



Danny Willett, Preview Interview

Monday February 15, 2016

Q. Congrats on the win in Dubai, I assume there were a few celebrations afterwards?

A. Yeah a few of us went out on the Sunday night, then I flew home and it was back to normality. I spent time with my wife (Nicole), took the dog for a few walks, then started getting ready for this tournament on Thursday.

Q. Good to be back in KL after Europe's success in the EURASIA CUP?

A. Yeah absolutely, it was a great week. KL's a great city, and I always enjoy coming back here. It's a new tournament so I've never played this course before, and it's always exciting to take on a new challenge.

Q. What could you take from the week for this week?

A. It's obviously a different format, so not too much for a purely golfing perspective. It was just a great event, it was nice to come back after the Christmas break and have a nice, fun week. Like here the course was a bit more old school and you had to shape the ball, plus it was good to get used to the humidity and making sure you get plenty of rest and relaxation to conserve your energy levels.

Q. What sort of test does this course present?

A. It's a bit different to most of the courses the guys are used to playing on the Tour. It's not wide open fairways or particularly long, so it's going to take some shot-making to do well. You've got to drive the ball well and put yourself in position on the fairways, because I'm sure the greens will firm up over the week so it'll be difficult to hold them. So it's very old school but I'm sure we're going to have a fair bit of fun out there this week. A change is always nice, and I'm really looking forward to it.

Q. How do you prepare for the heat?

A. I don't think you can really. It's different to anywhere else we play. It was very hot and humid here for the EURASIA CUP, 30 degree heat and near 100 per cent humidity is difficult to deal with. So you've just got to take on plenty of fluids and keep in the shade if you can. It's just fortunate we're able to wear shorts for the next couple of days.

Q. What do you miss most about home when you're on Tour?

A. Well obviously my wife and family. But we've got a good bunch of guys out here on Tour, so that helps you get by. We can't complain too much, it can get lonely sometimes – especially when you're not playing well. So you always look forward to going back home and doing the normal things that other people do, like walking the dog. That's probably what you miss most when you're away.

Q. How would it feel to be the first person to get your hands on the trophy?

A. It'd be great. I saw the trophy last night at the opening function, and it's very nice. Expectations are obviously high after how well I've been playing recently, but it can change from day to day and week to week. So we'll give it our best shot, and hopefully my name can be the first on the trophy. With it changing to the Maybank Championship it can be moved around Asia, so going forward it's an exciting time for the region.

Q. Is it difficult to put the win in Dubai behind you?

A. Winning does take a lot out of you, physically and mentally. It's nice when you go home to not have to set an alarm in the mornings, you can have a lie-in and refresh your mind and body. When you're running on adrenaline, you don't tend to feel the little niggles and the aches and pains that can build up. So it was nice to have last week off to recover and recharge the batteries.