

PRE-TOURNAMENT PRESS CONFERENCE
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SEAMUS POWER



Q. Welcome back, Seamus Power, a place where you've had success in '22 winning the Butterfield Bermuda Championship. What's it like when you come back to this tournament?

SEAMUS POWER: It's always amazing for me. Ever since the first time I came here in 2019, I really liked being on the island. Made a lot of good friends here and then obviously having the win in '22, so really nothing but positive and kind of good memories. So it's great to be back and I'll take any excuse really to come to Bermuda.

Q. I think anyone would love coming back to a place where they made the most birdies in tournament history, 28 when you won. What was your secret that week to making that many?

SEAMUS POWER: You know we grew up -- it's obviously going to be windy for the most part. We grew up playing and putting in wind and I think that's the key. Putting in wind is not the same, it changes things. Left-to-right putt, but right-to-left wind and it can be hard to trust it.

But I also had the advantage of growing up playing that sort of like links golf and having to play it for the wind and putting I think helps here.

And yeah, I think because of that it's almost been as comfortable as you can be I guess when the wind really gets going and I think that's helped over the years here.

Q. You played the pro-am this morning, nine holes. How's the course look and have you noticed any changes?

SEAMUS POWER: Didn't notice any changes, but the course is in great condition. Obviously with the wind and storms yesterday I wasn't sure, but the bunkers were fantastic, which kind of was surprised after the storms have hit here recently.

Greens are kind of, yeah, I feel like they're always kind of the same. You can't really cut them down too much, they're going to be slightly slow with the wind, and then the rest of the course is in great condition. So I think it's going to be a good test. Obviously the forecast is for plenty of wind I think almost every day, so it's going to be a lot about managing your mind and your game as best you can in pretty tough conditions.

Q. No. 16's the signature hole here, par 3. It's spectacular, but you've got a unique record there. The year that you won you made three birdies in the four rounds and



nobody's ever done that before. Can you describe that hole to people and just the difficulty of it?

SEAMUS POWER: It's tough. Obviously we play it different distances and they move it up and down. For the most part it feels like it plays in off the left. You have to aim almost into the ocean and just that it's going to come back, which is very, very tough. It's easier done today than it is obviously on Sunday.

And I think that's the big thing, that's just trust. And that's always going to be the case in the wind because you're going to be aiming a long ways away from certain pins here and the wind's going to be moving it. So just letting it go and trusting that you've picked the right target and the wind is going to move it back I think is the hardest part definitely on 16.

Like today, I may have hit the left edge of the left bunker and it's not as windy today, but today it was like 230-something yards. So I feel we probably won't play it that long during the tournament, but that's kind of what you get back there, and you know it's coming.

And 15, I think 15 is just as tough in a different way. But yeah, 16, it's just intimidating and just trusting yourself to hit it out left and trust conditions are going to bring it back. Actually lipped out on Sunday too for the fourth. I missed the one coming back but I did lip out.

Q. How long was that putt?

SEAMUS POWER: The first one was about 60 feet. It was blowing really hard so it was kind of a funny one.

Q. Were you thinking about it at the time?

SEAMUS POWER: I think on the Saturday it was the first time, because I have friends here and they're like, You made two 2s.

You're not really thinking about it because you're trying to get -- you're trying to get through 16 rather and if you pick one up there it's a bonus. You're thinking about getting one maybe one at 17. But it's a huge bonus because it's going to play over par and to be able to pick up three was massive.

I didn't realize I was the only one to have done that. Hopefully we can do something similar this year and that's usually what it takes, something special.

Q. How would you assess your form coming into this week? How have you been playing lately the last few weeks?

SEAMUS POWER: Last week was much better. It's been OK. Like I struggled with some injury issues early in the season into the summer and it kind of, confidence was down a little bit and stuff and you're kind of struggling to make cuts. Anyone will tell you it's hard to play



good golf when you're feeling like that.

But it's been much better in the fall. I really feel like body's healthy again and finding like my swing and my comfort level again. And last week everyone had a lot of birdies, but for me seeing some putts go in last week was very encouraging. It's always been the strength of my game and really like all year and the back end of last year it wasn't, which is kind of unusual for me. But I finally found something in it and I feel like it's something that could be good here for the last couple weeks.

Q. Speaking of two weeks to go, here and RSM next week, given your situation, you're 133rd in the FedExCup standings in the fall, do you feel that confidence and feel comfortable in the situation that you're in given the circumstances?

SEAMUS POWER: I'm obviously not where I want to be obviously, but I do have confidence, yes. Like they're two courses, fortunately like I've played well here and I've played well in Georgia multiple times. So I do have that kind of up my sleeve I feel like.

Also, just seeing my game kind of going in the right direction I think is the most encouraging thing. That's the part that really gets you down on the golf course where you're just struggling. You're hitting shots you don't know where they're coming from, you're not making putts and you're not really going anywhere. I feel like the last couple weeks with practice and going into last week, I feel like I finally have my direction back so that's very encouraging. You still have to go do it.

And this is an unusual season obviously with the changes, too. Obviously top 100, but there's a cut off of 10 as well and cut off at 25 and cut off at 50. It's unusual. I'm not really one to look too much at it, but I do know I've got to pick up a good chunk of points.

The weird thing with golf is if I win in the next two weeks, it's going to be a great season. That's what I try to focus on. Obviously love to win Sony or Maui at the start of the year and just breeze through the season, but didn't go that way. But great stories can come from kind of tough situations, so that's what I'm going to be focused on in the next two weeks.

Q. 100 percent correct. What do you love about Bermuda when you come here? Is there something that you try to do every year or something that you learn each year about Bermuda?

SEAMUS POWER: Probably for me it's more so the people, to be honest. Even last night we had like a very fund kind of poker and kind of pizza night with a big group of friends.

Just a lot of Irish and British people here and I got to know them. The first year I played in the pro-am, Michael Veale, he works with Butterfield so it's kind of a cool connection. He was in the pro-am and we became friends and that's 2019.

And I've renewed my like U.S. sport visa here a couple times for a couple extra trips. I've



spent a lot of time here and just got to meet people and they're really, really nice people. Casey loves coming here now, too.

I think it's just more so the people. The place is beautiful. Some of the beaches and stuff are amazing. Obviously won't get to enjoy this week. But just the people and the atmosphere down there in town is fantastic.

It's one of the best commutes. We don't have the boat anymore, but even in the bus you're getting a great view of some beautiful sights along the way. The whole vibe. It's small, you don't have too far to go. I just like the feeling here. It's a very pretty place, the buildings are beautiful, all the white roofs and that kind of stuff. It's a very unique place, I've never been anywhere like it. It's the people that make it really.

Q. I can't let you go before talking about the rugby game --

SEAMUS POWER: (Laughs.)

Q. -- discussed this year. Did you end up going to the game?

SEAMUS POWER: I actually didn't. I had to get like a melanoma thing taken off my forehead so that kind of ruined my off week there, but I watched it obviously.

It was a pity. We looked good for a while. Still complained about that sending off early on, but it was a good game and I suppose that's all you (indiscernible) those Internationals. (Indiscernible) Ireland a little bit of a transition period but anytime you get a chance to play the All Blacks at Soldier Field you're going to give it your best and it was kind of cool to watch it.

Q. Do you have any interest in watching the All Blacks play England on Saturday?

SEAMUS POWER: I will, yeah. Australia's at 4:00. What time --

Q. England's at 11:00.

SEAMUS POWER: Hopefully I won't be able to watch it, but definitely catch the highlights afterwards.

