## LIV Golf Hong Kong

Friday, 7 March, 2025 Fanling, Hong Kong Hong Kong Golf Club

### Max Lee

Press Conference

THE MODERATOR: Let's welcome our wild card player, Max Lee. It's his first time up here. What an impressive round of golf today. You're currently sitting at T2. You fired off an impressive 65 today, shot 5-under par. Tell us a little bit about your round.

MAX LEE: It's a pretty solid round today. After the first three holes -- the first three holes is a little bit of a struggle, and after the first three holes, I just talked to myself, just be calm and play shot by shot. And we got a good result.

## Q. Do you have experience playing this golf course before?

MAX LEE: Yeah, actually we come here every year. The Asian Tour event is the Hong Kong Open, so yeah, I've played many times on this course, and I have many great memories here.

## Q. Do you feel very comfortable playing around this course?

MAX LEE: Yes, it is.

## Q. Are you going to be a little bit nervous tomorrow going out there knowing you're so high up on the leaderboard?

MAX LEE: I think I will, but I just try to stay focused and in the moment and enjoy it.

## Q. What does the rest of your night look like tonight? What are you going to do to relax?

MAX LEE: Just do the same as yesterday. Yeah, have a good dinner, enjoy dinner with my girlfriend. Yeah, that's it.

Q. You joined us from the International Series. You won the golden ticket, and now you are here only three tournaments in, sitting at the top of the leaderboard amongst some of the greatest players in the world, sitting up there in the post round press conference. How does that feel?

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MAX LEE: After the first two events when I come back home, I always talk to myself; I need to change a little bit my mind and try to control the tempo.

After that, today, I just feel more comfortable, not like the first two events. That's how it's different.

#### Question:

As for what you just mentioned, you've already played two rounds of LIV matches here. Since you've been here many times before, is there anything particularly special this time? Is there anything different compared to previous Hong Kong Opens, like the music or something else?

#### MAX LEE:

The course we're playing on this year is quite different from the past Hong Kong Opens. I feel that the greens are harder this year, and there's more bounce. Even after it rained yesterday and today, my team and I still feel that the greens are harder than in previous years when we played here. So, I think that's the biggest difference. As for other aspects, well, this course has always been challenging for me because of the wind. The wind is really tricky and hard to control. So, we've been focusing a lot of our attention on this aspect.

#### Question:

And what about external factors? Like the music, which isn't usually present—have you gotten used to it?

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#### MAX LEE:

I feel that this week has been pretty quiet. Maybe it's because last week at the previous event in Australia, it was really loud. So this week, it doesn't feel noisy at all. I've been able to stay very focused.

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

#### Question:

You've told us before that your goal is to finish in the top 24. So far, after the first two rounds, you're ranked somewhere in the 40s. Today, you had a good start. Do you think you'll achieve an even better result here in Hong Kong? The grass on this course is quite tricky to read. Today, I didn't handle some of the longer putts very well. So, later, I'll probably make some adjustments to my putting. Other than that, I'll stick to the same strategy as today.

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#### MAX LEE:

I haven't set overly ambitious goals for myself, but I do believe I can perform well on this course. However, I'm just trying to make progress and breakthroughs with each match. I think I'll get better as the tournament goes on. I'm gradually getting used to the tour, and I hope to improve with every match.

#### Question:

Sorry, excuse me—about the music issue you mentioned earlier. How do you manage to overcome such a noisy environment and stay focused during matches?

III (Chinese):

MAX LEE:

The frequency of the music is pretty consistent. As long as it doesn't suddenly get really loud or really quiet, it doesn't affect me much. What tends to be more distracting is movement—like if there are a lot of people walking around, that has a bigger impact. But as for the music, since its frequency is steady, it doesn't really bother me.

#### Question:

I noticed your putt on the sixth hole—it seemed like you hadn't fully adapted to the speed of the greens yet, as the ball bounced a few times after landing. Considering the current course conditions, what adjustments will you make for tomorrow?

MAX LEE:

