

LIV Golf United Kingdom

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Rocester, England, UK

JCB Golf and Country Club

Ripper GC

Lucas Herbert

Press Conference



THE MODERATOR: Let's welcome to the media center Lucas Herbert, Ripper GC. Tremendous round, bogey-free 11-under 61, currently in first place. You had a standout performance at The Open, including a pretty historic Friday there, and it looks like you kept that rolling here this week.

LUCAS HERBERT: Yeah, thank you. It's definitely nice to start that way. Yeah, just continuing on that fun momentum from last week at The Open. It's nice when those putts roll in and golf feels the way it does right now.

Q. Obviously each tournament at a different venue, different week, different test of golf. But can momentum be a real thing when you're playing well and you're feeling good? Is that something that you can truly carry on both physically and mentally?

LUCAS HERBERT: Yeah, I think so. I think when you start playing good, you can dial in things a lot more. Rather than trying to hit it in a 40-yard gap with driver, you can hit it into a 20-yard gap, and it gets better and then you hit it into a 10-yard gap.

Eventually the misses sort of get zoned in, and then shots feel easier at times.

You get good bounces when you need them, as well. It's one of those little patches for me where it feels like when I need a good bounce, I get one. If I misread a putt a little, it tends to not break the way I thought it would and find an edge to go in.

It's kind of fun to ride that wave of momentum right now.

Q. When you're on a streak of birdies, you eagled 10, does your mind venture back at all to last week, that round 2 experience, the thought of a potential record again on the table, or is that a thing of the past and you're really focused on the present and the day at hand?

LUCAS HERBERT: I thought I did a pretty good job of not

really thinking a lot about records or the scores too much, to be honest. The only thought I had about last week's round in relation to this was probably the question you just asked me. Coming in here, I knew I was probably going to get asked about that. But that was kind of the only really comparison there.

I don't know; I just got in a little state there where I was just kind of very focused on the shot in front of me and was able to really lock in on that. Didn't let my score -- the score I was on dictate how I hit any shots. I still made a lot of great swings and hit a lot of great shots, regardless of what score I was at.

Q. The Rippers, your teammates, had a tremendous day, as well, top of the leaderboard. Obviously three more rounds to go, but how good would it be to get the team back up there on the podium? There have been some close finishes, but after that strong start in Riyadh and Adelaide, you haven't been back up there yet.

LUCAS HERBERT: Yeah, I think it's great with Trav coming on this week and I think through the rest of the year, it's good to -- I think it's a good confidence booster for him to see the team on top with him playing in it.

I think he probably would have had some nerves and anxiousness coming in about wanting to perform. I'm not too sure what he finished on, but I know that he'll feel like he's contributed to the score of us being at the top. I think that's really good for him, and that's going to have a good follow-on effect.

Like you said, we've been a great team all year. We've been really consistent. Who knows what's happening with these last few events, where things are going to land, but I think if Ripper gets ourselves back to the top of the table, that's a great position to be in heading into these last few.

Q. Lucas, how many career rounds do you have of 11-under? Is this the first?

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LUCAS HERBERT: I think it's my first, yeah. I think it's the first time I've had 11. So that's kind of cool. That's a fun one.

Q. This season you're a collective 87-under across all four rounds, but you're 4-under in the opening round this season. Do you feel like you've been getting off to slower starts in LIV?

LUCAS HERBERT: I think that was probably a story earlier in the year. I was struggling to get out of the gate in the first few events, which sounds like it's ruined my average a bit.

But no, I look to Virginia, I shot 64 the first round there. I don't know. I think that stat probably points towards how well I finish tournaments rather than how poorly I've started them. I had a couple of shockers like the first round in Saudi, I think I was dead last after round 1, and then a few of the good results from there, I didn't really do a lot of damage in that first round.

It's probably more indicative of how well I've played the other three rounds.

Q. I feel like this is probably one of your better putting rounds of the year, maybe the best putting round of the year. Would you say that?

LUCAS HERBERT: I feel like I need to actually reflect on it a bit. I think I putted really well. The last four holes kind of stick in my head. Let one go there on 15. I actually hit a poor putt on 16 and underread it and it went in. Then hit a good putt on 17 and it missed, and forgot to hit the ball on 18. Pughy left the head cover on.

Look, I started a lot of putts on-line, which is kind of the key, and the greens are actually really good. I think that's sort of a side effect of only 57 players in the field is even the last -- our last hole, we're the last group to play that hole for the day, and the green is still in pretty good condition. That's a nice added bonus about playing out here is less traffic through the greens so you kind of get a nice roll on them a little easier.

Q. You and Bryson in the final group tomorrow. A week late?

LUCAS HERBERT: A week late? Yeah, I mean, I think it was great seeing Bryson play the way he did last week because the story Wednesday was he was on a streak of -- he was potentially going to miss every cut for the year, and then all of a sudden the conversation about him Friday was very, very different. He comfortably knocked that story on the head and he was in the media for other reasons, but

one of them being he was playing some great golf. It's good to see him doing that.

Every time I play with him it's a fun battle. He brings a lot of energy with the crowd. I'm kind of looking forward to tomorrow. Hopefully the English crowds get out and feel the energy, too.

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