

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES
APRIL 25, 2025



JERRY KELLY (-10)

Q. Jerry Kelly, opening with 10-under 62, the course record here at TPC Sugarloaf. Tell us about your round.

JERRY KELLY: It just kind of kept going. I birdied three out of the first four or five, then I hit a little bit of a lull. Starting on the back side, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15 -- 14 -- five in a row there. Then happened to miss one and then made the par 3, then woefully short on 17, but got the one on 18.

It was just very consistent. I played away from some sucker pins, which I haven't in the past here and I've gone down some of those slopes, left myself with some tough up-and-downs. I didn't come in here swinging great, but I know I'm still starting out this year, you know? I've had some injury time off and I feel like I haven't played a whole lot. So I'm excited to get some tournaments under my belt and get going. This is the best start I've had. It's just nice to have a good start, it just happens to be my best start.

Q. You had a nice finish at James Hardie, right?

JERRY KELLY: Yeah, that was probably a better round than this one was. That was a really tough round. You know, being able to shoot 10 under around here, still a long course for me, rain's made it longer. Yeah, it's always been a solid test for me so I was happy to get to it a little bit.

I'm not starting out tomorrow expecting anything. I'm just continuing on. That's what it felt like today. I didn't get nervous that I was starting to move because I just had to really stay with my shots because I wasn't exactly positive they were going to come out, so I just shaded them to the right sides and it freed me up.

Q. I was going to ask, what does it feel like? You're in that zone and the birdies just keep coming.

JERRY KELLY: Yeah, the funny thing is, I putted great in Hawaii and then they broke my putter coming back from Hawaii. So I didn't really get to play another tournament until Boca, and then that one was the new putter and I putted pretty good. I got home last week and the head was twisting on it. So I brought one back that I've won some tournaments with a long time ago and it really liked being back in the lineup. Some tips from my wife before the final round in Boca at the James Hardie and that's what propelled me to that 7 under on that one and that's pretty much what did it here was good putting.

Q. When you're putting like that, is it just a feeling, are you seeing the line? How do



you explain it?

JERRY KELLY: I always see the line. I mean, I hit it close a lot, so there were definitely some tap-ins and things like that. That makes it easy. But I felt like I was hitting my lines. I read the putts very well and my caddie reads them with me very well, very instinctive putters. Definitely not -- I don't know how to do any of that AimPoint, we're just very instinctive and we're pretty much always right on with each other. We always do a good job of reading, just a matter of if I'm doing my job of hitting my lines and I was today.

Q. So you mentioned you're going into tomorrow not expecting anything, but is there any strategy or superstition to try to carry the momentum into the weekend?

JERRY KELLY: No, no. I mean, we all know the next day is another day. I think the problem most of the time, you kind of expect. If you're shooting 10 under, you're probably hitting it well, you're probably putting well, you expect to do things well. Expectations are not very fun to have, so I'm going out there with zero. I've got a few things that I need to work on all across the board. I'm just looking forward to getting in the hunt, getting into the feelings of being in or near the lead on the weekend and use those feelings. I miss 'em.

Q. How do these Bermuda greens compare to what you grew up playing up north?

JERRY KELLY: I mean, from early high school on I was in Jupiter Hills in Florida in the winter, so I wouldn't be playing professional golf if it wasn't for Jupiter Hills. That place prepared me well for every course that I can play on the PGA TOUR. Between that and my home course, Maple Bluff Country Club where you have to hit it down a hallway every single hole, yeah, I think it taught me well for out here, anything we play on.

