

**PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW: IAN WOOSNAM**  
**May 5, 2016**



**IAN WOOSNAM:** So the win was very important to making me exempt for the year, for the rest of the year and for this year. It was a big thing that I've been working for for the last six months. I did a little bit of training and did a lot of work on my swing and it paid off, so here we are.

**DAVE SENKO:** How's your game coming into here now?

**IAN WOOSNAM:** Not very good I would have to say because I haven't been putting enough effort in I would say. I have a bit of a bad back and struggling a little bit with the game. Yeah, I'm just looking forward to the sort of golf course I seem to even yesterday I played in the proam and I know I seemed to play pretty good yesterday. I'm playing again today this afternoon. Every time you play well on a golf course it gives you confidence, so hopefully maybe you should ask me that question this afternoon.

**DAVE SENKO:** Does this warm weather help with the back?

**IAN WOOSNAM:** Yeah. I went back to the U.K. for two weeks and it was okay when I got there and then all of a sudden it went cold. So I tried to play a couple of days with three layers of clothes on and it was impossible. Played shocking, that was a bit disheartening. As I say, yesterday I played pretty good. The warm weather makes such a big difference to me.

**Q. Were you feeling, because I know you were a bit stoved up when we spoke right after the Masters. Was it such that were you not defending champion you might have taken a longer break or do you think you wanted to get back out here and swinging a club again?**

**IAN WOOSNAM:** Well, I think the two weeks I've gone back to the U.K.'s helped me a little bit. I hadn't been home for sort of like four or five months. I had been in Barbados. It was nice to go back, catch up with a few mates, have a few beers and enjoy myself. I feel refreshed and ready to go again. I have a couple of big tournaments coming up, this one and then we've got the Regions and the PGA and I'm looking forward to that.

**Q. Do you happen to have I didn't cover the tournament last year so I don't know the answer to this question, did you have some pretty good history on this course, the PGA event preMasters at all?**

**IAN WOOSNAM:** I think I had a couple of top10s on this golf course. And as I say, it's one of them golf courses, I don't know if it's more European style or whatever, it just seems to fit my eye a little bit better and maybe that's why I play better here, or I'm saying I played better here.

**Q. Well, a win's a win?**

**IAN WOOSNAM:** Exactly, yeah. As I said, I was fortunate to win last year holing a long putt like that when you're just trying to putt it, lag it down really and it goes in. It was a nice break.

**Q. I'm pretty much asking all you guys what impact do you think John's going to have on your Tour?**

**IAN WOOSNAM:** Oh, it's great. I think someone like John, he's very flamboyant and he's great fun and he pulls in the crowd. You know, I imagine the crowds are going to be huge this week. It's great to have him, and the excitement of him playing, he's a big character. I played a lot of golf with John and I remember playing at the Masters with him four days in a row. He said he spent more time with me than he spent with his wife. That's all of them. We kept getting drawn together.

**DAVE SENKO:** Ian, with him coming out here as a player, how long does it take someone to feel comfortable playing a course on a new tour for instance?

**IAN WOOSNAM:** Well, he's been playing out there on the main tour for a while and playing them long golf courses, s, which John's got lots of length. The only thing I'll say is John's going to come back an all of a sudden he's hitting the ball a long way, it's almost like he's got to rein himself back a little bit and get the ball more under control. It's a bit like playing more of the old fashioned game of golf we used to play. It's about get it on the fairway, get it on the green and hole the putts. It's not about so much power on this tour, it's about putting and scoring. And if you're not good around the greens or on the greens, you're not going to win.

**DAVE SENKO:** Thanks, Ian.

**IAN WOOSNAM:** All right. I'll get back to my putting practice.