

**JERRY KELLY**

---

**Q. How's your elbow, your health?**

**JERRY KELLY:** I kind of describe it right now as it's not getting worse, and I'm really happy about that. I played 18 holes, and by the 18th hole I could still grab my club. I haven't been able to hold onto the club for a while, so I consider it feeling better.

**Q. And when did you have the procedure again?**

**JERRY KELLY:** Two weeks ago Monday. Dr. De Luigi at the Mayo Clinic. Exact Science's Kevin Conroy helped me out. I mean, I called from Monterey and said I can't even hang onto the golf club, and by Monday morning 8 a.m. they had me in there getting it done. Just another thing Kevin does for me, so it's pretty awesome.

**Q. Had you been able to practice at all coming into this tournament?**

**JERRY KELLY:** No.

**Q. So when you played the pro-am yesterday, was that your first --**

**JERRY KELLY:** I played nine holes the day before.

**Q. Here?**

**JERRY KELLY:** Yeah, yeah. But no, I wouldn't -- normally I'd hit balls and work out in my basement off the mat and I thought the mat was probably a pretty bad idea for me. So I waited until I got to grass, it gives way a little bit more.

You know, the first day was kind of discouraging because of the pain, but as I've gone through this, the pain hasn't gotten any worse and my strength has probably gotten stronger. Game speed brings a whole new level, but yeah, you know, I'm ready.

**Q. Do you think you can contend?**

**JERRY KELLY:** I know I can contend.

**Q. You know you can?**

**JERRY KELLY:** Absolutely.

**Q. So last time I talked to you, you had said it was sort of the worst-kept secret in golf that Steve was going to be named the Ryder Cup captain, and it did happen. How do you think he's going to do in that role?**

**JERRY KELLY:** I think he's going to do great. The way I've described it is the way he's held himself throughout his career. His accomplishments that he's had, you know, as great as they are, I think the respect that the older and the younger players have for this man is what's going to bind them together more than anything. You know, it's not that fear respect. You know, they just respect him as a man and a player, and I think that makes a huge difference and I think he's really going to be able to get all those guys coming together.

He is extremely, extremely strong minded in competition. You know, you see him as a great guy, always doing all the requests, doing everything you ask of him, but once you get inside the ropes, he is a killer. He can hang with Tiger's mentality in a heartbeat, and Tiger knows that and that's why Tiger's become friends with him, because there's really no weakness there. He's very strong.

**Q. From a temperament standpoint, do you think he's kind of ideally suited for that role?**

**JERRY KELLY:** He is absolutely ideally suited because the young guys will see the burn. The old guys have known the burn is there, the young guys will see the burn and go, oh, jeez, I can actually act like this while I'm burning up inside. And that's what Steve has done. I haven't done that.

**Q. You're kind of the opposite, right?**

**JERRY KELLY:** I'm kind of the opposite.

**Q. You show it on your --**

**JERRY KELLY:** I've got to let it be out there, otherwise, you know, it will blow up somewhere inside.

**Q. How would you describe the evolution of your friendship with him?**

**JERRY KELLY:** You know, we didn't really know each other for a while, and I'm talking like 12 years old at the time and through high school and even through college. We never really met in college that much, but we always played junior events.

Then he got out there earlier, got me fighting to try and catch up to him. He wins early in Canada and then Western, and I'm always trying to catch up to him, things like that. I look up to what he's done. At the beginning it's kind of like Steve putting up with Jerry's personality, you know, that type of thing. Then all of a sudden he kind of started to like some of that because he knew the competitive spirit was actually keeping me out there.

Then we just, we started a good friendship where our kids were born at the same time, then really enjoyed playing team events together. I mean, we're definitely kind of the ying and yang, but I started learning about that competitive burn that he has. We're a little more alike, but we show it a lot differently.

**Q. Your kids used to hang out together?**

**JERRY KELLY:** Oh, yeah. Did everything together, yeah.

**Q. That's kind of a neat thing. Would you say that -- you know how they say a certain team travels well. Would you say that the state of Wisconsin travels as well as any state?**

**JERRY KELLY:** It's unbelievable. I mean, I'm playing with guys from Florida, some guys from Kentucky, and I don't hear, "Hey, go Kentucky." But that's all I hear all day long out on any golf course, doesn't matter where we are, even out of the country. There's Badgers, there's Packers, there's Wisconsinites that are just yelling constantly, and I love it. They supported me and us so long, it's nice to be able to give back.

**Q. So given that level of enthusiasm, what do you think the atmosphere is going to be like when the Ryder Cup comes to Whistling Straits?**

**JERRY KELLY:** The Ryder Cup is going to be extremely energetic, but it's going to probably feel strange to you guys who have been to Ryder Cups because I think it's going to be extremely congenial. I mean, I just -- I think the Wisconsin fans are, hopefully a lot of the Wisconsin fans actually get the tickets to be able to go because that really showcases, you know, we are a die-hard, grind-hard, wear it on our sleeve, blue collar, awesome state, but not at the expense of another human being. That's what I love about it. We're just, hey, we're playing against you, but we're also playing with you kind of.

It's what I really like about some of the young players out there today. The media has said, "Oh, they're too friendly." That's not possible. Some of the biggest matches I've ever had and fights I've ever had were with my best friends in hockey and, you know, just a young kid, wrestling matches. Came close to death a few times and then, "Oh, that was a good one, you got me good on that one."

**Q. Just go back to the Cologuard Classic, being the tournament host, do you feel pressure to maybe contend this week?**

**JERRY KELLY:** Yeah, yeah, and I love that. Just give me a little added, you know, whatever to spur me on from the first round on. I've gotten used to kind of the duties now, so once I got inside the ropes last year, I was kind of like, "Whew." I didn't have really have it for the first round.

No, I love what this tournament has turned into, but I think we started something really special. This is going to be one of those next-level tournaments and I'm looking forward to contending.

**Q. How hard is it to manage the multitasking that is involved in something like this?**

**JERRY KELLY:** It's difficult, but it's something that you want to take on. You want to be able to do some things for your fellow pros, you want to do some things for the company that is supporting you, and then you've got to just be able to do your job amongst all that.

We get pulled a lot of different ways on the Champions. We like doing a lot more media things, we do a lot more little vignettes and things like that. We say yes a lot out here. The PGA TOUR has the ability to say no a lot of times because they're in the heart of that, but we're trying to give back for what we've had. It's something that we like to do.

**Q. When was the surgery, two weeks ago?**

**JERRY KELLY:** Two weeks ago Monday, so two and a half weeks.

**Q. And how do you think that this partnership that you have with Cologuard has sort of changed you and changed your viewpoint?**

**JERRY KELLY:** The passion of Kevin Conroy, the CEO of Exact Sciences, about this disease, about the preventable nature of it and, you know, how many people blow off early screening is infectious with me. It really bothers me that people see survivors, but also people, you know, who we've lost along the way and not look at that and go, "Why don't I just do this? Why do I sign a piece of paper but not actually do it?" It's kind of crazy, it's kind of like rolling the dice. It's the leading cancer killer if you add men and women together, leading cancer killer. Most preventable.

**Q. Have you doubled back with guys who --**

**JERRY KELLY:** I ask them all the time, I ask them all the time. And a lot of them have, which I love, you know? Some of their doctors are prescribing (inaudible). I'm not selling Cologuard, I'm selling early screening, early detection to stay alive. That's what I'm selling. Cologuard just seems to be really easy to do.

**Q. Sure. I know it's not a match play situation, it's a field of 78, you're just sort of worried about yourself, but how does it change things, if at all, the fact that Bernhard had to withdraw?**

**JERRY KELLY:** Yeah, I haven't visited that. I forgot. I hope he's all right. Did I hear a rib or something like that?

**Q. Something abdominal, something like that.**

**JERRY KELLY:** Yeah, we're at that point, you know, where we take it outside of our box and things start breaking down. You know, I know he probably hasn't had too many things go on. I'm guessing not. I know he's been hurting, aches and pains, but I hope it's not a debilitating type thing because he's had an incredible run. You don't want to see it taken off kind of from something silly like that.

Yeah, there's no way he's pulling out unless he's hurt. I know Bernhard and I respect him probably more than anybody out here. Well, I do respect him more than anybody out here. Hale's not here.