

**Retief Goosen**

**Round 2 Interview Transcript**

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**May 3, 2025**

**Question:** Just assess your round today. Obviously the momentum is in your favor after kind of a suspension and then coming back in this morning?

**Retief Goosen Answer:**

*Yeah. You know, 26 holes today we had to play. I didn't get off to a great start, but then suddenly I started making a few birdies. I didn't play well at all, but my putter was red hot. I made everything, you know. I don't know how many meters of putts in the last two rounds. If it wasn't for a putter, I'd probably be around even par.*

**Question:** What about the conditions? Is there any change with the weather or just how the grounds crew got this place ready?

**Retief Goosen Answer:**

*Oh, yeah, they did a great job. Obviously a different wind to yesterday, opposite direction. So some of the holes played quite a bit different. But overall, I mean, the greens are great. You know, you're still picking up mud balls out there. But luckily we've been playing pretty good lies. Just got to somehow, you know, keep it a bit better in play tomorrow, and hopefully the putter stays hot.*

**Question:** You've been trending. So what does it mean for your confidence for your game right now to put yourself back in contention tomorrow?

**Retief Goosen Answer:**

*Yeah, I didn't really expect this. By the beginning of the week, I was hitting the ball so poorly, I was actually gonna withdraw. I wasn't even interested in playing. And there you are at the top of the leaderboard. It's funny how this game works sometimes.*

**Question:** What is it about this place you like?

**Retief Goosen Answer:**

*I've never really done great around here; but, you know, it's a great golf course. You know, it has a lot of tricky holes around with water; so you got to try and avoid those. I did hit in the water on one hole yesterday, but — you know, it's a great golf course. If you play well, you get rewarded.*

**Question:** Absolutely. Including yourself, there are 23 Hall of Famers on site this week, a few of them out there playing, and then the Greats of Golf playing. Just talk about your relationship with Gary Player and what he's meant to you?

**Retief Goosen Answer:**

*Yeah, I mean, Gary has always been somebody I've looked up to since I was really in my early 20s the first time I met him and played many times with him in practice rounds and things like that, especially at the British Open. Yeah, he's a great inspiration for everybody, you know. It shows you, if you look after yourself — look at him — he's 90, and he probably looks younger than me.*

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