**PGA TOUR Champions Learning Center Show 14**

VO> July twenty in Northeast Ohio is a wonderful time. The region comes alive and one of the major attractions is the Bridgestone senior Players Championship at iconic Firestone Country Club.

OC> Hello and welcome to learning center I'm Vince Giulini. Classic course classic players and another installment of a major the fourth of five on the PGA tour champions schedule. It did not disappoint, it never does. With more the man who call the action, George Separatists and a hall of Famer Lenny Watkins

VO> thank you events it was a fun watch the back nine of the final round at the Bridgestone Senior Players finishing flurry from Jerry Kelly, Lanny. It all started on the thirteenth trouble off the tee. This was his second at the par four.

VO> Yeah hybrid nothing happening all day for Jerry Kelly and one magic swing changes everything. Hits right into the upslope perfect. Bounces up on hardest holes on this golf course to tap in range for a birdie.

VO> Was over par on his round to that point. Then birdies the thirteenth and this for birdie on sixteen.

VO> Hit a pretty good shot in here spun back up the slope just off the edge. He cans the putt just a great birdie four there. Two quality shots in here to 17 and this looked here for back to back birdies. Kelly 3 birdies in a 5 hole stretch and a 2 shot lead walking up to the 18th.

VO> Steve Stricker narrowly missed a birdie to get in at 10 under par, so Jerry Kelly from this distance. Had 2 putts for the win, but able to get it done with the par putt. Final found sixy eight two shot victory. For the second time in three years Jerry Kelly has won The Bridgestone Senior Players. Now has ten wins in his career on the PGA tour champions. His buddy Steve Stricker finishes in solo second. Schwab Cup leader Steven Alker tied for third with Ernie Els. Now let's send it back to Vince.

VO> Thank you, gentlemen. Jerry Kelly has done a steady climb on PGA TOUR Champions from rookie of the year two thousand seventeen to now double digit victories on this tour. Sometimes frenetic Kelly was a steady hand when it counted and once again adds the Bridgestone senior Players Championship trophy to his collection. Here's the winner now whose bogey free thirty two over the final nine back on Sunday locked up this major.

OC> To get a second major out here that really kinda makes me feel a whole lot better. One you always want that second one. This was pretty exciting.

OC> You had to have a lot of patience today earlier the lid was on the hole you couldn't get putt to buy to go in and your wife has a special advice for you that paid off. What was that?

OC> She did and I I mean right when we left in the car she just said it doesn't matter what happens just go out there just to have a positive attitude and it's going to come to you and I kept on saying okay I’m gonna smile when I missed this one and it's going to come to me and they ended up coming at the end.

VO> Jerry Kelly becomes the third multiple winner on the PGA Tour Champions and moves up three spots in the Charles Schwab Cup standings just behind his friend Steve Stricker and leader Steven Alker. What an impressive list of names of his top ten and still potential for a standing shake up as we move through the month of July.

VO> When learning center returns we will look ahead to the final major championship on the PGA tour champions schedule it's the senior open at Gleneagles.

VO> The next major is the senior open presented by Rolex and slated for July twenty first through twenty fourth at Gleneagles Hotel Kings Course in Scotland for the very first time. The thirty fifth edition and Europe's only senior major championship is the same site which the two thousand fourteen Ryder Cup was staged Europe's third consecutive win. It is also hosted twenty six European tour events and the Solheim Cup and more history is on tap later this month. We can only hope for more of the type of drama we saw last year the senior open. Stephen Dodd then a fifty five year old Welshman captured his first major title with a birdie at the last in Sunday's final round. Dodd was magnificent the day before the Saturday tournament record tying eight under sixty two. His previous best finish in this event a tie for fourteenth. Jerry Kelly had a front row seats in the final group with Dodd and Miguel Angel Jimenez who finish second.

VO> Dodd makes some great putts. I made some great par saves I don't think he has the way he wanted to do on Sunday, but he got the job done. If you just don't put yourself in a really bad position if you just keep the golf course out in front of you. You know try to hit fairways trying to hit greens rather than shape it into this fair way and then shape it into this pin. If it's kind of just get in the fairway get on the Grange let the plastic do the work. If you're hot you're gonna shoot low.

VO> I know him quite well because we’ve been for a long time on the tour the European Tour. Its nice it’s a good victory for him. He’s a good player. Cardiff is where he grew up.

VO> When we come back we shift the focus to the open at St Andrews and three former open champion John Daly Darren Clarke and Mark Calcavecchia each sharing their favorite memories of the old course.

OC> The claret jug like heavyweight boxing championship belt and hockey Stanley Cup and iconic trophy one at the birthplace of the game. Yes the open championship is unique and recently past winners Darren Clark, Mark Calcavecchia and John Daly sat down to discuss their wins and traditions at the open, open weather and the site of this year's event St Andrews where daly and the jug became one

OC> To win the open, as we all know is unbelievably special, but to win it at ST. Andrew’s is that little bit more special I would imagine. You tell us.

OC> I'll you know you grew up playing golf you did. You hear that golfer started at St Andrews and it's like the footprints of walked on the property is stuff of me. That's just it's unbelievable to win at St Andrews on though Nicolas said if you went to St Andrews your careers complete which I don’t know how many British Opens he won.

OC> But the great thing about that was as you kept your composure you know when Constatina Rocca made after chonking his chip fudged the first one and make that one. You’ve got to think you have the thing won and your like oh my god I’ve got to play four more holes talking to leadership vote is the first one yeah. Think about that when you got to think you've got the thing won.

OC> You think that was special. Did you see the par he made on seventeen. Nobody talks about it. Was over the green he putts going like this and he gets it like that and makes par. A lot of guys made sevens and tens from there but I mean,

OC> I mean if you sevens are before.

OC> I have too

OC> We are, but we are not much not much just been unbelievable feeling to win at the home of golf.

OC> It is I mean it stand out for you guys and you don't want to it's best so any any open championship you win, but there isn't there's an added thing there at St. Andrew’s. They're saying that is because it's I think it's just like I said the home of golf and it's where all there R&A. where the great clubs that we signed and all the old old guys yes. Like their museums there now yeah this is just a very special place and I love going back there.

OC> This one of a Troon coming.

OC> Yeah Troonn an eighty nine when I got there first time I've ever seen it a practice round on Monday. I find out Mark O’Meara and I are playing Curtis strange and Arnold Palmer. So how's that for the start.

OC> Gotta bring some game with you.

OC> At first, I think I'm locked in about a thirty footer on eighteen that hole like me so take about fifty quid off. I made him sign it

OC> Beautiful beautiful beautiful.

OC> I still think I have it. He was pissed too. God damn you Calc. You would have thought it would have been during the tournament, but it was a perfect week of weather. Just knew I loved every hole on the course. You know great things happen when you win the tournament, I might have gotten lucky on twelve. I was playing with Ferdi, so if you listen to him tell the story. He’s still talking to himself muttering about flying that chip in the hole on twelve. Yeah and then after that it was good.

OC> So you know its unbelievable isn’t it. just said there we’ve all one tournaments and receiving a trophy it’s a great feeling. But when you're walk up there and they're about to say I'm the champion golfer of the year he's got something a little different to it does I mean is just different.

OC> I don't even remember what I said as I just just I am out of the top of my head you know yeah. Everyones standing there looking at you and you're looking at the jug and your like wow. You know it hasn’t hit me yet because I was in a playoff so were you.

OC> like while you know just is it

OC> yeah yeah yeah yeah you know because I was in a playoff for were true, but you had a couple of two three shots coming yeah.

OC> Yeah I know you're just trying to get it in.

OC> I just kept on thank you very much. Yes it may have been used you know for people out there that don't know what our replica claret jug is ninety percent of this size off of the regular claret jug.

OC> Yeah it's only about like that big. Yeah the claret jug that we gets really

OC> I mean yeah it is it's up there, but is it the four as a member me but the first one I got was about as small one small one yeah and it cost more than the one that’s ninety percent size because only a seventy five hundred pounds of mine that when I go to buy it.

OC> When I got it, we got the one that we're given the winners one and then we could buy for fifty percent ones. But the fifty percent ones are incredible because all inscribed with the same winner's name and everything. I mean there

OC> oculus out but yeah yeah they're they're awesome aren’t they.

OC> yeah when I rocked up to Ross and George is in two thousand eleven and you know go into the locker room to get my locker and on on the Monday and stuff. I get in there and you were in you were in there you were you were in there. Who else was in the old previous winners were in there. I thought well that's a bit strange while I am here because I didn't even realize didn't click with me at the time that I was in the champions area off the off of the locker room and them. As I find out later in the week as it transpired Peter Dawson said well who's the most he's the easiest person to put in that that's not going to know anybody. That's not going to get that last week but they have their because Greg Norman had withdrawn didn't play. So Peter Dawson the chairman of the RNA put me in the champions area locker room. Low and behold come Sunday there I am. So I got my space to join you well it's all right there. it's a great story but it's it's it's different you know as as as we all know you know playing links. That's what I played one growing up from different for you guys but right you know especially from over there you know the open is the biggest in the bass and all out. So you know you guys have your thoughts and young kids are sure what this is for the masters is the US open where for us as always. This is for the open this is for the this is this is what it is.

OC> Then in the year of the Americans go really either love it or they it there's no one to explain there is no in between I fell in love with.

OC> Yeah both of you both you guys are incredible shot makers both you guys like to move the ball and change up and all that sort of stuff. The guys that go over there and play I'm trying to play the same golf over here just doesn't work. Doesn't work because you've got to you got to understand that sometimes you may need to have a five hundred sixty yards. You tell some of these young kids that they’ll look at you as if you have three heads. One sixty is a hard lobber a lobber up in the air.

OC> They're gonna have one hell of a imagination.

OC> Yeah you got to use the ground and stuff an things are gonna go wrong. But that's that's part off of is you know it's going to stay open. So you could have you can have this weather for a day you could have it blowing blow forty I was in. I think you guys coming over. What do you pack? What do you put in your suitcase? How much stuff do you bring with you? You can have everything there.

OC> And one day you can have four seasons.

OC> You can have all of it going on

OC> I don't think people realize that because the tee times went from six like six oh five to six o’clock at night.

OC> Its ridiculous.

OC> Occur at twelve hours at the time. Yea where else do you have that. You don’t have that anywhere

OC> One of my first opens that I played. Might have been Royal Berkdale. I was off one of the late when I'm out of the five o'clock one of the last groups off and you're coming down the last few holes are getting right are just like nine thirty or something. You’re coming down the last the guys are out there and they're collecting the trash and they're really they're the only people that are watching the flag operate it's it's weird.

OC>the mowers are following you.

OC> It’s weird. It’s strange.

OC> People are walking their dogs along the edge of the course

yeah yeah corpus yeah sorry let's what do they know will play of they play of the physical play there's still but when they get out of Albion.

OC> On the other so the other thing about St.Andrew’s as well as that will back there obviously this year for the open. There's only two Sundays that St. Andrew’s is open for golf every other one the rest of the year is closed for the locals. They walk all over the golf course to do whatever they want. It's open for the Dunhill links which is the big turn of the European DP world tournament is open for that Sunday in the only other Sunday it’s open is for the open championship when it is there.

OC> I didn’t know that.

OC> I didn't either, I don't know that.

OC> Yeah that's the only other one and then the other thing that that we've got and you know other majors all that sort of stuff when they get the champions together every year and all that sort of stuff every time I go St. Andrew’s we'll have dinner that's what once every five years right up the champions dinner. They do things a little bit different.

OC> Last time we had the dinner they were so jealous of my meal.

OC> I don't we were all been primmed by the JD.

OC> What did you have a cheeseburger?

OC> I had a nice steak a big baked potato, a beautiful salad, but the dessert is what really pised him off. I had a big Ole bowl of Haagen Dazs ice cream. I don't look at me like I want to do that she ordered because I get a seafood allergic to this just about the only did they not only had about twenty to twenty shots of whiskey with you but I was pretty good

OC> So yeah but it's going to be any time we got to go in play St. Andrews is special, but the open championship is even more special.

OC> It's going to be my last one as your last actually I got very lucky at twenty twenty was supposed to be last one Royal St. Georges uhhuh and then of course everything got bumped back a year and that was last year I had my my back surgery yeah so I couldn't place I really want to go a long ladder and are fixed so that all you know my kids have never been there.

OC> That’s awesome.

OC> you know it would just well I was also a lot of you know but I can't think of a better way to end my open championship career than at St. Andrews.

OC> Incredible

OC> it would be that guy. One deal of the family on the bridge a lot of pictures taken go about like two people over by the flag and don there the dog yeah we got the dog

OC> Maybe you can answer they can honor an extra year?

OC> I don't know to the very good question

OC> and Wonder if their going to honor that exra year.

OC> yeah and they might do a second question.

OC> because I have a little John caddie for me this year.

OC> That’s awesome

OC> But this also might be my last one if I don't get that extra one.

OC> He's never been to St. Andrew’s before has he?

OC> Oh yeah he has been down hill.

OC> of course of course of course.

OC> Took some money off the boys different little bitty chipping green right by the green.

OC> No surprise there.

OC> But it will be special eight six seven he said a lot of very good practice rounds of the tournament. Sit on the practice green and win some money.

OC> Just brilliant brilliant yeah it's a special place.

VO> Thank you gentlemen well that'll do it for this week's edition of learning center. I'm Vince Giulini as always we thank you for one