



MY LIFE IN PICTURES

Miguel Angel Jimenez

The evergreen Spaniard on the moments that define his career.

Assistant to God, 1997

"This is obviously Valderrama in 1997, under Seve's captaincy in the Ryder Cup when I was his assistant. That was a great memory, of course. It was my first experience of management in the Ryder Cup: the rest of the time before that I had played, and I have really good memories. It obviously helped that we won in '97. My relationship with Seve was great, all through the years. He was an amazing player and an amazing character to be around. I learned so much from him here and every time I played or practised with him. An amazing man."



Jumping for Joy, 1994

"Ah yes, what a great memory. I still remember this moment very clearly. It is 1994, I have just won the Dutch Open. It was my second victory on the European Tour; my first had come the year before. I played so nice and finished with a birdie on the last hole. Any victory is good but the early ones were special. How do I remember it so clearly? You don't forget those trousers, do you!"



Mourning Seve, 2011

"A very sad moment, yes. This was at the Spanish Open in 2011, observing a minute's silence for Seve. All the players, all the journalists and the organisers, we stood around the putting green and just fell silent. It was very touching and obviously very sad indeed. Seve had a special effect on everyone. It was a privilege for us all to have known him."



Champagne milestone, 2015

"This shot was taken at Wentworth last year, in the BMW PGA Championship, to celebrate my 10th hole-in-one. I had just found the hole from the tee on the second hole, a 148-yard par 3, so to have that recognised was very nice. But I actually have 11 because I had another on the 17th at Sawgrass in 2002 that hasn't been counted. What is the secret to hitting a hole-in-one? There is no real secret, I don't think. You just have to hit a good shot and give it a chance of going in the hole, you know."



History man, 2014

"This is a shot of me at PGA Catalunya, celebrating becoming the oldest European Tour winner in history - I was 50 when I won the Spanish Open. I'm proud of that record. I keep fit, I'm still enjoying playing golf and what I do with my life, and that's because I keep in good form all the time. I don't know what better I could be doing with my life; I've sometimes wondered but never found anything better, so I'm very happy with my life."



You have to say something quite obnoxious and unsavoury to upset some of the stiff-shirted, hard-nosed, establishment of the Royal & Ancient Golf Club of St Andrews. But Donald Trump - ever one to push the boundaries of shocking and distasteful statements - has managed to do just that.

It seems that the vitriolic verbal attacks he's recently made on women, the Chinese, Mexicans and Muslims has finally exhausted the patience of the body who organise the Open Championship. For in what has been described as a 'private decision', the R&A has removed Trump Turnberry from the Open rota.

In an ideal world, sport and politics would always be kept apart. But, the world is an extremely long par 5 from being ideal. Sport and politics will always be incontestably intertwined.

Some will be surprised at how fast the R&A have reacted, especially given their antediluvian reputation for decision-making. They have, for instance, hardly reacted with Usain Bolt-like speed to address the issue of Open venues having no female members. Indeed, the new chief executive, Martin Slumbers, can expect another press hammering this summer when the Open returns to Royal Troon.

But, in reality, the R&A had no choice but to act. I was at the Ricoh Women's Open at Turnberry in August, and spoke to several LPGA players who were desperately trying to cancel their bookings at the five-star hotel, so upset were they with Trump. Mike Whan, the LPGA Commissioner, said then he'd have preferred the event not to be played. The R&A cannot risk a player or sponsor boycott of their number one championship, so they had to act quickly.

Despite Peter Dawson, the former chief executive, saying not so long ago that it was "unthinkable" that Turnberry wouldn't host another Open, it now looks like a distinct possibility, at least while Trump owns the resort. Quite what happens if Trump becomes President of the United States remains to be seen! But let's cross that bridge when - and if - we come to it.

■ Jock Howard has written for Golf World for over 25 years.

