermuda Championship 2022.

Seamus, you've been here all three years before. Just why do you keep coming back to this tournament, what's your experience been like here?

**SEAMUS POWER:** Yeah, I've played it every year. I really, really enjoy the place. I didn't know much about the island before I came here the first time, but I've enjoyed my experience every time. It's unique, even something as small as like the ferry coming across to the course, I find like it's different and it's a beautiful place. And I made some friends here over the years now too, so it's a stop I really look forward to all year.

**Q. You've had some pretty consistent performances here, too; a Top 30s, T12. What do you like about the golf course that suits your game or is it just playing in the wind and weather (inaudible)?**

**SEAMUS POWER:** Yeah, I think just being to handle the wind. Obviously like this morning is kind of unusual as in the wind's not blowing much at all, but yeah, for the most part you're kind of expecting it 10, 15 or more. The course is kind of designed for it, which I like. It kind of helps you kind of picture some of the shots with wind directions. But yeah, I've seen it in all different winds at this point and it's just fun, all sorts of different shots here, uphill and down, makes it fun to play, makes it challenging, but it's kind of enjoyable.

**Q. What has your form been like in the 10 rounds you've played this season?**

**SEAMUS POWER:** Yeah, it's been a little up and down, a little more so than I'd like, but I actually feel like I'm kind of coming around. My iron play hasn't been great. I've been kind of driving it okay, but iron play has been poor. But I kind of feel like I got something figured out, so it was nice out there this morning. Do a little bit of work this afternoon. But yet still early in the season, but nice to see some progress there. A couple of good rounds last week, and the weekend I didn't play particularly well, but it was nice to see some of the kind of work paying off early. So hopefully I put four good ones here this week.

**Q. You're the only player in the field in the Top 50 in the world rankings, you played all four majors. What did you learn playing those majors and how hungry (inaudible) stay in the Top 50?**

**SEAMUS POWER:** Yeah, obviously it was my first time playing all four. It does, just the -- it's hard to describe, it's just a different feel around the tournaments.



But one of the things I took from it which is very encouraging is my game held up very, very well. Like I played very well at Augusta, didn't quite get the putts, but then played well at the U.S. Open and the PGA TOUR. Actually struggled a little bit at The Open. But it was nice to see in tough conditions under like the biggest scrutiny, whatever, the biggest microscope, my game holding up well.

But as you said, yeah, you're dying -- it makes you really excited to try to get back in there. It's just an extra level of interest, an extra level of kind of buzz around the course. It's just different and it was very, very special and, as you said, makes you want to get back there.

**Q. Coming back to (inaudible) Bermuda, you stayed a week or two extra one of the years you played here. How did that come about?**

**SEAMUS POWER:** Yeah, so it would have been the end of 2020, so I was here for just over two weeks. I had friends that helped me just getting my visa kind of renewed, but it was tough during COVID, a lot of the embassies were closed, but I was able to get in here.

Initially, I was like it sounded almost like a negative, you've got to go and you've got to stay there for two weeks, but really, really enjoyed it. As I said, I'm lucky I have friends here that kind of showed me around. It's just, it's a different kind of style of life than I've kind of seen. The water is just beautiful and everything is kind of, I don't know, like the people here are nice and stuff. So it was fantastic, got to see all over the island and yeah, really enjoyed my time.

**Q. Have you explored the island this year?**

**SEAMUS POWER:** No, I haven't yet ventured with the mopeds yet, to be honest. Like I grew up in kind of a rural place, I had like a motorbike or a dirt road like a couple times, like it wasn't for me. I kind of stick to -- at the time my friends were driving me around when I was here and had a tour on the shuttles, but yeah, no, I haven't quite ventured that far yet.

**Q. Any extra pressure being one of the favorites?**

**SEAMUS POWER:** No. I mean, look, honestly every time you tee it up you're kind of -- you're planning at least in your mind that you're going to be in contention to win and that's not going to be any different.

Obviously I didn't even realize that, but I guess it's kind of a cool thing. But no, not really any extra pressure. You have all this internal pressure, you're trying to get yourself to do all the things and prepare well and then kind of go from there.

**Q. What is the toughest hole and the easiest hole here?**

**SEAMUS POWER:** On the golf course? I mean, to me, like the toughest stretch is 13, 14,



15, 16. I don't know what it is statistically, but I feel like it's probably it. But for the most part, I think the par 3s has got the biggest -- are the biggest bite here. Like even 8 when it's playing into the wind, it can be very tough. And obviously 16, especially when the wind's blowing off the ocean there. And like even 13 again with the wind, if it's off the left, it's so far downhill.

But like at the same time, 8 and 16 are spectacular. Like when you kind of get on to -- you walk back to 8 tee and then you turn back around, it's really our first time seeing the ocean on the course. So I always think that moment is gorgeous there. You're just seeing the sunshine off the water and it's spectacular.

**Q. How do you manage strategy and the conditions here?**

**SEAMUS POWER:** Yeah, I mean, just handling the conditions. Even this week I think the wind is going to switch again. I remember I think just about every year like the holes can be completely different. I mean, even that par 5 7th, like I've hit sand wedge in there for a second shot and I've hit 3-wood. Just kind of adapt and figure out what's going on in terms of the wind and where you want to leave it. It can change dramatically overnight and I think that's one of the things I've been good at. Growing up in Ireland, we get a lot of similar conditions so we're kind of used to it, but I think just adapting as you go is a huge -- going to be a huge benefit around here.

**Q. (Question about hitting driver.) What about handling the elevation changes?**

**SEAMUS POWER:** You don't hit as many. I think I hit three on the back nine there this morning in the pro-am. Again, every one of them can change depending on the wind. There's not a ton. Some of them are just about position. You can certainly hit them more than I do, but I just kind of like playing to my certain spots and kind of going from there.

Yeah, when the wind gets blowing, especially across, for me, if I can just keep maybe a long iron down towards the ground and get it on the fairway, I feel like I have a better chance.

**Q. You have many opportunities this season, FedExCup, majors, Ryder Cup all included but how do you prioritize those goals or opportunities?**

**SEAMUS POWER:** I mean, they're all -- they're obviously all goals, but I mean, the first and foremost is going to be the FedExCup. Like I love what I do, but it is your job at the end of the day, so that's the first thing you want to make sure you keep. Like you've got to rack up FedExCup points, you've got to do as well as you can there. And that's kind of what happened, I ended up in the Top 50, but it was more so just my good play kind of pushed me up there rather than me like always driving towards it. I've always thought that if I play well, the rankings will take care of themselves.

Obviously having the Ryder Cup this year, which every European dreams of that. So that's always going to be something in the back of your mind, too.



Again, like if you play well, I feel like it will take care of itself. But yeah, I mean, what an honor that would be and that's always going to be a goal. The majors were amazing to be back there, but first and foremost will be FedExCup and making sure you hold onto your job.

**Q. How does all this affect you planning your schedule?**

**SEAMUS POWER:** I haven't got too far to the spring yet because we were waiting for the announcements with the kind of change of events last week, so that's -- but I haven't had a chance to sit down and look at them.

But I'm going to play here, I'll Mayakoba next week and more than likely Sea Island, and then I'm going to wait and see in the spring. Now that the elevated events have been kind of announced and decided, that will kind of change it a little bit. Luckily for me, most of the courses that were I would have played anyway, so I don't think it's going to change the schedule much. But I know that event like GB&I versus Europe event was kind of announced for January, so I've got to kind of see where things I have to fit in. I haven't looked at it too much yet, but some of it I'll do as soon as I get a chance here the next couple weeks.

**Q. Have you played with Luke Donald? He's also in the filed this week so will you get to speak with him?**

**SEAMUS POWER:** Yeah. I played with him a couple times, yeah. We played a practice round -- I think two or three times, yeah. Yeah, he's a lovely guy, delightful for him to get the captancy. I haven't spoken to him about the Ryder Cup or anything yet, so hopefully I run into him this week.

It was kind of -- I don't know who asked me. I think I'm definitely going to like get some feedback on the schedule from him and ask what he'd like to see. But again, I was waiting on kind of the full schedule was kind of announced before kind of getting into that conversation.

Yeah, I'll see what kind of his input. You know, he's seen it all he's done it all, so someone -- I'll probably reach out to -- I know like Paul McGinley like messaged me last week and I'll probably give Padraig a shout as well, having been Ryder Cup captain. Those guys have a lot of good input and just see.

Yeah, so I imagine the schedule will have some tweaks here and there, but at least for the immediate future I'm just going to stick with what I'm doing.

**Q. Do you come here with elevated expectations as one of the favorites now?**

**SEAMUS POWER:** No, not really. Again, like it's just a tournament that I know I've played well in before, so I know -- I have confidence that I know how to play the golf course and I know I can putt well here. So like they're the big things.



Then I just try to put my focus into the preparation of it. You know, that's all great, but I mean, if you go out and shoot 70-whatever, if you don't play well, it doesn't really matter. So I'm going to do some work here this afternoon, get some rest and be ready to go tomorrow and then it's going to be same as any tournament, try to get a hot start and keep it going.

**Q. Do the usually windy conditions allow you to enjoy this event?**

**SEAMUS POWER:** Yeah, very much so, especially when like it's obviously an added element and then you throw in the wind on top of that. Some of the shots, like 13's a perfect example. Like this morning, not that difficult a shot from the elevated tee, but you get some breeze like blowing across 10, 15 miles an hour and all of a sudden the elevation plays all sorts of tricks with you because the ball moves more than it normally would. And 9 and 18 coming back up those hills, like trying to judge it and trying to figure out how much the wind will hit it because you're coming up the slope and all that, so it all adds to it.

I think that's what makes this course so enjoyable to play, every shot is different, hitting shots ball below your feet, above your feet, uphill, downhill and the wind's doing all sorts of stuff. So there's a lot of different shots and some of it's you got to figure out as you go and some of it's just from like playing here in the past and just kind of remembering what I did here and there and hopefully it helps this time around.

