

ROUND 1 INTERVIEW
November 8, 2018



TIM PETROVIC (-8)

Q. Tim, all season long we've talked about "Petro golf," fairways and greens. Did you do that today, 8-under 63?

TIM PETROVIC: Yes, I did. I did that today, a lot of greens, hit a lot of shots in what I call the "Petro range." These greens are just rolling so good, you get it on line, it's going to go in. But I gave myself a lot of opportunities, and I hadn't chipped in in a while. We were talking about it and I chipped in on -- I think it was the fourth hole I chipped in for eagle. I drove it over the green and then had kind of a funny little second shot. I chipped it right in and we were kind of off and running after that.

Q. This season you seemed to bring your best game at the biggest tournaments, two runner-up tournaments in majors, you're in contention after one round here. What is it about those big events? How are you able to peak for those events?

TIM PETROVIC: I don't know. It's usually the crowds, I like the big crowds. I didn't really have a big crowd today, so I was kind of scratching my head. You know, I chipped -- it was the quietest eagle ever made on the Champions Tour today on that fourth hole. I think there were four people because I blame that on Miguel and Bernhard, they stole the gallery from behind me.

I don't know. It's a big event. Obviously it's the first time I made it to a Tour Championship on any level, so I was a little excited, a little pumped up, and I think that helped me out a little bit.

Q. Speaking of that, 11 months ago you were at Q-School and now you're here at the Tour Championship. Can you put into words what this season has meant to you to be here?

TIM PETROVIC: Yeah, you know, last year I just wasn't sure -- with the rule changes, I wasn't sure what my status was going to be on a week-to-week basis. I think I only ended up playing in 14 events and that was hard. It was hard to make your schedule. I had to Monday qualify for a few.

So before this year started I just didn't want to take any chances, so I just said I'm going to go to tour school, try to grab one of those five spots as a backup plan. As it turned out, this year I only had to use that spot one time, at Newport Beach. But it's been nice to be able to plan on my schedule and just get some momentum by playing one, two, three in a row and knowing that you're going to be able to play.

Q. Do you feel it's important -- obviously last event of the year, do you kind of want to end with a bang, so to speak, I guess?

TIM PETROVIC: Yeah. Unfortunately, I think I'm too far away to win the cup, but we were playing a practice round and I looked over and saw the Schwab Cup sitting there and there was another trophy sitting there. I said, "I can't get the one on the left, but I think I can get the one on the right." So we're going to shoot for that this week, see what happens.