

PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW
August 30, 2018



SCOTT McCARRON

Q. Nice to be back here again this year?

SCOTT McCARRON: Great to be back. I mean, I love this golf course. It was a big win for me last year here, so coming back to defend at a place you really enjoy, I'm looking forward to this week.

Q. Nobody's been able to do it before, defend. You're the fifth champion. What's it going to take?

SCOTT McCARRON: Well, you've got to play really well. The course is in great shape. Shot 16 under last year. I think it's going to be that or maybe a few more this year, so you're going to have to play some really solid golf.

Q. Yeah, and Jimenez last year pushed you right to the limit. He's back with some other World Golf Hall of Fame members.

SCOTT McCARRON: Yeah, we've got a great field. Darren Clarke and Davis Love, Langer, Miguel. There's a lot of guys here that have chances to win, so I'm going to have to play some really good golf to be up there and hopefully have the opportunity to do it on Sunday.

Q. Love said it's like he's been banging heads with you guys his whole career, it's just on a different stage now.

SCOTT McCARRON: It is, and it's interesting. Even though it's a different stage, it kind of feels the same. It's the same guys I've been competing against for 25 years. A lot of us, we even competed in college against each other. It still feels like -- when you're trying to win a golf tournament, it feels exactly the same as it did on the PGA TOUR. I'm playing against the same guys, we've got nice crowds and good golf courses. We kind of pinch ourselves every once in a while, I'm 53 years old and I get to keep playing the sport I love for a living.

Q. You've wanted to defend six times, this will be the sixth opportunity but you have yet to do it, so how do we do it?

SCOTT McCARRON: Well, again, I've come close a couple times. I know I finished second one year at Des Moines, I finished third at THE PLAYERS, so I've had some opportunities. But again, it's hard to win out here. Coming back to defend, yes, you want to be able to defend; yes, you have a lot of good feelings from last year, but there's so many good players here that you've really got to play well, can't make too many mistakes. I think that's why it's so hard.