

Hero Dubai Desert Classic

Friday, 17 January, 2025

Dubai, UAE

Majlis Course at Emirates Golf Club

Jon Rahm

Press Conference



Q. Obviously not the day or couple of days that you were really looking forward to. What's the verdict at the end there?

JON RAHM: Yesterday was good. Yesterday was good. I was quite happy with it. Today, not really. I wouldn't say that there was anything that went well. No part of the game today was even average to what I would like to feel. Missed too many fairways. I had two penalty strokes on the same hole.

It's a difficult day and I just couldn't take advantage of some of the opportunities I had. Even at the end of the day, tee-to-green wasn't very good. There was quite a few short putts missed today and yesterday, and the one on 18 didn't really matter anymore. 16 was a chance. 18 was a chance. Another one on 1. Almost four putts in a row, none of them went in.

Just things that you need to maybe help out throughout the round, and that one that went in on 6, maybe a little bit too late, right.

Not the way you want to start the year, but if there's any positive side of it is it is the beginning of the year. There's a lot of golf and a lot of months to look forward to. I have a pretty clear idea of what I need to work on. So these next two weeks, go home and try to get better.

Q. If I can ask you obviously a couple of developments from the LIV standpoint this week with the new Chief Executive coming in, and a big TV deal announced.

JON RAHM: Yeah, Scott, spent a little bit of time with him last week in some live commercial, photo shoots, I never know how to call those. You know, even though Greg has treated me great, I think having somebody like Scott who is a little bit outside the world of golf but very much in the world of sport I think makes him kind of a perfect match for that.

I think, unfortunately, there's been a little bit, possibly a

little too much bad blood between Greg and maybe the governing bodies, and to have somebody outside of that might help the situation. Plus his overall view with what a league or an organization could work and should work with his experience in the NBA, right. With that, and based on what I talked to him about and the vision he has and his enthusiasm, I think he's going to be a very positive impact for LIV, and FOX, obviously, as well.

Even though it's mainly a U.S. thing to have the largest market, golf market in the world be able to watch LIV Golf on a channel that for the better part should be pretty much every TV in the country, it's very good. Looking forward to hopefully improving some years. A lot of improvement this year.

Q. And just on Scott, you said a positive impact for LIV. Do you think his arrival can have a positive impact for the whole of the golf ecosystem?

JON RAHM: I think so. Yeah, I think so. I think having an outsider, I say outsider because he has not been involved, could be a very good thing when it comes to him sitting down at the table with the other governing bodies. I think an outside perspective, and maybe a less, possibly a less threatening image, might help that, as well.

Q. Would you play here again next year if they ask you?

JON RAHM: Oh, yeah, I absolutely love the golf course. Absolutely love the setup. There is nothing I could see bad about this tournament this week. Maybe the fairway on 18 (laughter) it's just the wrong club. Besides that, it's a fantastic golf course. Fantastic setup. I was telling Adam, you don't usually see rough that long and thick outside of major championships.

So I think it shows the test, and you play good golf, good lads are doing well, it's proper. If the schedule allows, I would like to be here next year and hopefully get some redemption. Because I do believe this is a golf course and a tournament, if I were to play 20 years, I would win. I like it. It seems like the type of golf that I like to play.



