



Steven Alker

Pre-Tournament Interview Transcript

August 14, 2025

Question: Ready? Are we prepped? Is he feeling good?

Stephen Ames Answer:

No, I'm not ready for the cold weather. Yeah. No. It's nice to be back. Yeah, playing well, playing nicely. Golf course is in great shape again. Obviously, with all the rain that they've been having here, the rough is nice and thick, for the time that I did see today. I think overall it's very green here.

Question: Of course, the question is, for Canadians who are coming here and watching, they want to know, is a Canadian going to win this thing? I mean, that's always the first thing out of people's minds.

Stephen Ames Answer:

Well, there's only two of us against the rest of the field of 76. So, yeah, I think our odds are a little less. But, yes, we're both trying very hard, obviously. I've had more success here than Mike because I've been out here longer than Mike. So I think overall, hopefully one of us will do it, yes, eventually.

Question: Can you draw from those experiences when you were close here?

Stephen Ames Answer:

Yes and no. 'Cause it was a different time. Things are different. Golf course is different. Everything's different. But you reminisce and you remember the times and the shots that you hit that were good ones. It does help, yes, definitely.

Question: What's it like having Junior in the bag?

Stephen Ames Answer:

Always fun. This is an annual thing that we have done for the last 11 years, I believe. And he's been on a few other occasions he's been on the bag with me as well. So, no, it's ... he's your son. You hope that you have a good relationship with your son, and you move on from there. But we have a very good relationship. And we don't see each other as much as I'd like to, obviously because of where I live and where he is, here in Calgary. So we try to do this as often as we can.

Question: Is he an avid golfer?

Stephen Ames Answer:

He's actually teaching right now; but, yes, he is an avid golfer.

Question: So he's a teacher. So is he able to teach the old dogs some new tricks?

Stephen Ames Answer:

No. He just he knows what to look for on what he sees and what I'm looking to work on. And he sees those things that we're trying to work and change. So, yes, overall, I guess it's a nice pair of eyes to have on my back, yes.

Question: Speaking of years, I believe this is your 10-year meetiversary?

Stephen Ames Answer:

Oh, you don't have to bring that up just because Kelly told you. Oh, my word. Please, stop. Yes.

Question: Just fond memories coming

Stephen Ames Answer:

It is fond memories. Yeah, this is actually where I met my current wife right now, was actually this week. And it was 10 years ago, on the 17th hole. Oh, my gosh.

Question: Amateurs who were spending some time with you – they look up to you. They stare at every move that you make, kind sir. Is it a little intimidating? How do you feel about when that is happening?

Stephen Ames Answer:

If I'm watching them watch me, then I'm not doing a very good job focusing on my job. So I'm not feeling them looking at me. I'm giving advice. They're looking at my shots, obviously. And... Yeah. No, there's no intimidation whatsoever. We're out here playing golf. They have a day job, and this is my day job. So they look at me doing my day job and doing it well. And then I'm looking at them doing their day job and complaining. I'm only kidding. (Laughing) So I think overall, I think everybody has their own issues, and they've done a good job, and they enjoy playing golf, which is the important part.

Question: The Rogers Charity Classic is something that we all know and love. And over the last 10 years plus we've seen so many charities benefit from this incredible event.

Stephen Ames Answer:

Yes.

Question: Speak on that, if you don't mind.

Stephen Ames Answer:

A lot. I mean, that was the funny thing is that - may he rest in peace - Clay was talking about this when we first started doing it. He was looking at 10 million a year. Look at the numbers that we're shooting at right now, which is 25-plus. So I think overall I think Clay is very happy with the fact that they have doubled what his goal was set at. And, like you said, the charitable donations that are going out to all these charities, obviously we all need help in some respect, and we are doing a great job there. I think it's probably the most profitable charitable donation in the country, Canada, overall. So kudos to what we've put together here, yes. Yeah.

Question: In a lot of ways, this is still your baby.

Stephen Ames Answer:

Yeah.

Question: What would it mean to win this?

Stephen Ames Answer:

Oh, obviously a lot. Yeah. It would be nice. I might retire after that. I'm only kidding. It would be nice something to not to put the little notch on my belt, that kind of thing, for sure, to have this or the Canadian Open, obviously, was another one that we tried to do. But, yeah, this would be awesome if it will happen.

Question: A little out-of-the-box question here, but talked a little bit earlier with a few about fitness for you guys. A lot of guys wonder what the fitness regimen for the older set, the older golfers out there. I mean, especially as every year passes, does it change? Is it the same?

Stephen Ames Answer:

No, it's pretty much the same things. There's always an assessment that I do with my trainer to see what's moving, what's not moving properly. And then we do that, we check on that. And then there's always certain issues that pop up. Of late there hasn't been any for me. I've been very regimented in the gym, doing my three to four days a week working out. And it's not just stretching; it's lifting weights and doing everything. I do enjoy it, I have to admit. It's almost like it's, I miss a day, I need a fix. I need to go get it done. So in that respect, it helps me, it helped me overall. And I do enjoy doing it. It's another step of being in control and taking charge of who you are as a person. And that part's helped me, and it's probably gone into my game as well.

Question: Is there a gym rat out there on this Tour that maybe people don't know about?

Stephen Ames Answer:

There are a few of us gym rats, yes, without a doubt. Some guys are really bad when it comes to gym rats. I mean, we all knew Tiger was that one kind of person. I think he still is a little bit, even though he's got one and a half legs. But I think overall I think he has to. To be able to continue playing golf, he needs to be very fit.

Question: Feed us a few names, or not?

Stephen Ames Answer:

I don't know them, actually. To be honest with you, I do my stuff off course.

Question: Okay. Sure.

Stephen Ames Answer:

I don't do it here on Tour at all. So the guys who are in the gym, I think it's a bit obvious. I think the guys who are playing well and look in shape and not taking a cart every week are probably the ones that are in the gym doing the work. I think that's an easy assessment there.

Question: Alker mentioned Weir, like, Weir is pretty in shape.

Stephen Ames Answer:

Mikey's always been in shape, his whole career. He loves his downhill skiing. I don't know. I'm sure that's a lot of work doing that, you know. So Mike's always been in that kind of shape-wise, and he's not allowed himself go on – obviously he still looks good.
