# ROUND 1 INTERVIEW January 17, 2019

### DAVID TOMS (-7)



#### Q. Still a really successful day considering the wind conditions.

**DAVID TOMS:** Yeah, I was pleased with it. I didn't know what to expect. I had played well all week, but we hadn't had any wind, so that was nice to go out there and be able to control the ball and do all the things you need to do to be able to play in the wind. Got off to a good start and just kind of kept going.

## Q. What was the key for you today? What clubs were working from the bag?

**DAVID TOMS:** You know, a little bit of everything. I drove the ball in play for the most part, which is good. Hit some good iron shots early. Didn't make the putts. Then halfway through the round I started to get the putter going, made some nice mid-range putts. And then I hit a couple of kind of loose iron shots there toward the back nine, but then I finished well on 17 and 18 with two good shots. Just overall a pretty consistent day.

## Q. What's it about Hawaii that agrees with you?

**DAVID TOMS:** I don't know. I think the warm weather. Obviously it's bermudagrass, I grew up on that. I started later in my career on the Tour, I got better in the wind, more patient and really concentrated on what I was doing and started hitting the ball a little more solid and started to be able to play better in the wind. You don't always do it because it is what it is, windy days are unpredictable, but I feel good over here. I enjoy the experience, enjoy being in the heat and humidity, and I've had a lot of success over the year over here.

#### Q. With the rule changes, did you encounter anything?

**DAVID TOMS:** I had to take a drop in the middle of the fairway on No. 11. I hit a drive down the middle and it was in a drain, and I felt kind of weird -- you know, I was just hoping not to throw my back out taking a drop. I'll have to really pay attention to what I'm doing on those drops this year or I'll hurt myself.

#### Q. Putting with the pin in?

**DAVID TOMS:** I did on 17. No, 16, sorry. Still left it short even with the pin in to help me. But yeah, I thought that was unique. Colin and I both did it on 16.

# Q. Notoriously low scoring here, you've got a bunch of guys stacked up at 2 and 3 under. What do you expect the rest of the week?

**DAVID TOMS:** Well, I mean, I expected the wind to affect scoring a little bit today and it did for the most part. I think anybody that shot 3 or 4 under would be happy with it, but we're all bunched up. They're all champions here, everybody knows how to play golf and win tournaments. You've just got to go out and play your best golf to have a chance.

## Q. You haven't changed your putting stroke, have you?

**DAVID TOMS:** No, not really. I've been using the claw off and on for about four years now, three or four years. It feels good, starting to feel a little more comfortable with it. But it's certainly something that a lot of guys are doing now so you don't feel like you're doing something weird where everybody's looking at you funny or whatever it might be. You kind of get a little more comfortable in your own skin when you're out there doing it.