

PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW
January 15, 2020



RETIEF GOOSEN

Q. We're here back from our break. How was your break, first of all?

RETIEF GOOSEN: Not long enough. After the Father-Son event we left and went to South Africa on the 20th of December and back on the 5th. So it was not long enough really, but this is like a holiday this week, so that's pretty nice.

Q. And you're debuting -- not debuting, but this is your first appearance on this course. Have you played here before?

RETIEF GOOSEN: No, no, this week's the first time. I played nine holes Sunday, nine holes yesterday and 18 today and so far the course is nice. The greens are a little slower. I hear they had a few issues with the greens, but they'll speed up. But at the moment there's no wind. I have not played the course in a strong wind, so it's going to play totally different.

Q. Are you excited about this week, though? You've heard great things I'm sure from other players about this tournament and the buzz about starting the year here.

RETIEF GOOSEN: It's such a great facility, that's the thing. Don't really want to play golf, but sort of have to.

Q. Want to go to the pool?

RETIEF GOOSEN: I would rather like to go and sit next to the pool this afternoon with a few Mai Tais or something like that would be nice.

Q. Do you have any good history in Hawaii at other events on the other islands?

RETIEF GOOSEN: I played three Grand Slams, but didn't win any of them. I played Kapalua a few times over the years, Tournament of Champions there. That's about it. Sony Open. But no victories, unfortunately. Been close, but no victories.

Q. And so coming into your second year, you're obviously getting a big award tonight. Thoughts on your first year --

RETIEF GOOSEN: Oh, am I? Rookie of the Year, youngster of the year?

Q. Yeah.

RETIEF GOOSEN: Yeah, it's not too often that in a sport at the age of 50 do you get Rookie

of the Year. It sort of makes you feel young again.

No, it's a great honor. It obviously could have been an amazing year if one shot better.

Q. Right, that last week at Schwab came close, but --

RETIEF GOOSEN: Yeah, I'm still suffering, I'm still getting counseling on that.