

Betfred British Masters hosted by Sir Nick Faldo

Sunday, September 1, 2024

Sutton, Coldfield, England

The Belfry Hotel & Resort

Niklas Norgaard

Quick Quotes (2)

Q. Congratulations, I'd imagine this is a goal you set yourself out long before you even turned professional. You've done it now. What does it mean?

NIKLAS NORGAARD: It's hard to put into words because it means so much, and it's as you can probably see in the post-round interview, I almost sobbed up. It's just because since I was ten years old when I started playing golf, it's always been what I've been watching on TV.

I've had such a slow career but always becoming a little bit better every year. And then I'm not won on Challenge Tour and I've not won anything here, and then winning this tournament is quite, quite special.

Q. Hard work in the first three rounds, earned yourself a four-shot lead over your competitors. I imagine a lot of people think, well, that must be easy now, but how were the nerves this morning?

NIKLAS NORGAARD: I never tried to lead a tournament before Sunday. So yeah, I had to call my mental coach this morning. Because the thing is, when you have a four-shot lead, it feels like you have to protect something, and I didn't want to do that.

I wanted to play for something, really and I would say the turning point was probably hole 11 where first I made that birdie. I was like, now okay now I have to wake up and it's game time. Then with this finish, it was special.

Q. You did earn yourself a bigger gap on that back nine but 15 came along and we were scared for a minute. You must be very proud with the strength and the way you carried yourself on the following two holes after that, though.

NIKLAS NORGAARD: Oh, yeah, because I was nervous but not that nervous. That was just pure chipping bad. Just picking myself up again and holing a good putt on 16, 17, and then you're still standing in front of 18, which is a tough hole. Getting that shot into the fairway and then



putting it on the green was just a big relief.

Q. Was that the shot of the day for you, the tee shot on 18?

NIKLAS NORGAARD: I would say so, yeah. I felt it all the way inside my bones on that tee shot. Getting it in the fairway was such a relief.

Q. I understand you only realised this recently, but this is the very first tournament in which Ryder Cup points are going to be accrued. So you're top of that list now. I imagine being on Team Europe to be a goal of yours, as well?

NIKLAS NORGAARD: A hundred per cent, some day, and this is a pretty good start. But my goal from the winning of the season was just to get in the final in Dubai. You know, goals can move and I adapt.

Of course it would mean the world, but one step at a time. I think we just started, so I think there's a bit of way yet. We'll see.

Q. Speaking of the Ryder Cup, we've had four of them here at The Belfry, and you've chosen a very iconic venue to win your first DP World Tour title. What does it mean for you going forward?

NIKLAS NORGAARD: It would be nice if the Ryder Cup came here but probably far in the future.

Q. Now with this one, does this feel like one thing you don't have to worry about anymore?

NIKLAS NORGAARD: Yeah, my best place ever was seven, and this year I've been knocking a little bit more. But just getting over the line is such a big thing to prove to yourself. And I proved that to myself today with my caddie; that we can do it.

You know, there's a huge difference being No. 2 and winning. You know, it's something I would hope for everyone to try it because it's a really, really cool feeling.

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