



ROBERT ALLENBY AND STUART APPLEBY

Q. Can you talk about playing practice rounds out here at Pebble Beach?

ROBERT ALLENBY: “I think it’s awesome. It’s been three years since you’ve ...”

STUART APPLEBY: “Two and a half years since I’ve played golf.”

ALLENBY: “So it’s kind of nice to have Stuy out here again. It’s like sort of picking the old team back up again and having a bit of fun, a bit of bantering as you can see. It never ends. It’s good. I know everyone out here on this tour is excited and obviously, super happy to have Apples out this week at the PURE. With Pebble and Spyglass, it’s going to be a great event.”

APPLEBY: “It’s a pretty part of the world. I guess getting to come back to two courses I’ve played a lot is sort of helpful, not quite the usual format, but when you’re out here in this weather, you can’t complain. PURE is obviously doing a great job with the sponsorship of this tournament. We are very lucky to be able to do this if you get a chance. If you’re a veteran golfer, athlete, whatever - there’s not much left for you once you fall out of the top leagues. Hopefully, we can bring something to the Tour. I’m just trying to do a dry run this week and see how it all feels. Body’s feeling better, it’s like riding a bike. A bit of a test run. I can’t think of a better place for that.”

Q. WHAT ADVICE DID ALLENBY GIVE YOU ABOUT BEING OUT HERE?

APPLEBY: “He just sort of said, look, it’s competitive, it’s very competitive, but at the same time it has a big layer of casualness about it and I guess less edge-like the TOUR is really what he said. Less cutthroat.”

ALLENBY: “Everyone’s very friendly out here. Everyone talks to everyone. It’s very competitive, there’s no question about it. The guys ... My phrase all the time each week I play out here is these guys are still good. I think that’s a great phrase because they are still so good.”

APPLEBY: “Look at the money list, a whole bunch of Hall of Famers.”

ALLENBY: “They are very competitive, but in this other sense of it, it’s a more relaxed frame and feel.”

APPLEBY: “With 50 plus versus 25 plus. There’s different life goals. You’re just a different person at that time.”

ALLENBY: “We’ve had our careers. Our careers have been great. In any career you could say many I could have done better here or better there, but it’s done. It is what it is. We are where we are. For Apples and myself, we’re very fortunate that we’ve had a great career on the PGA TOUR and we’re very fortunate that we can come out here and still compete and play at a profession that we’ve loved for 30 something years and now we have the opportunity to come out here and play against (Bernhard) Langer and (Ernie) Els and (Steve) Stricker and Vijay (Singh), (Phil) Mickelson.”

APPLEBY: “All the guys we looked up to, a guy like Vijay and Langer, those two guys and they’re out here. And, you’re Jerry Kelly’s, who are slightly older than me. Those are guys that I went through the old Nike, Korn Ferry Tour with. It’s sort of a long-distance reunion for me being the first week I’m out. This is only Week 1. Hopefully, there are many more. That is the strange part. You get to look at all these people who played some role, some connection in your career.”

Q. Would you have seen yourself here 30 years ago?

APPLEBY: “I know my answer. No, I would never play the Champions Tour. I said that. I said that in my 20s, early 30s. I said, ‘What would you do that for?’ Well, I was young and dumb, obviously, because here I am and there’s documented evidence that here I am.”

ALLENBY: “Most people didn’t think I would make it to 50. Me, probably being one of them as well, my ex-wife actually did send me a text on my 50th and said I never thought you’d make 50, but thank God you did for the kids.”

APPLEBY: “I think as everyone notices, if you’re in that 50 years of age and older, you probably have had a fair call and said, man, time has sped up especially if you’ve got family. Time’s flown by for me to my first year wondering whether I could play on the PGA TOUR to now wondering if I can play on the Champions Tour. That’s nearly a 25-year span. I’ve been so fortunate, Robert and I to have found a place here to make our home and I couldn’t think of a greater place in the country to play and train.”

ALLENBY: “We are very fortunate being foreigners to this country and being able to have kids here and have a family here. We are very lucky to live in a great country.”