

Mahan discusses the disappointment of not making the Ryder Cup team

Written by TMAC GOLF

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“The Ryder Cup has been a goal for every American player, and it's disappointing not to be a part of it. It hurts not to be a part of it and it feels a little empty right now,” Hunter Mahan stated.

“I've still got two events to play, and they don't feel quite as important as I want them to be right now. So I have to work on that this week, and that's my goal this week is to find that kind of motivation right now. That's going to be my biggest key this week,” he added.

Mahan sounded numb in describing the phone call he received. “I didn't really ask him many questions or anything. I didn't really want to know too much. He just said he was going to go in a different direction. I got my answer, and that's all I needed,” Mahan recalled. “He said he wanted some hot players, and there was no two hotter players in the world than Brandt and Dustin right now. I said, hey, thanks for the look, and appreciate it.”

While it didn't go his way, Mahan had nothing but complimentary things to say about Davis Love III. “He's been great along the way. He hasn't added any pressure to me. He's been trying to keep everyone relaxed.”

Mahan, who nearly qualified for the team on points with two wins in 2012, said he'll miss the experience. Many golf fans will recall he was a part of the US team in Wales and in the last match that ultimately was the difference. He lost 3&1 to Graeme McDowell when he miss hit a chip shot on the 17th hole. Despite the outcome, Mahan has vivid memories. “It was one of those things where it's an emotional week. It's probably the most emotional week you'll have as a player, just because of the energy the crowd brings, from a positive and negative perspective. It's one of those things that seems to last longer inside of you, I feel like, than just one tournament, because the week is so fun. It's so emotional because you're just having such a great time all week, and then there's an outcome, and that's an emotional thing whether you win or lose,” he said. “It's such a special week and a special event, and that's something I'll always remember, just because of how cool it was to be in that situation, to have all the fans there, all the players watching and stuff like that. It's a really cool moment. I think all the rookies and stuff are going to get there to Chicago and it's going to be really exciting for them because there's nothing like it. There's really no tournament like it. It's so much fun. It just sucks to miss out on all the fun.”

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