ISPS HANDA Women's Scottish Open

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Ayrshire, Scotland, UK

Dundonald Links

Minjee Lee

Press Conference

THE MODERATOR: All right, here now with Minjee Lee an Dundonald Links. Your ninth time playing in this event. What keeps you coming back to this course, this event?

MINJEE LEE: I think I like when we do get the opportunities to play links golf I really enjoy this type of golf I guess.

I just like the cool weather. Sometimes the elements do get the better of us, but I just like doing two weeks in England or the UK.

Q. What is it about links golf specifically you enjoy?

MINJEE LEE: I think just the creativity. Sometimes we're hit with a ton of wind, rain, the conditions are much harder usually, like the surface.

So I think just being able to like picture it in your mind and executing it just gives me a lot of joy when I can do it.

Q. How do you prepare yourself for the elements and all that stuff? Is it you just take what you can during the practice rounds, or is anything you can do at home or leading up to this week?

MINJEE LEE: I think in terms of trying to practice it, it's probably tough when you're -- obviously golf in America is a little bit different. I think just in your practice rounds you just have to try and hit like similar shots and just kind of get the feel for the surfaces.

It's a little bit softer out there at Dundonald, but I think over the week it might dry out and get bouncier.

Q. You said you had to be creative in links golf. Is there any shot or any moment you're specifically thinking, gosh I hope this works, and because it's links golf it did work?

MINJEE LEE: Not really. I've been here so many times.



It's my ninth time playing the Scottish and a bunch of Britishes, so no, not really. It's a bit of a blur because I've hit so many shots that I was like, wow, that did work out.

No, not specifically, no.

Q. Been a bit now since your win at KPMG. How has it been in the weeks after knowing you're once again a major champion?

MINJEE LEE: I mean, it was awesome. The week after I celebrated quite a lot. I was with a lot of my family and friends. That was always cool. It's always nice when you're able to celebrate with the people closest to you.

Yeah, no, I think the week, I had two weeks off before Evian, so I was able to -- the week before I was able to settle down a little bit and practice for Evian and this Europe summer coming up.

Yeah, no, it was just really nice to be with a lot of family and friends then. So, yeah, no, been good.

Q. Another great finish at Evian. What part of your game is working the best right now?

MINJEE LEE: I think my putting has improved quite a lot. And just my driving accuracy, I'm still working on that a little bit. I mean, I'll always be working on something because that's just being a golfer, you know.

Not that I'm chasing the next best thinking but always trying to get that 1% better every day. Yeah, just everything seems to be coming together. Sometimes you can be like hitting it really well, putting really well but just not -- the score is not coming together.

I think lately I've been doing that really well. Yeah, everything has been pretty decent so nothing really jumps out.

Q. You've had some great finishes here. Especially last year as well. What about this course do you really like and what suits your game?

MINJEE LEE: I think just I like playing links golf in general. I think any links course that I can come to I like to play it.

... when all is said, we're done.



So, yeah, obviously Dundonald, we've been here quite a few times now, so I know the course really well and I know where to miss it and where it's best to play from. Just when the wind does get up, I just kind of know my way around the course now, so I think that really helps playing it more than a couple times now.

Q. Are you staying on site this week?

MINJEE LEE: Yes.

Q. Anything you like about staying on site?

MINJEE LEE: I mean, it's great. Like literally I walk out of my room and it's like a two- or three-minute walk to the course. I think just the practicality of walking -- finishing on 18 and grabbing my stuff from the locker and going straight home.

No, it's just really nice. The lodges are really great and it's been a really great addition I think to the Dundonald property.

Q. Obviously a great finish in Evian. What did you do in your weeks off before coming here and obviously next week?

MINJEE LEE: Last week I had off so did a little bit of practice in Edinburgh where my caddie is from. Spent a couple days there and went to London for a couple days; ate my way through London.

It was great. I enjoy Europe so much so it's nice when I have a couple days off.

Q. Anything you really like about coming back to Scotland?

MINJEE LEE: My caddie is Scottish so I think just it actually feels a bit more like home. Just, I don't know, I like hearing the accents. I think it's cool. Sometimes I can't understand them. For the most part I can.

Q. You said earlier you're enjoying being cold. Apart from that, playing in Scotland, obviously very comfortable here. What are other things you're enjoying and also looking forward to Women's Open next week?

MINJEE LEE: I've been enjoying the Scottish strawberries wherever I can find them. My caddie says there is only a small window where they can be grown and they're really sweet right now. Obviously it's no -- yeah, I mean, I love food.

So, yeah just feel like obviously I like being in the cooler weather. I love having a sweater on. It's a nice feeling. I'm not really sure. I think every year I kind of really look forward to coming to Scotland and we always have the Scotlish Open every year, so...

Q. What are other top tips your caddie would have given you for Scotland?

MINJEE LEE: He just keeps saying haggis. I'm not really a...

Q. I love it. Spicy meat?

MINJEE LEE: He says haggis and black pudding but I don't really eat it. I tried it one time. I think over the years -- I don't know, just the familiarity. I just, yeah, I like coming back.

Q. What are your favorite links memories growing up?

MINJEE LEE: Growing up? I think when I was in my -- actually this is a good memory. In my rookie year I think we played at Turnberry and I played -- so it was my first year out; second British I think. Inbee, I was grouped with Inbee and she had like 7-under or something. She putted lights out and won.

So that's a really cool memory. Being able to experience that with her, being so young. I was 18 then so not too much -- I didn't have too much experience on the linkages. That's a fun memory.

I think I really enjoyed playing Royal Lytham I think. Yeah, sorry -- the name's -- I just remember I was in the bunkers.

Yeah. I mean, I've enjoyed a lot of my time. I hit it into the berm at I think Carnoustie and it spat it out on the last hole. I've had my fair share of good memories, yeah.

Q. And then the LPGA considers players having achieved the career grand slam after winning four different majors. Do you agree with that, or do you need to win all five to achieve it?

MINJEE LEE: I think for me, like all five is the goal, so I think it's just different for us because we have five and we don't have four. I think it should be -- I don't know what it should be, but I just think for me, five is the goal, yeah.

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