Let’s Keep the Proper Perspective

by RG

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The April 2021 issue of *Golf Magazine* has the picture of golfer Dustin Johnson on its cover with the title of, “*Dustin Johnson – On Fire”*. This issue of course came out just prior to the Masters Tournament being held in Augusta, Georgia on April 8th through the 11th. Certainly, this was a hype attempt by *Golf Magazine* to peak everyone’s interest to watch the Masters but like the Masters really needs any help since those who have the slightest interest in golf will be watching no matter what Stacey Abrams and Joe Biden say and think about Georgia.

Reading the article, one finds out how personable and private a person Dustin Johnson is and according to Wayne Gretzky in the article, “Friends and family mean the world to Dustin and he’s an emotional guy.” One can see these characteristics about Dustin while watching him and how he carries himself during a round of golf. He shows how humble he is and how he feels that he is truly fortunate. However, I will call out the author of the article.

The first sentence of any article sets the tone of the story or message that is being related. The first sentence states, “*Yon can tell a lot about a man by what he names his yacht.*” Really? Maybe this was an anecdotal statement, but I am one that believes that one can tell a lot about any person by their actions and not the number and quality of “toys” they own and what they name them. Golf has always been referred to as a “Gentleman’s Game” which is truly exemplified by the likes of Arnold Palmer, Jack Nicklaus, Gary Player, and other senior golfers but as my Dad told me when I first got interested in playing, “*It is for the rich and you can’t afford to play it.*” Maybe so, but I do enjoy playing.

Blessings come in many forms to everyone. Dustin being a successful professional golfer has been very blessed and I am certain if you were to ask him, he would agree. I think that if *Golf Magazine* wants to show and remind everyone how “all” inclusive and not exclusive golf is, then comments or statements such as this by *Golf Magazine* tends to put an aura of “elitism” around the game. Sadly, for Dustin he did not make the cut at this year’s Masters, so he was not able to play on Saturday and Sunday. As the previous tournament champion for 2020, the 2021 cutline was (+3), Dustin’s two-day round total ended with a score that was at (+5), two over the cut. Confirming, he is only human.