

AIG Women's Open

Press Conference

Wednesday, 18 August 2021

Charley Hull



THE MODERATOR: We are joined by Charley Hull here at the AIG Women's Open. You've had a chance to go out and see Carnoustie. How much are you looking forward to play this weekend and hopefully contending?

CHARLEY HULL: Yeah, I played this morning in the Pro-Am. It was really fun. It was in great condition. It's good. It's playing a good length, like it's not too long either. Even though it's playing nearly 400 yards longer than they played it last time, gets. I like it. It's in great condition.

THE MODERATOR: The challenge, is that something you relish?

CHARLEY HULL: Usually I find them very challenging but after last week I feel like I'm in a good head space. Last week's golf course was good and felt it was a great warmup for this week. I feel confident in my game at the minute.

Q. Wanted to get your view on Nelly Korda's performances this summer and how do you feel getting drawn with her? Is that a good thing, recognition of your profile? How do you see it?

CHARLEY HULL: Yeah, played with her quite a few times this year. She's playing really good. It's really good what she's doing for the game. She's good fun to play with. I really enjoy it. It's great.

Q. What do you mean, just raising the profile of the game?

CHARLEY HULL: Yeah, like winning. It's good to see like an American player like playing really well. I just think it's good. Like she's a nice girl.

Q. We saw there that the prize fund for the competition has gone up quite significantly. Obviously this is a great thing for women's golf, but how much do you feel that women's golf's is on the rise, and is getting that recognition?

CHARLEY HULL: Yeah, I think it's brilliant. Obviously I think the prize fund has gone up, what is it -- what has it

gone up to? Next year it's going to go up to 6.8. I think that's brilliant, and a bit this year. I think it's great. It's getting a lot more recognition [sic] which is good. I think it deserves that. Yeah, I think it's brilliant.

Q. You spoke about going out with Nelly Korda. How significant could that be for your game in terms of raising your game this week?

CHARLEY HULL: Yeah, like I said, I don't really take too much notice of who I play with, as long as they are not slow, I enjoy it, and Nelly is a fast player, so it will be good fun.

Q. You've had a chance to get a bit of a feel for Carnoustie. What do you make of it overall, the course, and it's reputation? What have you made of it so far?

CHARLEY HULL: It's really good. Great condition. The fairways are playing firm and the greens are playing soft. Be nice if they could get the greens a bit more firmer. Yeah, I just think it's in great condition. It's nice. Hopefully the wind stays up as well. I prefer playing links when it's windy.

Q. And what are your hopes for this week?

CHARLEY HULL: Obviously I would like to go and win. I feel like my game is in good condition. My main goal this week is to go out and have fun. I play my best golf when I'm having fun and smiling. That's my main focus.

Q. Just picking up on the prize money, do you think the women's game is closing in on the men's game or sticking at the same level? How is that dynamic working?

CHARLEY HULL: I think it's getting better and better and better definitely. I don't actually take too much notice of it myself, but yeah, I think it's definitely getting better. Obviously because it's shown, more media is coming towards it and once you get more media and show it more on TV it's going to generate more money for sponsors to want to, like, sponsor it. I think it's good.

Q. In terms of the growth of the women's game, is



visibility the key? Is that what you think is the key to drive people to follow it and participate?

CHARLEY HULL: Yeah, 100 per cent. I think especially for young girls, as well, because they obviously think it's an old man's sport and it's boring, and it's really not. I feel like this new breed of players that's all coming through, it's all helping the growth of the game.

Q. And do you enjoy that, allowing people to get to know you more and showing your personality?

CHARLEY HULL: Yeah, definitely. I feel like I'm quite a bubbly personality. Say what I think. Just go out there and have fun and I feel like more people should be like that. It's nice to see that, you know, like interact with the crowds and stuff, and that's what I've been doing a bit more lately and I think it's fun -- well, when we do have crowds, because of COVID, but it's coming back to normal.

THE MODERATOR: Thank you very much for your time and very best of luck.

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