

JAMES NITTIES



PO Box 745 Indooroopilly QLD 4068 AUSTRALIA Ph 1300 662 173 or +61 7 3378 2668

Email info@pacificsolutions.com.au Web www.pacificsolutions.com.au

INTERVIEW WITH JAMES NITTIES AUSTRALIAN OPEN THURSDAY 3RD DECEMBER 2009 AT THE MEDIA CENTRE, NSW GOLF CLUB

FACILITATOR: Just a fantastic round, but you played well. You thought it might be there; early morning start, everything in your favour.

JAMES NITTIES: Yeah, we couldn't ask for more this morning, it was absolutely perfect. The first 10 holes was really a joy to play. Our group got off to a bad start on the first, we all made bogey from about 100m and my putter was half decent, I holed a couple of good putts and in the end it was a good round of five under.

FACILITATOR: Scott said it was a pleasure to be out there today to play this golf course without the wind really blowing your way.

JAMES NITTIES: Exactly. After Monday and Tuesday's weather, it was tornado warnings all around, so today was there was a – actually yesterday the weather in the Pro-Am was perfect as well, it was a great day.

I thought the scores might be a little deeper out there, but the greens can get a little tricky and the wind can get up in a couple of areas. As Adam said, it was perfect for us to play and it was awesome to play with John for the first time as well.

FACILITATOR: That's great. Questions please?

QUESTION: Five under including several great saves from about 10 feet. Do you think in that respect you left a few out there on your overall round?

JAMES NITTIES: I think it all evened out in the end. I mean, I made a bogey from wedging and part wedging on the first and I bogied I think the fourth or the fifth with 30m to the pin – this might have been my second shot, but as I said, I made some good – I think I missed a putt under three feet for birdie on the first hole as well, but apart from that, I holed some good saves,

come home. I had a couple of 12 footers, about three 12 footers to save par coming home, so it all works out in the end.

You know, a little rusty but all in all it's good to get off to a five under start in the Australian Open especially.

QUESTION: You mentioned John, James, how did you find his general demeanour?

JAMES NITTIES: I hung out with John a little bit about four years ago. I was looking at maybe signing with his management company and he offered – I hung out with him and I spoke to him about that today. He's always a down to earth guy. He's just literally your average guy. He's nice, he's carefree and he's just out there to relax and have a good time. I mean, he played some good shots today. He was unlucky not to shoot under par, so hopefully, good to see him fire tomorrow would be good.

QUESTION: I haven't had time to verify this, but was there a bit of a difference to last year, you raced home last year to play the NSW Open a bit better preparation this year?

JAMES NITTIES: Yeah, it was kind of different actually, because I raced home, went from pretty much putting out on the last at Q-School to getting on the plane and arriving for the Pro-Am and I was coming on such a massive high, because I got my card that I just – I mean, the golf clubs felt light, I had no perception and I was just actually – if anything, I wasn't as focussed as I was, because I just come off from getting my PGA tour card and the weather was a little crazy last year, but this year I've had time to get ready for this event and the Masters and the NSW Open has been a good transition into playing some good golf in the Aussie events.

QUESTION: James, you chipped really well today. Scrambling around the course, do you think it's easy to miss the greens?

JAMES NITTIES: Yeah, definitely, as I said, my iron play just wasn't the best today and you have to use it in the right areas around here. If you do, whenever I missed the green today it was short and most of the pins were middle to back or not far on the front of the green, so I'd be disappointed if I didn't get up and down, because I sort of missed it in the right positions. I didn't hit bad – actually I did, I missed the 17th right and chipped it in, so that sort of helped.

It's one of those courses where you can get very conservative, but as long as you miss it in the right positions, you should be able to scramble around and have a good score going.

You've got to get to the point where you can't get too conservative. Like, on the last I got a little bit too conservative and left it 30m short of the green and I didn't hit a great iron shot, so I was lucky to save par there.

QUESTION: James, you've basically stitched up enough money by half way through this year to secure your card for next year. That must have been a great comfort to you; that you weren't scrambling to hold your card?

JAMES NITTIES: It was. I did play better in the first half of my year on the PGA tour than the second half. We didn't know, I mean, by saying that, I didn't know I had just about stitched up my card halfway through the year, because \$850,000 got the card the previous year and I think it was 650 this year. So I was never thinking when I got to 650 grand that I was safe.

It was disappointing, because I didn't play great towards the end of the year. I think it was because of my first year on, you know, a full year playing that many events. I've maybe got a little bit tired, but I had a couple of injuries on and off and I still missed about three or four events that I would have liked to have played towards the end of the year.

But it was definitely a comfort getting off to a good start, especially FBR, Mexico and then having a couple of good top 25s after that.

QUESTION: That delay on five, everyone stayed fairly relaxed there?

JAMES NITTIES: Yeah, it was getting to the point where we were going to have two groups on the tee.

QUESTION: I think you did, didn't you? You almost had three groups on the tee.

JAMES NITTIES: Yeah, exactly, definitely. It was a little slow through there but as you can see with that hole, you can either miss the fairway and have a tough shot or have to have a drop or something or you're waiting for the green for your second shot anyway, so once we got through there it seemed to speed up.

FACILITATOR: Okay ladies and gentlemen. Hope to see you in here tomorrow.

END OF TRANSCRIPT