Korn Ferry Tour Championship

ROUND 3 INTERVIEW September 3, 2022

JUSTIN SUH (-17)



Q. Justin, at the top once again right now, 8 under for the day. Walk me through your round and kind of what stood out to you.

JUSTIN SUH: It was a hot start, I birdied 1, birdied 2. Wasn't making very long putts, it was just kind of 8-footers, 10-footers. We were hitting our numbers. It was, like I said, it was a very simple round, nothing got out of hand, we were always in position. Yeah, it was a very easy round today.

Q. Talk about the course. How's it fitting your game this week? What do you like about it?

JUSTIN SUH: Compared to most of the courses we played this year, it's definitely a ball-striker's course. I'd say my irons are definitely my strong suit, so if I'm in the fairway with any iron in hand, I feel pretty comfortable.

My putting was kind of out of sync a few weeks ago, but usually that happens when I play for probably, you know, like five to six, seven weeks, something goes a little off. I just kind of needed to recalibrate and this week it's starting to re-click again.

Q. With some easier pins, were you going for those or trying to keep a little more conservative today?

JUSTIN SUH: We usually play pretty conservative, but I think there was a couple times where I was feeling it, so I was looking at a pin a little bit. Yeah, hate to admit it because that's something I rarely do. Even if you're playing good or bad, I usually pick a spot, but today I just kind of felt pretty good.

Q. What holes were that?

JUSTIN SUH: No. 11 and No. 16. No. 11 I hit it from a foot away, missed the putt, but on 16 I hit it to like three feet, so it was good.

Q. In your last nine starts you've had seven top-15 finishes. What do you think that says about your game? You're going against some really good competition out here, so what does that say about you?

JUSTIN SUH: I mean, I've just been playing very consistent. I think like all year round I

haven't changed much, I'm always working on the same stuff with my coach.

Honestly, from this year, last year this time of the year, I remember going to see him right before this event and just kind of going back to the basics like setup. That's kind of all I've worked on all year round, just staying consistent, making sure nothing goes like out of sync, just staying connected. Yeah, I haven't done anything different really.

Q. This is your first full season on KFT. What are your reflections on -- you won't be here next year, but what are your reflections from your --

JUSTIN SUH: It's been a fun year. It's been a lot of fun meeting a lot of the guys out here. It's nice to learn --

(Audio interruption.)

JUSTIN SUH: -- confidence to move up to the PGA Tour.

Q. Having that card already locked up, what does that do for you this week?

JUSTIN SUH: Stress-free. I mean, I'm playing with Tano and I know he's around the bubble, but he's a great friend. Like today I wasn't really even focusing on my game, like I was fist pumping for him when he made a birdie, so it was super cool to see him put a good round.

Q. Can you kind of correlate the two between how well you're playing today and how stress-free you were able to let yourself play?

JUSTIN SUH: Yeah. I mean, I'm usually pretty stress-free. Like once I'm on the golf course, like I keep it pretty simple with my caddie. Like we've got a routine going, we kind of just trust what we're doing, the process, but it definitely feels nice not having to play for a Tour card this week.

Q. How much are you thinking about that No. 1 spot?

JUSTIN SUH: Not that much, to be honest. I know I think I need a win to lock it up, but if that happens, cool, but I think we're just looking to move up no matter what. In the position we're at, I think 16 to 15 in -- if you combine it with the guys here, I think we just want to move up, yeah.

Q. Walk me through this week. What's been the best part of your game you would say just overall?

JUSTIN SUH: Probably just ball-striking. My irons have been pretty locked in, but they've been locked in for a while. Like every week I'm starting to get a better feel for some numbers that you have to take off, I'm hitting those a lot better. The putting's just clicking, so yeah,

most of the stuff is clicking.

Q. And it's showing.

JUSTIN SUH: It's showing, yeah.

Q. You mentioned following along with Tano, is that something like it's interesting just as a golf fan following that bubble and the stakes of how much this week means around the bubble?

JUSTIN SUH: For sure, especially because me and Tano, we played a bunch together like early in the year, we were always paired in that time slot, so we became great friends. To see him put a good round today, it's big momentum for him to get that card tomorrow.

Q. What's your sense of kind of why fans should watch this tomorrow with what's at stake?

JUSTIN SUH: It's exciting, your career's on the line. It's a big jump to go from the Korn Ferry to the PGA Tour. I mean, this is as pressure as it gets. I met a few guys last year who had to come back down and they've said like they don't really get nervous on the PGA Tour, but like these last two weeks and this week, it's probably the most nerves they've felt. It's a very exciting week.

Q. Are there kind of look cool vibes that go back to kind of why you get into sports and competition, just to be able to feel those vibes down the stretch?

JUSTIN SUH: For sure, this is kind of why we play. It's fun, it's gratifying to see all your practice pay off. Yeah, this is why we play.

Q. Joseph Bramlett, did you pick his brain at all about this course after him having won here last year?

JUSTIN SUH: No, he hasn't said much. We played a birdie game during the practice round, but I mean, his strategy and my strategy's completely different. He hits it 50 by me, so I'm not doing what he's doing.

Q. What's your take on -- did you see Brandon Matthews drove the green on 18?

JUSTIN SUH: I did see that, I did see that. I knew someone could do it between him, Joe and maybe there's one other guy out here who can do it. I was hoping one of them would. I was giving Joe a hard time for not doing it. We'll see, maybe we can push him to do it tomorrow.

Q. You don't have that gear?

JUSTIN SUH: No, not 425. I've got a second gear, but not that one.

Q. One last question just about your round today. Out of 8 under, what was your favorite either hole or shot that you made out there, something that you're proud of or that's kind of cool?

JUSTIN SUH: Honestly, it was all kind of a blur. Like I said, I was focusing on Tano a lot. My shots, they were just kind of happening. Nine was all right.

Q. For us regular folks, we think it was pretty impressive.

JUSTIN SUH: I don't know, nothing really stands out. It was just a really smooth round.

Q. Have you ever had that sensation before of almost being locked into someone else's round as much as your own?

JUSTIN SUH: Not really. I'd say more so these three weeks than any other weeks, but yeah, I was trying to like have fun and get good vibes going with Tano. It was cool.