

**LW:** How (dis)satisfied are you with the season 2014/2015 - your first year on the tour - so far?

**Steven Hallworth:** I have mixed emotions about my first season as a pro, I feel I've had some very hard first round draws which have made it difficult for me to get them important wins, yet at the same time, by drawing against the players I have, (Neil Robertson, Mark Williams, Shaun Murphy, Marco Fu, Michael White) it has given me a lot of experience and I have become a much better player from it. I've got close in a few of my games, and that encouraging as it gives me confidence knowing I can compete! I would have like to have won more games, of course, but I have set myself up nicely for the start of the next season, so hopefully I can get straight into it and do better.

**LW:** Please tell us a little bit about the match against Michael White.

**SH:** I went into my game against Michael White with not a lot of confidence. This was because when the draw came out and I saw I had drawn the highest ranked player, I didn't feel great, but I started the match very well to go 4-0 up and then after the interval, I didn't feel too great again. I lost 7 frames on the bounce to go 7-4 down and looking back that was the most crucial part of the game for me, I feel that lost me the match in the end. However at 7-4 I dug deep and found some of my own game and made a comeback, I made a great 78 break out of nowhere really to get back into the match and then it was closely fought until the end. Michael said it was a good game and I enjoyed it too, he was very relieved to win in the end which gives me confidence! I had no expectation going into the game, I just tried to give my all, and I think I did! Just being a little more protective of my lead would have helped massively and who knows I might have even won the match, so a little disappointed with the outcome in the end.

**LW:** What are your strengths?

**SH:** my strengths throughout my whole career so far have been my ability to see the shots straight away, I know what to do most of the time which helps me with my breakbuilding. My cue action helps me under pressure these days which is vital, and recently I have worked on my temperament and this is very much a strong point for me now, not a lot gets to me anymore!

**LW:** What are your weaknesses?

**SH:** my weaknesses I would say would be my safety play. because I'm such an attacking player and I like things open as I'm a great potter, sometimes my safety can let me down at important times in matches, so this is something I am working on.

**LW:** What do you like the most about your life as a snooker player?

**SH:** the thing I love most about being a snooker player is that I am playing the sport I love, every day of my life, and loving every minute of it. I get to compete against my idols week in week out who I grew up watching on the television, and this is very surreal for me, it's great! Travelling is a big part of being a professional snooker player these days, and I love that too! I love seeing new places and meeting new people, and I guess it's just all part of the package of being a world class player, and that's what I want to be!

**LW:** What do you dislike about it?

**SH:** there isn't a lot I dislike about being a pro snooker player, but the thing that I'm not a fan off, is losing!! Who likes to lose!? I don't think anyone does, so I'll try and cut that out as much as possible! But apart from that I love most of it really!

**LW:** When was your best performance as a snooker player?

**SH:** my best performance as a pro snooker player was in my welsh open match against Shaun Murphy. I lost 4-3 in the end but I put up a great fight to come back from 3-1 down and he didn't know what hit him. I had the first chance in the decider but just wasn't able to make a winning break from it and he cleared up like every top pro would! That was my stand out performance, so far, I took a lot away from that game!

**LW:** Who does support you the most (as a snooker player and/or as a person)?

**SH:** My family are my biggest supporters! They have always been keen on helping me out and

doing everything they can for me, I'm blessed to have such an amazing family. My mum and dad have funded my snooker as much as they can and work silly hours to continue to help me out, it would be great to get a sponsor to help as they might be able to put their feet up for a while, it would be well deserved! They have driven me around and helped me ever since a young age and I owe the world to them. I would be nothing without them.

**LW:** *Whose skills do you find most impressive?*

**SH:** for me, Ronnie O'Sullivan and Judd Trump have the most skill in the game, they are absolutely class acts! Both of them have been idols for me ever since a young age and the things they can do on a snooker table! It's stuff every snooker player dreams of doing!

**LW:** *Do you have a role model?*

**SH:** my role models would be my parents, again. They have brought me up in the best possible way, I have every attribute of theirs. They have worked for what they have and are very motivated people and it's rubbed off onto me! My mum and dad are for sure my biggest role models.

**LW:** *Do you know if there's something your fans would really appreciate you doing it for them?*

**SH:** I'm not aware of anything my fans would like me to do haha, I'd love to find out! I always sign autographs and speak as much as I can to fans as at the end of the day they pay to watch us guys so they deserve a little bit back from us as well as trying to play well on the table!

**LW:** *What would you do if you were not playing snooker?*

**SH:** if I wasn't playing snooker, I honestly don't know what I would do. I'm a very educated young man, I did well at school and got the grades I wanted, purely for a backup plan if snooker didn't work out, but I don't want to do anything else, I want to play snooker for the rest of my life and make a career out of it!

**LW:** *What is your biggest wish for the near future?*

**SH:** for the near future my biggest wish would be to do well as a pro, make a name for myself and prove how good I really am. yes it would be great to win title and become a world dominator, but I want to just focus on what's happening now and try and be the best I can so hopefully that will translate into me winning more games and getting up them rankings!

**LW:** *Do you have a nickname already?*

**SH:** I do not have a nickname at the minute, people have tried to give me one before but none of them have really stuck! It would be great to have one though, a good one!

**LW:** *What are you most passionate about?*

**SH:** FOOD! I'm very passionate about food! I LOVE to cook and I'm a very good cook! I love making new meals for the family, baking with my sister, and most importantly, I just love eating!! Anything to do with food I am a massive fan of!

**LW:** *Would you consider yourself a happy person?*

**SH:** I would consider myself a happy person absolutely! of course everyone gets sad at times but I try to look on the brighter side of life! If you ask anyone their opinion of me they will probably say I'm a funny guy. I'm not sure why but people find me funny whether it's the way I say things or just my personality I don't know but yes I am a happy person! Most of the time;-)

**LW:** *Are you a fan of healthy food?*

**SH:** I am a massive fan of healthy food! Everything I eat I try and be as healthy as possible. I love cooking healthy meals and eating healthy snacks, and with me doing this my family have followed as well really so they are quite healthy too! I'm a big fan of keeping fit and I run as much as I can and go to the gym also, so eating healthily keeps me in good shape along side my fitness.

**LW:** *Are you interested in other sports? (like horse-racing :o))*

**SH:** I'm a big fan of every sport really, I can't think of a sport I don't enjoy really. I love playing

sport I'm a naturally sporty person, and I love watching it as well! I have played football since a young age and was very good at athletics at school, particularly the high jump, as I've got lanky legs haha! I love watching top sportsmen/women at any sport to see how they deal with pressure and everything that comes with it, I love watching them win and how they conduct themselves as a pro, I can learn a lot from watching other people do well at sport. but I love all sports really and yes, I do enjoy watching the horse racing, my sister picked the winner of the horse racing grand national the other day, so I might have got her into it aswell now...

**LW:** *Does your little sister get on your nerves sometimes?*

**SH:** my sister never gets on my nerves! Surprisingly we get on EXTREMELY well and we have done all our lives. She's a best friend as well as a sister to me, I can speak to her about anything and she can with me too, it's nice to have a relationship with a family member like that, so yeah we get on very well! even when she's stressing out about what to wear or if her hair isn't right, or anything like that, she can stress it out to me because really. I'm just as bad when it comes to fashion and hair and all things like that haha.

**LW:** *Whose music taste is better: yours or hers?*

**SH:** of course my music taste is SOOOO much better than hers, she's into 1 DIRECTION and she is a die hard fan... not for me I must say I'm more of a HIPHOP/R&B/DANCE music lover. I know that's quite a lot of genre to like but they are definitely what I enjoy listening to most. What I can't stand is waking up in the morning to 1 DIRECTION blasting out from my sister's room, that's not cool.