

ROUND 4 QUICK QUOTES
November 19, 2023



KELLY KRAFT (-16)

Q. Kelly, nice 65 today, great birdie on 17. How do you feel about what you did today to give yourself a good chance to move inside the 150?

KELLY KRAFT: I'd feel a lot better if that putt on 18 would have went in. I played good all day, just kind of was patient. Hit one bad shot on my second hole, hit it in the hazard, but other than that it was solid. Putter felt great, hit a lot of putts down my line that went in.

It's just one of those days. It's just super stressful. You never want to be in this position let alone I'm fighting to stay inside the top-150 because I played so terrible the first half of the year. Would have been a little more fun trying to stay inside the 125, but the way I played for most of the year until really towards the end and then now the fall, I played terrible and I kind of deserved to lose my card after playing that way. I turned it on this fall, I played great, made every cut, some top-25 finishes, so proud of the way I played this fall.

Q. How did you turn it around?

KELLY KRAFT: I think it was just some swing stuff with my coach. You know, I kind of went from, honestly, a drawer of the golf ball to kind of a fader and I think it just allowed me to hit more fairways and have more looks. My game is all putting and always has been. When I putt well, I play well. I just roll the ball really well. We just needed to find a way to get me on the green quicker so I could have more looks.

Q. In what way did today feel different than a normal round?

KELLY KRAFT: I honestly felt like I was playing for the tournament. It's just like -- I think I finished 16th or whatever I am right now and the nerves were like I wasn't in contention, the leaders were so far ahead, but I felt like I was. My heart rate was up, every shot was just like you've got to execute perfectly and you don't want to make a bogey because you just slide down the leaderboard. The nerves were definitely there, but I think I battled it pretty well and we'll see what happens.

Q. In the back of your mind, did you have an inkling of what you thought you needed to finish today?

KELLY KRAFT: Yeah, I sort of looked at it earlier in the week and I knew that I was kind of thinking if I had a top-15 finish here, then I'd be good, and if I was top-15, I wouldn't be stressing right now. But as the week goes on I was playing well, so at that point you're like, let's just go try to win the golf tournament. Obviously I didn't get that far, but proud of the way I fought out there.



Q. You had a -- you know, I remember back to Louisiana when you won and that kind of --

KELLY KRAFT: Yeah.

Q. You've been a PGA TOUR member. What's it meant through your career to be a PGA TOUR member?

KELLY KRAFT: It's great. You dream about playing out here as a kid, and I've done it for the last eight years, I think. The fall of '15 was my rookie year. I fought through a few injuries and kept my card. It's been a grind. I haven't been one of those like world beater players, I've just kind of been a solid player who kind of keeps his card. My best finish on the FedExCup is 70th so I have a lot of room to improve. If I keep playing the way I've played the last few months, I'm looking forward to next year. My game feels so much better than it did. We'll go from there.

Q. What would it mean, kind of the difference between 150 and 151?

KELLY KRAFT: It means you still get starts out here. You're not picking your schedule, but I've had a lot of buddies that have played out of the 150 category and played well enough to get back in that 125 for the next year. So you just have to be ready to play. You're not going to get in as many tournaments, which actually sounds kind of nice because I'm tired of playing 32 tournaments a year or whatever. Maybe a forced week or two off every once in a while wouldn't be so bad.

You definitely just want to finish inside that 150. You still get the credentials for next year on the PGA TOUR and it's all about getting better, but you have to have the opportunity out here to play and make it happen.

Q. Lastly, the feeling, what's it like when that putt goes in on 17, that 26-footer?

KELLY KRAFT: It was great. I knew I needed one more. I was looking at the board, every time you make a birdie and two holes later you look up and you're in 25th, it's like, oh, my God, OK.

I had a good look on 16, too; just broke way more than I thought. On 17 I hit a great shot right at the hole, just came up short, but I got a good look off Svendy's ball and I just saw it was going to go a little left. It was nice to see that go in.

Like I said, I hit a great putt on 18 that just -- played even higher than I thought because it was downhill, down grain and it still broke out of the hole, but it was close.

Q. Given the circumstances, is this your best round of the year?



KELLY KRAFT: Gosh, it was the most nervy round of the year, so maybe. Hit a lot of good shots under the gun. Hit a couple bad shots today that were just purely nervous, I think, swings.

Something that when you're just playing free like Thursday, Friday, you just get out there and you're free wheeling it like you're hitting balls on the range, it's easy. Even yesterday I played great. Yesterday I didn't miss a fairway and today I came out and missed my first two fairways. I knew the swing wasn't feeling as good today, whether it's the end of a long week or I was playing for something other than it was just a final round, I don't know. I hit a lot of good shots on the back nine. I made two great birdies, I birdied both those long par 3s. So I can look back at that and know I did my best.

Q. There are five full status cards available at Q-School. Will you venture to go try for those?

KELLY KRAFT: I spent my 3,500 bucks and signed up for it, so right now I'm planning on going. They're full cards, so I can, you know, just go there and hit it at every hole and try to finish first. If I can improve my status, then I will, but we'll see what happens today.

Q. Nonrefundable entry, huh?

KELLY KRAFT: I guess not. I mean, Unbelievable. What if I would have finished like fourth and moved back in the 125? I've got a feeling they might give me my money back, otherwise I would have threatened to play.

Q. What's the name of your coach?

KELLY KRAFT: Corey Lundberg.

