

PRE-TOURNAMENT INTERVIEW: ROBBY SHELTON
Tuesday, July 14, 2015



MODERATOR: We would like to welcome Robby Shelton from the University of Alabama. You're making your second start in a PGA TOUR event. You also played in the U.S. Open last year. Kind of talk about your thoughts coming into this week and what a good opportunity this is right here down the road from where you grew up.

ROBBY SHELTON: Yeah, it's a great opportunity. I mean, anytime you can get into a PGA TOUR event, it's huge. Trying to gain more and more experience. And I played this course a bunch as a junior and as an amateur. I almost went to Auburn, so I knew this course. It's not too hard. I mean, it's a quadrant golf course on the greens, the flagsticks are in bowls and I'm pretty used to that. My home course is an RTJ course, so I'm really looking forward to it.

MODERATOR: So you play out of the RTJ course in Mobile?

ROBBY SHELTON: I do.

MODERATOR: How many times do you think you've played this course?

ROBBY SHELTON: I would say around 20 times.

Q. So you said you've played this course a couple times. What is your personal favorite hole or which hole are you looking most forward to playing?

ROBBY SHELTON: Well, they switched the nines, so it's a little different. I would say No. 6, the par 3. It's a really hard hole but it just sets up to my eye, I really like it.

Q. Your success on this course (inaudible).

ROBBY SHELTON: Well, actually 2012, the state championship, it was on the Links course and I actually won but (inaudible).

Q. You have some experience playing here. How do you manage especially the first couple rounds before everybody else starts figuring it out?

ROBBY SHELTON: Yeah, it definitely helps to know the course, for sure. I mean, a lot of guys will get to know it and they'll figure out the greens, but the greens are tricky, they're hilly and you have to be used to that, for sure. The fairways are narrow, so you have to hit the fairways. But it's anybody's taking, but it definitely works for me.

Q. Also, Justin Thomas turned it up on the PGA TOUR this year. What have you learned from watching him and what maybe has he shared with you as you look to to grow in your future in golf?

ROBBY SHELTON: He's always been a role model for me, for sure. After he turned pro his sophomore year, (inaudible) and he's too good not to be on the Tour. So he's going to get a win soon and I'm just looking forward to seeing him atop the leaderboard.

Q. Do you have any relationship with any of the Auburn players in the field and have you had any back-and-forth with them about playing?

ROBBY SHELTON: I know the Auburn guy that got the exemption, Ben Schlottman, so I know of him. I played with him a few times and that's all I know.

MODERATOR: Thanks for your time and best of luck this week.

ROBBY SHELTON: Thank you.