

ROUND 3 INTERVIEW
June 12, 2022



JERRY KELLY (-12)

JERRY KELLY: That was a lot of good putts out there on the back side. I struck it well, I putted well, they just didn't go in this time, but I gave myself some good looks. I mean, I was really happy with the way things were going and I was kind of expecting them to drop, okay, anytime now. Then I just ran out of holes and didn't make them. I made two of the toughest ones I had. What I saw was that back side, every single putt was downhill or broke over a foot and a half, so I couldn't really -- I didn't put myself I guess in the right spots to run up at them, that's the only thing I can think of.

Q. From a ball-striking standpoint, have you ever hit the ball better from 11 on in than you did -- in this situation -- than you did today?

JERRY KELLY: I mean, yeah, but it was solid for the old guy, yeah. It was pretty good. I was in control. I definitely found something last night. Even though I only hit three wedges on the range, I felt like I found something to take into today. I didn't execute it every time, but I really liked some of the shots I played. I played a ton of little half shots and they didn't spin. I thought I gave myself a good chance at knocking it in on the last hole in two, that's what we were trying to do.

Q. (No microphone.)

JERRY KELLY: I figured I needed eight. What did I shoot? Did I shoot five?

Q. Six, I think six.

JERRY KELLY: I don't know. I ended up 12, right? That's five, so I was right. Eight, eight's probably going to be in a playoff just my guess. We're good at that, guessing that, but not always scoring what we guess.

Q. Jerry, I saw you on the back, it looked like you had inside 15 feet on every hole after 10, but are you saying a couple of the wrong sides of the holes in some cases?

JERRY KELLY: It was downhill every single time and these were speeding up. I saw some of them get out there a solid three feet past and I didn't want to do that and I only left one of them equal to the hole on the low side, everything else was on the high side. Even on downhillers I gave myself great chances for the ball to fall in. I mean, probably three of those putts, maybe even four of those putts, I mean, they just didn't go.

Q. You said yesterday that you were expecting a shootout and lo and behold you spoke it into existence. What do you know that we don't know?

JERRY KELLY: You can't keep these guys away from the birdies out here for that long. When the wind's not blowing hard, guys are going to shoot low, especially when it's soft. They'll learn how to keep it out of the rough and just give themselves chances, and they're so good that they don't fall backwards, they just keep going forwards. It's always a shootout.

Q. Jerry, the hat trick won't happen, but how much fun has the last two years been as the champion of this event and to have it be in your hometown, all the things that come with it?

JERRY KELLY: Yeah, just getting to talk to you in person, that really makes it for me, Jocko. Everybody's been so fantastic. I'd like to start another streak next year. Yeah, these guys put on a fantastic tournament, don't they? It's pretty impressive it's in our hometown, it's fun.

Q. I feel the same.

JERRY KELLY: Yeah.

Q. Did it feel like a rock star moment when you were walking up 18 and just had that moment up there, getting the cheers?

JERRY KELLY: The rock star moment is when you're doing that when you're winning, but it's still fantastic. That never gets old. I mean, the people give so much around here, I appreciate it so much. Yeah, last two years were the rock star moments.

Q. When did it feel like Sunday Jerry at the AmFam being in the thick of it? Did you feel like that right away or was there a certain point in the middle of the round where you felt, okay, I'm right in the heart of this?

JERRY KELLY: Third hole. Once I didn't get 2, I played No. 2 even par for the week. That's a tough one to swallow, so I didn't get 1 or 2. So it's like wedges and reachable par 5 and I didn't get either of them to start out. But once I got 3, made a great save on 4 and then I got 5, now I'm like okay, let's go. Just, I mean I hit so many good putts that just didn't go. No, I'm proud of the way I played, good chances.

Q. You've said this is your major obviously being here, but the major is coming up next. How did this week prepare you or get you in the mode to start moving towards that?

JERRY KELLY: It really helped that today feeling some things that I did last week. And last week maybe I didn't really know, it, just kind of came on me last week and trying to duplicate, like I said earlier in the week, was tough. I found my form, I found my stride that I've been doing since last week. No reason that we can't keep carrying forward.

Q. If Thongchai were to hang on and get this thing done, he would be the first player from Thailand to win on tour. What are your thoughts on him and what that would mean for the tour?

JERRY KELLY: I think he's the first paratrooper to win on tour as well. I mean, I think he's awesome, I think he's a really great guy. I really hope he does. Not against anybody else, but he deserves it after what he went through and the tour taking his exemption away a little bit. That's a lot of fortitude that he's showing coming back from something like that and saying, well, this is the way I have to do it, I have to get my exemption back. And he has so far. Let's hope he closes it out.