



Richard Green

Pre-Tournament Interview Transcript

August 19, 2026

Question: We're in Calgary, defending champion. What do you look at this week going to in to defend your title?

Answer by Richard Green:

It's been exciting, you know, just to come back to a place where, you know, I've had some happy memories. I guess this week is just a matter of, you know, trying to treat it like any other week and go out there and do my best, you know. There's a little bit of extra expectation, obviously, from playing so well here over the last couple years. You know, hopefully I can do it again, you know. It would be really nice to get out there and defend and put on a good show.

Question: What did that do for you getting that first win on the Champions Tour?

Answer by Richard Green:

Yeah, just, you know, it looks -- just builds your confidence to know that you can win out here amongst the guys that play on the Champions Tour, and it's pretty -- a win amongst these guys is pretty good for your confidence, so -- you know, I would have loved to have sort of gone on since Calgary last year and won again, but, you know, the competition is just getting harder and harder, you know, so you just got to just keep on top of your game and keep trying and keep putting yourself there and see what happens.

Question: You talk about that. In the competition, you have Zack Johnson in this year. I mean, you got some great guys coming in, right? Every year?

Answer by Richard Green:

He's doing amazing. He's pretty much -- every time he plays he wins, so, you know, you do a lot of comparing to these guys, and try to work at where you're not quite up to it, and work really hard in those areas to try to compete, and, you know, that's what we're doing, you know. So -- you know, I feel like this golf course is one that, you know, I can do -- obviously do the job at, you know, and it's nice going into this week with that sort of confidence in the background.

Question: You talk about this course and what makes it fit your game so well. How have you been able to do so well?

Answer by Richard Green:

Just really nice conditions. You know, the greens are really to my liking. You know, there's no sort of hidden undulation in the terrain or anything like that. What you see is what you get. You know, I don't think it hurts slightly longer shots into the greens as opposed to sort of some of the courses we play you really need to be coming in with a high ball flight and stop the ball quick, whereas I don't think you really need to be bothered too much about that. So, it doesn't really advantage a longer **hitter**

more so than a shorter hitter. You know, it's sort of one of these courses where someone can pop out and win. And so, then that's why I like it. It's really good fit across the board.

Question: Going back to last year, they say in sports that you never want to let the highs get too high and the lows get too low, but this game is tough and it's tough to win on this tour, so what was your celebration kind of like from last year? Did you take it a little extra?

Answer by Richard Green:

No, you know. Amongst everybody that wins the most, we celebrated for a while, and obviously up into Christmas was pretty good fun. You know, knowing that I'd had a great year and a win on tour, achieved the goal and all those sorts of things, so nice to sort of extend the celebration a little bit with family and loved ones at home, and -- but, you know, out here amongst everybody, you know, down to the next week was business as usual, really. You just press on and try to defeat the next one. But it was a great feeling, obviously.

Question: Did you have a little extra pep in the step after that?

Answer by Richard Green:

Oh, yeah. It's hard to not have. You know, you just -- the next week last year in Michigan was walking on cloud nine, really. Trying to keep yourself a little bit sort of on the norm was hard to do, but, you know, it was okay.

Question: Maybe take us back to last year. What, for you, what went right and where did it -- where did you know it was going right?

Answer by Richard Green:

Yeah, I got out here early in the week and felt like some things clicked with my golf swing. You know, I hadn't played well the week before in Seattle and struggled a little bit with all the terrain and everything there, and then got here and just felt really comfortable. A little bit like I felt again this week. You know, the greens were just to my liking as they could be, you know. Instantly felt I had the feel on the greens. You know, I was hitting the ball a good way down the fairways and felt really comfortable with it. So, you know, hopefully I can just continue that on this week.

Question: So, you got here early again, so same recipe kind of, the same lineup?

Answer by Richard Green:

Yeah, I kind of would have liked to see the course a little dryer, but, you know, there's obviously been a little bit of rain, I think, in the area for a while and stuff, so -- and the course is definitely on the softer side, but, you know, we're out early in the week so as the week progresses I'm sure it will become more suitable.

Question: This Tour itself, every year it's a different challenge, and the guys that turn 50, like specifically Zack Johnson, you got to be up against younger competition every year?

Answer by Richard Green:

Yeah, it doesn't get any easier, you know. We're just getting older and older all the time and dealing with our own ailments a little bit. Zack Johnson coming out early, you know, he's confident performing. You know, he brought a game with him that is very hard to compete with. You know, the older you get,

you know, it's harder and harder. So, you know, I'm sure it's like that for everybody who spends more and more time out here. This is my fourth year out here now, and, you know, I was that guy four years ago. So, you know, you just got to go out there and do your best and try to stay fit and healthy.

Question: What about your game? How does it feel?

Answer by Richard Green:

Yeah, it's okay. You know, I played a little bit better in Seattle last week and sort of feel like there's parts of it that are really good. If I can just get my putting a little bit where I want it to be, I think it will be all right.

Question: Fair to say you're a cerebral thinker, a cerebral player, a guy that -- because it sounds like last year when we were talking to you, it was like you kind of want the planets to align in the way that you need it to be?

Answer by Richard Green:

Yeah. Looking at an ideal world, it would be nice, but not every week is like that, you know, but this is like one of the weeks where things have come together in the history out here on tour. But I don't know. I just got to go and deal with what comes and, you know, play the ball as it lies and -- I don't know. If that poses enough of a challenge over the course of a week, we'll do our best with it.

Question: So is there a lot of superstition attached to your prep for this and the way you go about it?

Answer by Richard Green:

Actually, surprisingly, yes. I'm staying at the same Air B&B this week, and I've stayed in the same one for the last four years, so they've been really nice people and local members here and locals, and so that's been nice, and, you know, trying to just keep it all as close to what last year looked like as possible. You know, you just got to into this week and do your best. That's all I can really hope for.

Question: Do you thrive -- like, I mean, last year the big crowds and everything like that, does that give you an extra, you know, motivation here?

Answer by Richard Green:

Yeah, it's nice. I'm looking forward to seeing how the week plays out with, you know, the support from the fans and everything over the week. Everybody will know that I'm playing one last year and hopefully that support has been really good.

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Question: Thanks, Richard.