

**DOUG GHIM (-7)**

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**Q. Talk about the round today. First six holes, even par. Last 12 holes, 7 under. What turned it around for you?**

**DOUG GHIM:** I mean, there's a lot of birdie holes out here and so it was a bit frustrating off the start, I didn't really play many solid holes. The first hole was really solid, and after that it was just kind of -- I didn't have any birdie looks. It wasn't necessarily like fighting for par or anything, but missed a couple easy fairways to hit and just kind of behind the eight-ball all day.

Then finally got the first birdie and I kind of finally settled in. All of a sudden I had a look on every hole and started to capitalize and that was just really it. It was just staying patient and did a good job of that.

**Q. Talk about the birdie at 18. You chipped it in from off the back of the green. You made it look awful easy. That wasn't that easy of a shot.**

**DOUG GHIM:** I'm fortunate that it went in. It was kind of a thick lie. It was one of those that was sitting up, but you could kind of tell if you caught too much grass, it could go nowhere. I just wanted to ensure that it got on the green. And once it landed it was kind of motoring, but it caught a good piece of the flag and just fortunate that it went in.

**Q. Talk about this golf course. What do you like about it? It's obviously beautiful. What do you like about this place?**

**DOUG GHIM:** I mean, obviously the views are great, especially on the back nine. The greens roll really well, especially for how much rain it's taken in the last month here. But yeah, I mean, it fits my game. It's a lot of wedges. I probably -- I'm working hard on those, so it gives me an opportunity to score. I mean, it feels like all the guys have to hit it pretty much in the same spot unless you drive the green, but Bryson's not here this week so I guess there's not a good chance.

**Q. Lastly, when you go bogey free, I know you guys are really good, but when you card a bogey-free round, that's got to be kind of special.**

**DOUG GHIM:** Yeah, for sure. I mean, that's one of the goals for me, especially because I typically shoot about how many birdies I make, so trying to keep those off the card especially when there are so many scoring opportunities. I feel like the big focal point this week is the par 5s and the par 3s. As many birdies you can make on the par 3s and as many pars or better you can make on the par 3s, those are typically the hardest holes out here in any

tournament usually but especially this week, 16 and 8 being so difficult. And 13's actually very sneaky hard as well. So if you can get away with even par on the par 3s and 3 under on the par 5s this week, you're going to have a good chance at the end of the week.

**Q. Doug, you had had some struggles kind of at the beginning of the season. Is there anything you did in particular to turn things around, any equipment changes or --**

**DOUG GHIM:** Yeah, I mean, it was -- last year was tough when I got through the Korn Ferry Tour. I was so glad to make it, but there wasn't much time for me to kind of reflect on what the differences were. I didn't have as much success as I wanted on the Korn Ferry Tour. Obviously seeing guys like Will Zalatoris and Davis Riley and Scottie Scheffler doing as well as they have done, I didn't have that type of success for me to feel settled in. Kind of just barely made it and all of a sudden I was running on fumes and trying to compete against even better players on harder golf courses.

As a rookie, too, it's hard to get into a lot of events, so every opportunity seems like a big deal. So I wasn't quite ready for that. You know, the hiatus was a big deal for me to get some time to reflect, change a couple of clubs in the bag and try to kind of recapture feels that I had in college, so my bag kind of emulates that.

Yeah, it was just kind of nice to get away and try to realize that I had a great opportunity to be here on the Tour and not put too much pressure on myself. I knew that if I could just play the way that I know how to play without comparing myself to anybody else, I'll be fine.

So to be able to start back fresh in Napa and it kind of feels like the rookie year that I want to have so far, playing a lot better and obviously have a better attitude going into it and looking forward to the rest of the season.

**Q. Was that kind of a silver lining in the way the season shook out that you had an extra year whereas you might have had to go back to KFT Finals and --**

**DOUG GHIM:** Absolutely. It gave me an opportunity to kind of adjust and kind of experiment a little bit with equipment and everything, swing. Gave me the opportunity to test some things that I had been working on.

I got a new mental coach as well over the break. Trying to look at things from a different perspective. I didn't play particularly well when I came back, but I started playing better at the end of the season and I'm kind of carrying that into the new season.

Yeah, all that kind of -- the comeback of golf, the four or five events I got to play before the season was over was huge for me because it gave me confidence because I saw everything going in the right direction. And the idea that everyone starts back at zero was amazing for me because it's really hard to come back into a season where you're 206th in the FedExCup and trying to make the Playoffs from there. Even if I was playing great, you already feel like you're way behind. So it was kind of like a nice refresher to get to Napa and see everyone at

zero, play well and be in a good position right off the bat.

**Q. Did you go back to any clubs you played in college?**

**DOUG GHIM:** I kind of changed back to similar clubs to college. I'm not going to say any brands, but yeah, I had a particular set that I liked and I kind of went back to a set that emulated it, just maybe a couple advanced models just because the times have changed. Yeah, I kind of went back to similar feels, similar shafts and everything and it's worked out pretty well.

**Q. And that was during the hiatus?**

**DOUG GHIM:** Yes.

**Q. (No microphone.)**

**DOUG GHIM:** Obviously super, super grateful that I had made that. But I mean, the Korn Ferry Tour is a great place to be either way. I mean, when you're on it and you're trying to make it to the PGA TOUR, it doesn't always seem that way, but when you -- I mean, being from Vegas and seeing all my friends who are working their butt off just to get to the Korn Ferry Tour, you realize like how great it actually is to be out there. Obviously nothing's better than the PGA TOUR, we all want to be out here, but yeah, on the same line, it's very gratifying to be here and to have status going into '21 as well.

So very grateful I made the putt and it's definitely an experience that I draw back on whenever I have to make one under pressure, knowing that there's nothing really more scary than that putt right there. To make it and to know that I can make a putt like that under pressure, it gives me confidence going forward.