

# TOUR Championship

Friday, August 26, 2022

Atlanta, Georgia, USA

East Lake Golf Club

## Jon Rahm

### Quick Quotes

#### Q. General thoughts on the round?

JON RAHM: Well, it was hot. It was a great round, I think. If it doesn't beat it, I think it beats my lowest score out here. It's a great round of golf. I've had a strong front nine in the past. I remember being 5-under through eight or nine in the past and then given up some on the back nine, and I remembered that today and I really didn't want to do it.

After starting out good, with how good I started, making all those birdies, being 5-under early, the key was 11 through 14 where I made one birdie on 12, but 11, 13, and 14, I could have easily made bogeys. I could have easily made mistakes.

I got up up-and-down and made two great two-putts from a very long distance to get the round going, and then I finished strong again.

A tale of two nines. One nine just seemed easy, effortless, and then a nine where I had to fight for every single one of the scores.

#### Q. Does five back feel more doable because of how well you've played to get to five back?

JON RAHM: Five? Six right now.

#### Q. Six. Bad math.

JON RAHM: No, you're good. I mean, it's more doable, but he's playing good golf, right, and we're going to have to keep on going and play good golf, as well.

It's going to take a really strong weekend from me and hopefully not a strong one from Scottie. That's kind of what we're looking for.

I think tomorrow could be a good day. If I can post another good round again tomorrow and he doesn't shoot a low one, we'll be in position.

#### Q. Did you find anything with your putting?



JON RAHM: No, nothing special. The only thing I can say is those three weeks off I had at home, because of the heat in Arizona they let the Bermuda die so the greens are a little bit slower, some of them were punched, so it took me quite a while to get used to the speed.

Memphis was very, very fast and the grain wasn't nearly as strong as it was in Arizona. It took some adjusting. Sunday I putted good and then at the BMW I putted good. I think it was mainly just getting the feel back to greens that are rolling 13, and I feel comfortable this week.

#### Q. Did you feel like you had a really good range session, because you seemed really dialed in early?

JON RAHM: No, it was quite the opposite. I'm not a person that's going to get in his head based on what happens on the range, the warmup. Your mindset is a little different. Each shot the thought process on top of the ball is different.

I'm never going to go with more confidence because I hit it really well on the range, and I'm never going to lose confidence no matter how I hit it.

It's funny, because some of the best rounds I've seen and I've accomplished have happened after horrible range sessions. It's not really indicative of what's going to happen.

#### Q. What's your purpose on the range?

JON RAHM: Warm up. That's about it.

#### Q. Make sure you don't break anything physically?

JON RAHM: Yeah, there's just no need. I just go through the motions, hit the clubs, try to make sure I'm hitting the shots I need and the numbers I need.

But I'm not actively searching for anything.

#### Q. What's an example of one of those really bad range sessions that you had a great round?

JON RAHM: Torrey in 2017. I think I shanked two 9-irons in a row and then I went to play a flawless round of golf. I



can't really tell you. It's happened a couple of times. I think it was the Irish Open in Portstewart. Didn't hit it great on the range; went out and shot 7-under, played amazing golf.

Again, it's a warmup. Whether you hit it good or bad it shouldn't change how you're going to be thinking about it on the tee.

**Q. The 20 elite events next year, the elevated events, the new schedule --**

JON RAHM: Majors and PLAYERS and playoffs don't really count, do they?

**Q. Is that asking more of the European guys considering you have to play four for the Ryder Cup?**

JON RAHM: Well, we have to play all of them?

**Q. Play all of the 20.**

JON RAHM: If we have to play all those 20, then yeah, a hundred percent. I wouldn't be surprised if that changes, because that puts me in a difficult position having to play -- if I don't play -- if I go play in Europe in the fall like I'm going to, I have to play from January until August 20 times. I think this is my 17th from January and I don't think I could add any more.

So yeah, especially with Ryder Cup and having to play four in Europe, yeah, I think it's a bit of an ask, and I wouldn't be surprised if they revise a bit of a rule or make an exception for some players.

But if they do it for players like me and Rory, they might have to do it for everybody.

**Q. Do you know something we don't?**

JON RAHM: In what sense?

**Q. In terms of changing that policy?**

JON RAHM: Me? No. You're asking the wrong guy. If you want to know about that stuff, you know who of the two players you have to ask. (Smiling.)

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