

JERRY KELLY

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**Q. Now joined by the defending champion of the Mitsubishi Electric Classic, Jerry Kelly. Just to start, how great is it to be back here at TPC Sugarloaf?**

**JERRY KELLY:** I know Georgia doesn't like being in a drought, but boy, we sure love looking at this place being firm and fast. It's beautiful out here right now.

**Q. Format switched this year to a modified Stableford. Can you just speak your thoughts on that and the volatility of scoring and everything?**

**JERRY KELLY:** Yeah, you've got to be aggressive during Stableford. Every birdie is more than every bogey, and every eagle is more than every double bogey. You stay away from doubles, you make as many birdies and eagles, and if you happen to pop in an albatross, fantastic.

I'm going to be pushing it up on the par 5s. I'm going to be going for the water more times than I normally would because you've got to try and make those 3s on the par 5s. That's your biggest advantage right there.

**Q. This is the first time we're going to see you out in about a month, since the first round of Cologuard. Can you give us an update health-wise how you're feeling?**

**JERRY KELLY:** Yeah, it's just a little fracture on T8, just vertebrae. You know, it's a pretty good bone bruise from it and you know, it's time. Took those three weeks off, pretty solid, got a few things done, some therapy wise. I came out here to see if I could swing and I was pleasantly surprised. I lasted the 18 holes without any sharpness or spasms, so I think I've turned that corner.

And I'm not 100 percent by any means, but I would be at this point the same way next week and I would love to come and defend. I love staying in Duluth and eating the food, and it will just get me ready for my first major of the year.

**Q. Just one from me. For those of us who cover this tournament every year, you mentioned coming here and eating the food, but what do you like about being here this week? Specifically this course, what do you like about playing the course?**

**JERRY KELLY:** I love it when it's firm and fast. You play it on the ground an awful lot instead of in the air like when it gets sloppy and wet. That's my kind of game, I like European style linksy golf and things like that. I just like a firm and fast golf course. I think it's fantastic. And downtown Duluth, I park myself at Noona pretty much every single night, but I'll venture



out to a couple other spots, Frankie's and whatnot. I enjoy my time here every time.

**Q. You have a milestone this week, your 200th start on the Champions Tour. Can you just speak to that accomplishment?**

**JERRY KELLY:** Yeah, I won my 200th start on the PGA TOUR, so I would kind of like to match that up, that would be really cool. I'm glad I've won before my 200th start on this Tour.

But no, I love getting to that point, I love those playing milestones. That means you've had a consistent career. To be able to play that many times on any Tour I think is fantastic, so I'm proud of it.

**Q. Thirteen wins in 199 starts, just speak to that accomplishment.**

**JERRY KELLY:** It should have been like -- no, I'm just kidding. No, I'm very happy, I'm definitely blessed. No, I wouldn't start over again. I've enjoyed every single second I've been out here.

