# ROUND 3 INTERVIEW June 26, 2021



## JERRY KELLY (-3)

## Q. Well, you're right back in the thick of things. I mean, how does that feel?

**JERRY KELLY:** It feels great. You know, I feel like the swing's getting better and better each day. I still feel good putting and short game. I mean, just got to go out and play. These conditions are tough. It's going to be even tougher tomorrow. Yeah, it's just going to be a dogfight, but I like where I stand now more than three hours ago.

## Q. The conditions, is it the wind, is that the biggest issue?

**JERRY KELLY:** No, this is a great golf course and it's difficult to get the ball in the fairways off the tee when the wind's blowing. When you don't hit the fairways, it's tough to hit the greens much less to get it even close to the pins, and if you're not close to the pins, they're tough two-putts.

There's no gimme holes. You can't take anything off because even the short ones, you have to be in the fairway because otherwise you're like, what do I do, where do I land it? I'd say some of the greens are firm, some of them are soft, so we kind of didn't know what we were getting. I had some 5-irons stop and some wedges bounce forward 20 feet.

You've got to protect, and when you're playing protect golf, it's a lot tougher. It's all because the course is so good.

## Q. I assume you were watching the leaderboard and saw what Steve --

**JERRY KELLY:** Yeah.

#### Q. -- how he was falling.

**JERRY KELLY:** Yeah. I mean, it's tough out there. I know it took him a while to make that first bogey, but that's -- until you've made that first bogey, you feel like you're pretty invincible. Then, you know, I understand it. Did I go 36 holes without a bogey last year?

#### Q. I think so.

**JERRY KELLY:** I think so. Then it was, oh, yeah, floodgates, but you right the ship, and I'm sure he will. He let a lot of guys in right now, but 72-hole tournament, so just got to go play.

#### Q. Jerry, do you guys, you and Strick, kind of fuel each other in a way?

**JERRY KELLY:** No question. It's such a healthy competition between us. Love each other, but we're trying to beat each other's brains in just like you would to your brother. It's fun, when you end up on top (laughs,) but he's beaten me a whole lot more than I've beat him. You know, but we enjoy the competition and we're happy for the other guy when it happens. Yeah, he's way up on me.

## Q. Is there a difference in your mind when you're chasing him versus anyone else?

**JERRY KELLY:** No, no, I wouldn't say that other than he's tougher to chase because he's such a good putter.

# Q. What's it like playing catch-up on a golf course like this versus one that yields more birdies?

**JERRY KELLY:** Much easier, much easier because you can have a bogey-birdie situation very easily out here multiple times. When it's an easy golf course and everybody's making birdies, you shoot 7, 8, 9 under, the guy can still shoot 5 under and be okay. Out here it's tough to shoot even par. You shoot 5 under, you're making up a lot of ground.

## Q. Do you feel it's less pressure being where you stand than, you know --

**JERRY KELLY:** Oh, no question, yeah. I mean, I enjoy the chase. I'd rather be in the lead and stretch it, that's everybody's ideal, but I don't mind the chase.