LIV Golf United Kingdom

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Torque GC Joaquín Niemann

Press Conference

THE MODERATOR: Let's welcome Joaquín Niemann, captain of Torque GC. 8-under par round of 63. You're 14-under for the tournament, leading by six. Can you just talk us through your round today?

JOAQUÍN NIEMANN: Yeah, obviously it was a great round. I really enjoyed being out there, playing the golf I was playing today.

I had a good time. Had a good pairing with Gracey and Adrian. I had a great time. I made a lot of putts. I was laughing at it sometimes because I'm not used to seeing so many of those going in, and it's kind of cool to see that.

Other than that, I hit some good shots. Everything felt pretty much under control, off the tee, irons, putting. Yeah, just pretty happy the way I've been going through the last two days.

Q. Good day for Torque GC as well; you're leading the Team Championship by three shots. You're 24-under par. As a team you're looking for your first win since 2023. What would it mean for you guys to get it done tomorrow?

JOAQUÍN NIEMANN: It would mean a lot, obviously, between the whole team. We know we're in depth for a win. We know we can do it. We've been close for a few chances. Carlos has been playing great golf. Sebastian played amazing as well today. Mito is trending in the right direction. I feel like he's really close to putting in a good solid week. I think it's going to be an exciting day for all of us tomorrow, and hopefully see low scores from the four of us.

Q. You had a good finish here last year at JCB, tied second. Did that bring back some good memories for you this time around when you were playing the course? What is it about this course that suits your game?

JOAQUÍN NIEMANN: Yeah, I think it's a great course for



my eyes. I feel like there's a lot of blind shots. There's a lot of left-to-right shots, left-to-right, right-to-left. You've got to move it around. You've got to use different types of shots off the tee, as well. I feel pretty confident on this course. Hopefully I can improve one position from last year, and I'll be pretty happy.

Q. Joaco, based on the current projections, there's a chance that you could actually wrap up the Individual Championship next month in Chicago. How much is that in your mind right now in terms of, like, getting so close to that, especially the way it transpired last year with Jon catching you at the end? You want to put it away this year, obviously.

JOAQUÍN NIEMANN: I mean, I feel like all I'm thinking about right now is what I'm doing right now, having a great time out on the golf course right now. I've been playing great. I've been hitting my shots. I've been hitting my lines on the putter. They've been going in.

All I'm worried about is that, and I'm going to keep being worried about that, and I think everything else is just going to take care of it.

Q. Obviously you've had two terrific rounds here. You made some changes to the team. How much has that been a positive impact for you this week?

JOAQUÍN NIEMANN: Yeah, actually it's been a little -- I'd say it's been a little weird the last two, three weeks. There's been obviously a few movements on my team. At the same time, it is what it is.

I'm really grateful for them, for the two people that they are not working with me anymore on the team, but it's part of it, and I feel like I was pretty frustrated at the beginning of this week after a bad result, obviously, at The Open as well and all the rest kind of going on.

I feel like -- not low, but I wasn't -- like going on the golf course going into this week, I wasn't feeling that confident at all, and I think it was just keep doing the same work that I'm used to and keep working with my team and why we work every time, stay positive with myself. I've been staying in the house with Carlos, Sebastian and Mito. That's always good fun. You have a laugh here now and

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

then, it's always good for yourself, and I'm just grateful to have around the people I am right now, and I'm just grateful with the position I am with the people I am and to be able to do this for a living, it's a gift.

Q. You talked about your confidence earlier in the week. It's got to be 180 right now after 65-63.

JOAQUÍN NIEMANN: You know, I don't know how confidence works, but I feel like the more confident you are, the more -- for me, it's just being committed 100 percent on my golf shots, what I'm trying to see and what I talk with my caddie, and just compromise myself 100 percent to that, and if I ever do that, I feel like I'm confident.

Just that, sometimes it's harder than other times because the ball doesn't go where you think it's going. So when you start seeing a few shots going the same way you're looking at it, it's a lot of fun.

Q. You played with Tom McKibbin yesterday. What impresses you about his game, and how far do you think he can go in the game of golf?

JOAQUÍN NIEMANN: Yeah, it was the first time that I played with Tom since he joined. I never played with him.

I enjoyed playing with him. I think he's a great golfer. Obviously he's had the results before. He was in the top 10 on DP World. He probably hasn't had the results he wants to on LIV so far, but I think he's going to be all right. He's really young. You can tell coming from Ireland, I think they build pretty good golfers there, and the way he controls the ball into the wind and his short game, yeah, he's going to be great.

It was good fun playing with him, and you can tell he's a confident player.

Q. Prior to this week you were on a bit of a cold streak with the putter for four or five tournaments, then this week you've gained strokes putting in both of the first two rounds. Is that something you did differently with the approach, or are they just going in now?

JOAQUÍN NIEMANN: Yeah, I actually don't know. I think just the way it works.

The putter has been pretty cold for the last few weeks, and going back at The Open where it's a course that you don't hit it too close to the pin every time, you're always hitting from 20 feet, you've got to make a few of those.

Yeah, I've been putting a lot of focus on that since the week before the Open, that kind of distance. Sometimes

they go in, sometimes they don't go in, and I feel like this week is different from all the other ones.

But more than anything, I feel like it's just -- I feel like that's how it works when you're patient and when you keep working on what you think is right, and I feel like with my putting coach, we've been doing a good job trying to figure out different stuff, especially from mid range, from 20, 25 feet. I feel like my distance control is not the best, and now with this new putter, different weight, I feel like I'm able to have a better feel of what the ball is doing once I hit it with the putter. So yeah, I'm feeling better.

Q. I just want to ask you about the mentality of going into the final round with a six-shot lead. How do you avoid playing too conservative and just making sure that you don't allow anybody else back in?

JOAQUÍN NIEMANN: Yeah, I feel like you can be a little bit more conservative, but like I said before, if I'm conservative, it doesn't mean that I'm going to be aggressive. I feel like I can be aggressive into a little bit more conservative line. Sometimes maybe take a few risks out of play, but at the same time, I've got to commit 100 percent to my shots, and I feel for me, being aggressive is to be committed to those shots.

Obviously tomorrow there's going to be a few difficult pins. There's still 18 holes to play. There's really good players behind me. I'm just going to keep focusing on what I'm doing, hitting my shots, doing my routine, and just enjoy the day tomorrow.

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