

TGL Presented By SoFi: Jupiter Links Golf Club vs Boston Common Golf

Monday, January 27, 2025

Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, USA

SoFi Center

Jupiter Links GC

Tiger Woods

Kevin Kisner

Tom Kim

Press Conference

THE MODERATOR: We'd like to welcome the winning team tonight, Jupiter Links Golf Club. Tiger, the energy was palpable. The vibes were certainly high. How would you describe the energy out there?

TIGER WOODS: Well, it was definitely different than when we first played. Lesson was learned the hard way. We came in here more prepared.

It is so different than normal golf, playing in a bigger screen like this or the green moving and contorting the breaks. A putt you normally -- well, you hit once, automatically you already know the read, but they move the green on you. A putt that went right to left now goes left to right. Those are all little things we've had to learn on the fly.

TK was unbelievable coming in here. We did some good work the other day, and today it couldn't have been a more pleasurable display of golf, banter. Everyone in the audience was engaged. Hopefully all the viewership were engaged. We as players loved it.

This is what we had envisioned for TGL, to have an experience like this, and I think we delivered.

Q. Tom, you mentioned on the broadcast you wanted to show up ready to play, and you certainly did. It seemed like it had kind of a Presidents Cup vibe out there for you. What were your first impressions of being out there in that arena?

TOM KIM: Yeah, obviously a very different vibe than just normal golf tournaments. The environment is different. I thrive in these team environments, and it was so good to



have good partners, experienced partners, and I'm just so glad we got a point today.

Q. Kis, your second time around in this. What were some of the big learnings, takeaways that you learned from the first time to propel yourself this time around?

KEVIN KISNER: I think the experience from the first time really helped, just seeing where you failed and how you can get better and spending more time here. One thing I am really glad is that Tom is on my team this time and I don't have to watch him make all those putts against us in the Presidents Cup because he pours every one of those putts right in the middle and he doesn't even flinch, and I love that. It gave Tiger and I a boost of confidence and momentum and adrenaline, so then we weren't going to let him down, either, so we stepped our game up.

Q. Tiger, of course you're excited to get the win, excited it was close, but did part of you kind of want to go off against Rory in that last overtime competition?

TIGER WOODS: Well, I think it was just the setup. I felt like TK was fired up. He was ready to go. He had hit that shot in practice, and it was a perfect lead-off. Kis just went --

KEVIN KISNER: I don't think you told me to go, did you?

TIGER WOODS: I was going to talk to Kis about what are you going to do, and all of a sudden he's building a stance. I'm like, okay, I guess he's going.

KEVIN KISNER: Well, I figured you needed to bring up the rear; in case I lost I'd put all the pressure on you. You're good at that stuff. We've watched it for, what, 30 years?

Q. Obviously soccer has the penalty kick shootout, hockey has the shootout at the end. Talk about how that idea came to fruition.

TIGER WOODS: Well, don't forget, this is a TV show, so we needed to have a quick ending. We needed to do it within the two-hour broadcast window. It doesn't make any sense to go back out and play extra holes. It just takes too

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long. Just make it like a penalty kick scenario.

It's about 37 yards, so it's more or less tweener shots, and it's on top of the ledge. You can play it either way; you can play it up top with spin or you can play it down on the bottom. It gave us shot options, but more than anything it was going to give us a finale for the night, being two out of three.

Q. The overtime, a first in TGL history as was the shot clock violation. The heart was pounding. What was going through your mind as you were running out of time there?

TIGER WOODS: Well, normally I slow my heart rate down before I pull the trigger, so dropping my heart rate down sometimes takes a little bit longer than others. As I told these guys, it's on me. I should have called time out as I built in my stance because of the time. But I was dropping my heart rate down like I normally would. It just took too long.

Q. Tom, you were a blast to watch tonight, entertaining, great golf. I'm going to ask your teammates, were you guys feeding off that energy out there?

TIGER WOODS: Absolutely, yes.

KEVIN KISNER: Yeah, I loved it. I loved it. I was so glad he was on my team finally. I've been watching him make those putts at the Presidents Cup a few months ago nonstop, and one thing that I have noticed is that Tiger and I at our older age have to take more bathroom breaks than Tom, and that's quite interesting. I'd turn around and Tiger is running off and I'm running off, and Tom is just out there partying ready to go. That was entertaining.

Q. Tom, it seemed the first few weeks so many guys had trouble with just reading those greens. Did you spend a lot of extra time on it? Or you just were able to do it right off?

TOM KIM: Yeah, so when we came here on Saturday, me and Tiger -- Charlie was with us, but we kind of went through the motions and I paid a lot of attention to the putting green. I have this kind of turf at home so I kind of know how it rolls, but more importantly just standing behind Tiger when he putts, him standing behind me when I putt, just getting a feel for it and seeing putts go in and committing is a really big part of putting here.

You see me lying down on the putting green to try to figure out the break because there's so many small little bumps here that you don't really see. I just paid attention on

Saturday, and I came here today knowing that I was confident with the putting stroke.

Q. Tiger, picking up from two weeks ago when we asked you about Genesis and now we obviously have a conclusion, your thoughts in having to move it to Torrey Pines and what that's going to entail and how difficult that's going to be?

TIGER WOODS: Yeah, the meeting we had was very difficult with the Watanabes. Riv is just not ready. We want to stay within -- on the West Coast, and it narrowed those options down to possibly up near Pebble or to Phoenix or to Vegas or to San Diego or to Palm Springs. There were so many different options out on the table, and we were trying to be understanding to all the victims that these fires have caused, has brought to them.

The fact that we were able to, with the city of San Diego, were able to stay within Southern California, with respect to the difficulties in LA, I think it's important that we were able to stay in Southern California because everyone who was born and raised out in Southern Cal can all relate to the fires. It's a difficult situation, and we want to be very sensitive to that.

I think because we're in Southern California, I think we're able to -- I think we're going to be able to raise more money for all the losses that have incurred.

Q. Tiger, ESPN billed this as Rory versus Tiger even though it's a team competition. What is it like for you to go out and compete against him because you guys don't have a lot of more competition together in the future?

TIGER WOODS: No, we don't. We haven't really played that much head-to-head. Well, definitely in team concept because it was only the Ryder Cup where we had that option. But I've played plenty against him in stroke play.

But this is different. This is a totally different animal and a different beast. It's more for entertaining. It's more for the growth of the game. The fact that the two owners came together tonight and put on a show like this, it was a very important night.

Q. Tiger, I wanted to ask you about the team building aspect of what you've done here with these six teams in TGL, with Jupiter being the only one that has not had a professional sports franchise and now does. So when you and Rory envisioned this with the team, where do you see this in one year, two years, three years, like an example in India with the Indian Premier League in cricket, those franchise teams are worth

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billions of dollars now. Where do you see that overall with the Jupiter and in the community here how they've responded to having their first professional team?

TIGER WOODS: Well, I think all six teams have united and come together for the growth of the game, and the team bonding that occurs by being on a team, because in golf we don't get to do that very often. If you're an American you get to do it every year in Ryder Cup or Presidents Cup, but most of these guys don't get a chance to be able to do something like that, and to come under here in a stadium atmosphere -- we definitely don't do that in our sport.

As far as the expansion goes, yes, we would love to expand what we have done. It was important that we get off to a good start and with the technology that we're introducing, with the teams, the communities, the fact that Jupiter here is where I have lived and this is my home, to be able to bring a franchise here was important to me.

Q. Curious about the adrenaline factor. Does it feel any different to hit a shot in this arena in front of the crowd than it would, say, Saturday or Sunday at Pebble Beach this week?

KEVIN KISNER: Well, you don't have people yelling at you while you're hitting at Pebble Beach mostly. Maybe Tiger did in his career, but I don't. Nobody is yelling at Kevin Kisner the few times that I'm near the lead at Pebble Beach.

No, it's fun. I build off -- I came to practice this afternoon, and I was hitting a 7-iron 168 yards and I just hit an 8-iron 168 yards on the last hole I played, so obviously you have to learn that as you come. There's adrenaline, and it's just fun. When you're in it and you've got a chance to win, it's the adrenaline of winning. That's what we all want to do. That's why we're here is we want to win. After last time we were all walking away with our tails between our legs, but when we got a chance to win, I saw a different eye in Tiger, I saw a different eye in Tom, and I hope they saw that in me. I want to win dude; we're here, let's finish this.

Q. Tom, I saw at the Paris Olympics that you had tears and crying representing Korea. As an Asian debut here in the TGL league, do you feel like as a Korean Asian -- just tell me about it, how you feel, your first debut here.

TOM KIM: Yeah, I'm very passionate about being Asian. I've had to work a -- a lot of Asians have had to work so hard to come to America to try and play on the PGA TOUR and even to get into this league you have to be able to

prove something. Coming from back there after the Olympics, I had a lot of emotions. I'm not very emotionally, a crier as much, but just shows you my passion just for Asian golf is so big. To debut here as an Asian golfer on Tiger's team and to be able to not only win but to show people who see this product back in Asia, I feel like it can motivate so many kids to want to come on the PGA TOUR and to come to TGL and possibly play on these big events because it's so fun, and as Kis said, we all want to win.

I think today showed, the last two have been blowouts, but I think today showed that it's getting kind of personal now, and everyone wants to win.

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