

ROUND 4 PRESS CONFERENCE
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JACKSON KOIVUN (-25)



MODERATOR: All right, everybody, we would like to welcome our 2026 3M Open champion, Jackson Koivun, into the interview room here.

Jackson, congratulations. What an exciting tournament. You win your first PGA TOUR event in your third professional start. Just what are your emotions right now dealing with all the things that go with winning?

JACKSON KOIVUN: I'm just trying to soak it all in. Fully hasn't set in yet, but I'm sure it will come any second here now.

MODERATOR: What was it like being out there playing? You started with a lead, but you were being pressured by three major champions out there, particularly Scottie Scheffler, World No. 1. What was it like for you to be in that situation and how did you manage that and keep your nose in front?

JACKSON KOIVUN: Yeah, that's what we train for. That's the position we all strive to be in even through college. It's like you want to be leading a PGA TOUR event and that's what you train for, you work for. Once you're finally in it, you've just got to keep your head down and commit to every single golf shot. Fortunately, it worked out for me today.

MODERATOR: You do train for it, you've been training a long time, but is it still a little surreal to think that just a month, month and a half ago you were an amateur and now you're a PGA TOUR winner? It's happened pretty quickly.

JACKSON KOIVUN: It's gone by quick, it's crazy. It feels like yesterday we won the National Championship at Auburn. It's crazy how fast time flies.

Q. So, you had that clutch par save on hole 9 after hitting it in the back bunker. How did that par putt that you made on hole 9, how did you feel that adrenaline and that momentum and how did that adrenaline help you to the back nine to eventually close this thing out today?

JACKSON KOIVUN: Yeah, I think the putt on 9 might be the biggest putt I made all week. Scoreboard was right there and I saw exactly how I stood. If I missed that, then I only had a two-shot lead where last time I checked I had a five-shot lead. So making that was huge for my momentum, just helped me keep it rolling on the back nine.

Q. Jackson, on 18, this is probably the first time I've seen you express emotion in the four days you've been here. We talked about how you've been poised and calm and



collected and relaxed. What was it like when you made the putt and reality set in that you were the champion?

JACKSON KOIVUN: Yeah, 18 I had quite a few nerves and just kind of got it down there. Then I knew where I stood and what I had to do to secure the win.

But it never really feels like you're going to win until you make the putt and that's kind of when all the emotions come crashing down on you. I think I did a really good job this week of staying level headed, but I felt like that was an appropriate time to show some emotions.

Q. Did you have those nerves prior to 18 and you just did a better job of kind of keeping everything in or did they really just kind of arrive when you got to that finishing hole?

JACKSON KOIVUN: I started to feel a little bit of nerves maybe on 15 or 16 because it started setting in that OK, you can definitely do this and you've got some tough holes coming down the stretch. I hadn't particularly played 18 well except for yesterday, hadn't hit the best drives. I didn't really hit the best drive today, but it worked out. I think once I got over that drive on 18 and got it down there in the fairway, we definitely felt a little less pressure.

Q. You went pro one month ago. Did you expect to be so competitive so quickly coming into the Tour?

JACKSON KOIVUN: Yeah, I mean, I know the PGA TOUR is hard and it's very competitive, and fortunately enough I was able to get quite a few sponsor exemptions last summer to kind of get acquainted with the feeling of playing on the PGA TOUR. These last three events have been definitely a little bit of a wake-up call getting back into the swing of things on the PGA TOUR, but I'm just excited with the way I played this week.

Q. And playing with Scottie, against Scottie, does it make it more significant for you in having this win knowing there's some real competition there?

JACKSON KOIVUN: For sure. It was a great field this week regardless. Obviously having the World No. 1 in the field just makes it even sweeter.

Q. Scottie told us yesterday that when he was younger coming up he asked a lot of older guys for advice. Do you ask other players for tips or tricks or do you just home in?

JACKSON KOIVUN: Yeah, there's definitely a couple guys I lean on out here on Tour that are the veterans. I feel like I can call them and pick their brain whenever I need to. They're definitely super helpful and nice.

Q. Jackson, 7, it was your first fairway you missed, I think it was the first green you missed. Take me through that, the shot out of the bunker and that little delicate chip



you had to make behind the green on 7.

JACKSON KOIVUN: Yeah, I was just a little uncomfortable over that tee shot for some reason. I thought I hit a really good shot out of the bunker. It actually, I think it landed on the fringe and kind of popped into that rough. Definitely wasn't trying to be that aggressive with the line, just trying to leave it out there 20 feet right.

When it landed, I thought it was perfect, and then I get up there and it's, like you said, it's a soft, delicate chip. I played pretty much perfect golf from there on. It was a little bit of adversity I faced and I was able to kind of overcome that.

Q. I asked a couple people close to you today what your best trait is as a golfer. What would you say the answer is.

JACKSON KOIVUN: My best trait? I would say my mentality. I feel like I've gotten a lot better over the past couple years of being able to beat guys with my mentality. Sometimes I watch guys hit on the range and I don't feel like I'm the most talented out there, but if I can go out there and believe and use my brain to my advantage, then that's definitely kind of like a superpower.

Q. What do you think you're going to remember the most from this whole weekend like down the road?

JACKSON KOIVUN: Remember most of this week? Just I'll be forever indebted to the 3M Open for helping me get my first PGA TOUR win.

Q. So, you talked earlier about how the putt on 9 was the biggest putt that you've made all week. How would you compare the shot from 12 yesterday to the putt that you made on 9 today and how do those two shots signify your week?

JACKSON KOIVUN: Yeah, I mean, those two were probably two of the best shots I hit this week, for sure. Just different situations because the one on 12 I hit yesterday, I knew I was playing well and attacking and it kind of was the perfect golf shot to keep the train rolling, whereas the putt on 9 today was huge for momentum because those are the ones that keep the train on the tracks.

Q. Kind of on that same line, your approach into 12 yesterday and your approach into 18, how were they different and how did you hit them so well? What did you see on each of those yesterday?

JACKSON KOIVUN: Yeah. I mean, the one on 12, I kind of just told myself I'm going to swing as hard as I can. I didn't quite think I could carry that bunker, but from the broadcast I guess I barely did and it just trickled up there nicely and that just kind of started a birdie train.

That one into 18, I knew I was hitting the ball really well, I had hit some really good shots



and just really committed to a good line and executed a great shot to leave myself a nice look at eagle.

Q. And from all your starts in amateur, all your starts in college, your dad's been with you on your journey. What's your relationship like with your dad and how special is that to now have him here with you and how do you contextualize being at college and seeing -- him watching you play as an amateur and now you're a Tour winner?

JACKSON KOIVUN: Yeah, I've got so much thanks for my parents for everything they've done for me over these 21 years. I really wish my mom could be here today, but she's still back in North Carolina and I'm sure I'll see her soon. I think she's coming next week. Having my dad there and giving him a hug at the end of the day was probably the best feeling.

MODERATOR: Right after you gave your dad a hug your mom was on FaceTime. What did she say to you and what did you say to her?

JACKSON KOIVUN: She was crying. I was trying to make out a little bit of what she said, but she kept saying how proud she was. Those two are just, they're my rocks.

MODERATOR: Did you ever consider when you got to 18 tee having a different strategy there, maybe perhaps hitting something different from the tee than what you did?

JACKSON KOIVUN: We talked about it a little bit, but I hadn't missed a fairway with driver all day. I had been hitting it really well. Looking back, I mean I probably could have hit 3-iron, but if you told me I was going to make par, I don't really care how it looked.

MODERATOR: The win obviously gives you a two-year exemption and sets you up for the next few seasons, but you just moved to No. 70 in the FedExCup standings, which is an important number. The top 70 reach the Playoffs, which is just in two weeks. What's your plans the next couple of weeks headed into the Playoffs?

JACKSON KOIVUN: Yeah, I'm going to try to cherish this tonight and then mental reset heading over to the Rocket Classic tomorrow and playing the Wyndham Championship. There's still work to do to hopefully make that FedExCup.

MODERATOR: I just want to ask you before you go, how did you sleep last night having the lead? It's one of the first times you've been in that situation in a PGA TOUR event.

JACKSON KOIVUN: I actually slept well. My heart rate was definitely up for a little bit, but I slept all the way through. I wasn't too nervous and just tried to take my mind off of it.

MODERATOR: And how will you celebrate this evening or the next week perhaps?

JACKSON KOIVUN: Not quite sure yet, but I'm sure we'll find something to do.



MODERATOR: Jackson, the 3M Open's very proud to have you as their champion. It's your first PGA TOUR victory, as we said, and congratulations, enjoy it.

JACKSON KOIVUN: Thank you.

