

Production Transcript for 26INTCUTKF - THE BAHAMAS GREAT ABACO CLASSIC AT THE ABACO CLUB

[00:00:33.310]>>First round coverage of The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club on Winding Bay. I mean, this facility just continues to grow and impress. You think about what has happened really dating back to 2016 and the boom, not just in this area of the world, but with golf and the changes to this golf course we'll get into, even changes from last season that we'll see on display here in the 2026 edition, and as you.

[00:00:57.869]>>Expect weather always right around perfect. It's what you set your house temperature to, it's what you can find here in the Bahamas early in 2026, just a couple of weeks into the year, and the second week into this season, James, as we dive into what the field looks like here in this, the 26th edition. Yeah, 132 players and 11 PGA TOUR winners in the field, 55 Korn Ferry Tour winners and 3 past Champions.

[00:01:24.160]>>guy we checked in a lot on last week, Roger Sloan.

[00:01:28.819]>>Sloane didn't even have the Bahamas on his schedule, and one of the last guys into the field and took advantage, finishing in 2nd place last week, so turned his whole season around, getting off to a, a really good start, so important.

[00:01:46.209]>>Cale Van Aragon

[00:01:57.510]>>And use this slope, everyone.

[00:02:00.000]>>Getting that advantage, this is perfect.

[00:02:06.580]>>Ah, Phillips, massive drive here for the left-hander, does move it out there, one of the longest on the corn 3e tour.

[00:02:18.679]>>He was a guy that just found form late in the season last year, played great in the finals, right there at the Korn Ferry Tour Championship, been really close, hadn't he, in his career, James, in terms of trying to pick up that PGA TOUR card, and we've seen him finish just outside a couple of times.

[00:02:36.690]>>Go to the 7th, Jack McGuire.

[00:02:43.369]>>Oh, crashing in, there we go, hello, dead center.

[00:02:55.470]>>How about that birdie, 3 in a row, OK.

[00:02:59.190]>>All right, Phillips at 8, see if he goes a little traditional.

[00:03:04.949]>>He does, that's traditional, pitch an eagle. Don't need the slope, guys, I'm good.

[00:03:10.110]>>I mean, it happens twice, right?

[00:03:13.339]>>Well, Richard, where both is that, we saw players in the last group take it up high on that slope and use it to their advantage. That's definitely the play, especially you said the ball's on a little down slope, so gotta get creative here, but we all know how good he is around the greens going up the slope.

[00:03:34.529]>>OK.

[00:03:36.630]>>Just like that, that is perfect. I've made it, I've made it.

[00:03:41.050]>>play.

[00:03:46.220]>>Couple of eagle putts upcoming.

[00:03:49.130]>>Mason got a little unlucky with his 2nd shot that his ball just ended up on the top of a tier. So this putt is gonna be extremely fast. Just gotta hit it like he's hitting about a 5 footer and just let it go down the slope. It's gonna pick up speed right about now.

[00:04:07.149]>>Look out, how did that not continue to turn, especially with that wind whipping off that right side.

[00:04:13.690]>>Give it a chance.

[00:04:16.260]>>James, we mentioned how good this guy's short game is. Baron Botha, he was 3rd last season in terms of scrambling, 66% of the time, he gets it up and in.

[00:04:33.510]>>It's just, he passes the eye test, he's got the assets, and he's just that type of star. If he could just be a bit more consistent in this area, he could do some special things out here on the Cornree tour, and I think he will.

[00:04:46.779]>>Anderson, much needed.

[00:04:55.769]>>With your Putt.

[00:04:58.799]>>OK.

[00:05:02.029]>>Now Botha. 167 off a clean lie.

[00:05:06.519]>>Mm

[00:05:07.880]>>Very disciplined on this approach as well, wow.

[00:05:11.519]>>Oh, best of the day. Who needs to hit a fairway?

[00:05:17.000]>>10th, Suri

[00:05:24.380]>>Great pot, wow, OK, he made that look really easy and starting to feel it here.

[00:05:31.630]>>Give you an idea of how good this shot was from both of them. I mean, this 9th hole, 2nd toughest on the golf course today. We've only seen 4 birdies to this point.

[00:05:39.820]>>And beared both with a very

[00:05:42.709]>>Very hot front nine to start his week.

[00:05:46.970]>>There's a little flip wedge at the 12th, Dassey had a great spot.

[00:05:53.380]>>Love watching him which hit wedges, slided that one in there nicely, just took a little bit of a hop on him.

[00:06:00.880]>>Over 18, Parker Coody.

[00:06:04.989]>>Just gonna hang in there, very nice birdie at 18.

[00:06:09.149]>>You?

[00:06:10.399]>>Backer at the 12th, with Aussie down the hill, trying to get within one of that group of 500 par.

[00:06:21.500]>>Yeah, curls it in the right side, nice roll, good birdie. Got one to go.

[00:06:27.140]>>Now Anderson.

[00:06:31.059]>>Coming from 79 yards, really good. Yeah, very nice.

[00:06:36.309]>>Go up to the 13th, Phillips.

[00:06:43.070]>>An easy hole location on that left side, but a beautiful iron shot.

[00:06:49.369]>>Anderson, you talk about awesome. This one in here tight.

[00:06:57.640]>>OK, OK.

[00:07:08.299]>>Sure would. The green, there we go, good putt.

[00:07:12.589]>>Phillips here at 13th.

[00:07:16.869]>>Pays off a really, really nice approach.

[00:07:22.549]>>Back over to 12, 1 of those putts players have just struggled to get the read correctly on that McGwire.

[00:07:29.320]>>Everyone missing this right, hey, you got it figured out.

[00:07:36.720]>>Here at 14, Julian Suri get within 1 in this opening round.

[00:07:48.190]>>Nice, 445.

[00:07:54.320]>>Beautiful looks high above the Abaco Club. Ben Taylor, 1 clear of 3 at 5 under par, Baron Botha, we got a chance to follow him throughout his back nine, a lot of pars, a lot of good shots, a lot of good up and ends, James, kind of what he does, even when he's not hitting it great, he can lean on that short game. Fun player to watch, Shane, and I'm, I'm excited. We've got some wind here, we have to see a variety of different golf shots played, and it's, uh, showing its teeth here a little bit in the Bahamas early.

[00:08:27.549]>>Second round coverage of The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club, 9th playing of this event, 8th here at the Abaco Club, one of the destination spots in terms of golf courses and excitement for the Gordon Ferry Tour players get to kick off their year in back-to-back weeks here in the Bahamas, as we've said, the weather turning a bit on this Monday. Winds are up blowing nearly 20 miles an hour.

[00:08:53.530]>>This golf course has been playing extremely difficult. I mean, 7 under the lead right now, Baron Botha atop the board, incredible young player. South Africa, got a chance to watch him a day ago, James, and it's a really interesting golf course and depending on the wind can be a very difficult golf, and especially that added 150 yards to the course based.

[00:09:13.159]>>On last year and definitely with a lot of cross breezes, small green complexes, it's always an awkward shot, it's a second shot golf course, a lot of the iron play needed around here, just has to be precise from a lot of these guys, but beautiful conditions, Pas Paland greens can fill it up if you're reading them correctly.

[00:09:34.150]>>As we go out to the 5th, Priyo Ishikawa, 34-year-old, not seen much of this guy on the Korn Ferry Tour in his career, played last week, first time we've seen him in 8 years play a Korn Ferry Tour event. This is awkward.

[00:09:55.760]>>Going high with a bit of spin, well you can hear it once it hits the ground and just shows how awkward, as you said, Shane, that shot was.

[00:10:04.630]>>You're with Jackson Van Paris, a man out of Vanderbilt, very impressive player, lengthy one of 16.

[00:10:12.440]>>Oh, walk it in, how about that birdie?

[00:10:16.809]>>Ishikawa now at 5.

[00:10:21.119]>>And the wind whipping, they make short putts difficult.

[00:10:26.210]>>Amongst the trees at 11, Fegel's.

[00:10:32.460]>>Yeah, some mirrors over there. What's going on here? Is that a, is it a big old cut?

[00:10:36.590]>>Oh, how about it, shot.

[00:10:46.640]>>Hello

[00:10:51.190]>>About this shot, gonna be a very random birdie after the Aaronie shot. Anderson doing it differently.

[00:10:58.330]>>Gotta make this, come on. He had a wicked shot out of the trees, big old cut, 30 yard cut.

[00:11:07.549]>>Come on now, come on now, made a big putt for 59 a couple of years ago on the final green.

[00:11:13.130]>>Yeah, sure, never missing that.

[00:11:20.099]>>Anderson

[00:11:21.619]>>There we go, curling it in. Aaron tee shot, no issues.

[00:11:27.109]>>Too easy here at 12, he has no trees to cut it around if he goes in the fairway.

[00:11:32.789]>>I've always said that with a, a kind of a, a Jordan Spieth is whenever he gets in trouble and he has to think a little harder, he always does something special and.

[00:11:41.260]>>Meisner.

[00:11:44.739]>>It's right there at 300 par, Mitchell Meisner, this would suit his game, very consistent ball striker.

[00:12:04.849]>>Fagles, he's gonna do it for us, OK, after coming off that amazing birdie at the previous hole.

[00:12:10.960]>>Just gets this there, it's in. Come on, do it. Yeah we go.

[00:12:18.429]>>To

[00:12:19.940]>>To Meisner now at 16, plays right-handed, putts left-handed, talked about nearly giving the game away because he had the yips so bad in college and tried putting to the, a couple different ways and went left-handed and then went on to win 4 times and changed everything, done it ever since.

[00:12:45.750]>>Brother Mac plays on the PGA TOUR, he's had a good campaign, oh, straight in the middle for Meisner.

[00:13:05.059]>>Well played.

[00:13:06.539]>>Especially that wind direction, throw it in behind it, a little bit of spin.

[00:13:17.299]>>And well played

[00:13:19.840]>>Hello, Anderson.

[00:13:21.510]>>68 yards, perfect line.

[00:13:27.309]>>There we go, yeah, taking advantage of those tee shots now.

[00:13:32.219]>>Back to 14, Stuart McDonald, McDonald a factor last year, come to the TOUR Championship.

[00:14:04.950]>>And it's paid off, Buckley.

[00:14:07.909]>>OK, the lid is off. Let's see if we can get 3 birdies here out of our featured group.

[00:14:14.299]>>Great opportunity here, just slightly down the hill. She moved to his left a little bit, but very, very makeable putt.

[00:14:33.789]>>All righty, curls it in the right side.

[00:14:40.000]>>Right at it. Easy part. This is about to be 3 for 3. Yeah, no doubt about it. Give it to him. Pick it up. Let's go. And Shane, you give putts like me and Richard give PGA TOUR cards away here. Oh, he's not missing this. Now come on, what are we doing?

[00:14:52.840]>>This one's gonna have a slight movement to the left as well, but out of the 3 guys, this is the easiest out of the 3 right here, slightly up the hill moving to his left.

[00:15:08.369]>>Let's go. Good stroke.

[00:15:12.380]>>Eisner making a move, raced this one by, gets it to go, now, Eisner within a couple.

[00:15:20.559]>>Cameron Champ, one of the longest guys in professional golf over the last 7 years, first on the scene at Aaron Hills, famously played a practice round with Rory McIlroy, and he hit it 40 past Rory off the First Tee.

[00:15:34.390]>>Fegel's now at 16.

[00:15:40.619]>>Bounces back with a long one. Go, nice putt there from Michael Fagles.

[00:15:46.869]>>Meisner to get within one.

[00:15:52.039]>>Oh OK.

[00:15:54.440]>>Curls that one in, why isn't it turning it on here?

[00:15:58.859]>>Over to 12, Cameron Champ trying to join both at 7 under par.

[00:16:04.719]>>He is rolling on this Monday. Cameron Champ to 50 in his 2nd round.

[00:16:10.429]>>Back over to 14, block bunker shot or Rio, where they cover that tier as well, fly it all the way there.

[00:16:22.940]>>We landed it on the downslope and still got it to react like that.

[00:16:29.710]>>It's Fagles.

[00:16:36.539]>>Long catches the hole, a little too much pace.

[00:16:41.830]>>Back here at the 14th, 1 of the better looks of the day for Riyo Ishikawa.

[00:16:47.770]>>Gotta get one of these to go, there it is, we knew it would happen, finally.

[00:16:56.219]>>This would be a good up-and-down for Birdie for eagles.

[00:17:07.599]>>Right now it's 7 under, that is the number. Mitchell Meisner joining the crew there at 7 under pars, got himself a great second round going, didn't see anything too

low today, James, I mean, the conditions dictated how the Abacote Club played, and it was as tough as we have seen it in quite some time. Yeah, it's just a different style of golf out here with these cross breezes, and I love to see 24 guys within 3 shots of the lead, Shane, so it's still anyone's game or tournament to find themselves back in contention.

[00:17:34.180]>>And Love to see it. Good, difficult conditions on the Corn Prairie Tour. We saw some good, we saw some bad, we saw some beautiful, as is the case every single year here at the Abaco Club, one of the great events on the Korn Ferry tour schedule. back-to-back weeks in the Bahamas, and we've got a bunched leaderboard. Expected to remain tight considering the wins and what we expect to see over the next two days. Right now, 7 under is your mark, 1 over might be your cut.

[00:18:08.280]>>Third round coverage of The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club, one of the premier golf courses on the Korn Ferry Tour schedule, one of those days here in the Bahamas on a Tuesday, great day for boating, great day for some golf, a great day to move on a bunch leaderboard right now. You see so many players near the top of the leaderboard, and a couple of get to 10 under, of course, running in the 9th hole. That's the 18th today, straight down win, so players can have an opportunity to end their round with a birdie or an eagle.

[00:18:40.540]>>Then earlier in the day, Ben Martin, the man that started the day 2 off the lead, this at the 8th, that to be his 4th birdie of the day. Martin making an early move.

[00:18:51.250]>>About Justin Hastings, young man just turned professional after a great season last year, just at the par 5, he'd make birdie.

[00:18:59.719]>>Quickly up the leaderboard as well. Hastings to 10 under par.

[00:19:04.750]>>But they got to face the 9th. This is the hardest hole in the golf course. Will Gordon.

[00:19:09.119]>>There hadn't been a birdie to this point side door and it drops in.

[00:19:16.969]>>David Van Aragon well ahead to finish up his round.

[00:19:21.250]>>Rolls that one in the left side, I mean, he's 50 on the day.

[00:19:27.770]>>This one's also very difficult trying to bounce into the hill. Easy to come up short and hit the shot again.

[00:19:35.060]>>But boy, does he have some hands.

[00:19:37.910]>>Just one of the best short games on the Korn Ferry Tour, first guy we've seen go low.

[00:19:44.609]>>Up to 11.

[00:19:50.459]>>Gordon, heavy hit on the ball, that was compressed, you could just hear it.

[00:19:55.699]>>That is ideal.

[00:19:59.089]>>And James, we praise Baron Botha, his ability to get the ball up and in around the greens. A lot of that's the pitching. When the putter shows up is when Botha is at his best, and these are the putts you you'd love to see him make a little bit more, silly, a very young player, just 24 years old, out of South Africa, but he can hold a couple more of these, he's been very close to a PJ who's worked hard already.

[00:20:27.819]>>Moving to his left, when pushing it the other way. Yeah, Shane, he's well outside the top 100 in putting on Korn Ferry Tour, but like you said, early in his career, I mean he was 85th on the points with 7 events left in 2025 and nearly got his PGA TOUR card.

[00:20:46.819]>>Gordon at 11, you get the 10 under par.

[00:20:50.140]>>He's been the guy, James, that's made the move today.

[00:20:56.140]>>Back to 10, the par 3, 163 today.

[00:21:02.109]>>This breeze down off of right.

[00:21:07.280]>>Kevin Dougherty, now, this is a guy that will flex on you, one of the most fit pro golfers in the world, cooks all his meals on the road, says nothing goes in my body tournament week that I didn't buy and cook myself, including all the snacks out on the golf course.

[00:21:26.520]>>Hastings now, ball above his feet, wide miss off the tee but got a break here on the other fairway.

[00:21:35.930]>>Please be a good number ball.

[00:21:38.079]>>Beautiful flight, he loves it.

[00:21:41.099]>>He has hit a couple of really nice swings in a row with these blustery conditions.

[00:21:46.939]>>Now, over to a player that, like you said, Shane, rarely misses greens and led that statistic on the Korn Ferry Tour last year. This is another club for him, if he can get these putts to go, he's very dangerous indeed.

[00:22:05.050]>>Hey, you got it right, excellent putt. Here we go, now, that gets him tied for the lead as well, alongside Will Gordon.

[00:22:13.479]>>Eisner now, best of the bunch off the tee.

[00:22:19.760]>>Really needs this one after a tough one, the last, this putt's going to have some movement to the right as well, slower than it looks.

[00:22:31.869]>>Had a way to bounce back. Really nice birdie.

[00:22:36.319]>>Hey Steans.

[00:22:48.160]>>OK, he didn't want to waste that really pretty 2nd shot that he hit from the other fairway.

[00:22:54.670]>>You're at the 11th, Dougherty needs to see a couple go falling down this leaderboard.

[00:23:00.000]>>Yep, had to convert there.

[00:23:05.640]>>Now Meisner trying to go back-to-back.

[00:23:08.119]>>Really good opportunity moving straight up the hill. Not a whole lot to this putt into the window, so gotta keep the speed up.

[00:23:26.449]>>I mean, here we go, 2 in a row.

[00:23:30.140]>>Gordie coming off that really nice birdie at 11.

[00:23:33.719]>>34 year old, best result he's ever had here is in 2022 where he had a tie for seven.

[00:23:45.420]>>There it is.

[00:23:47.160]>>It looks like clockwork. Was it.

[00:23:50.790]>>OK.

[00:24:01.760]>>Oh, what a shot. That is fantastic.

[00:24:13.219]>>Gordon, and it's not gonna stay high enough, that'll be a 35.

[00:24:18.709]>>Eisner back there looking for 3 in a row.

[00:24:33.170]>>How about that one? Dougherty long range and he's making a move after a slow start to the day.

[00:24:40.339]>>At Atkins, and with the vegetation here at the par 5.

[00:24:46.949]>>He's that close to the vegetation, hopefully it was a break and it stayed out of the penalty area and good recovery.

[00:24:54.119]>>Meisner

[00:25:07.040]>>He's on a run. Eisner now back to 1 off the lead, it's 3 in a row.

[00:25:12.869]>>Back here at the par 5, Matt Atkins was nearly in the bushes in the 2nd, still an opportunity for birdie.

[00:25:21.569]>>Oh, OK, there we go, rills that one in.

[00:25:26.930]>>Hottest man on the golf course over the last half hour, Mitchell Meisner tried to make it 4 in a row from long range.

[00:25:35.250]>>I think he'll take a 2 pipe from here, Shane.

[00:25:41.119]>>Oh, that's still work left.

[00:25:43.619]>>Let's go to the 18th. Cameron Champ mentioned made bogey here a day ago, get it up and in, post 8 under par.

[00:25:50.640]>>Long bunker shot here, dump and run.

[00:25:53.900]>>That is a really good effort.

[00:25:57.369]>>Meisner, this is gonna test him for sure, but straight up the hill, he's been putting well the last couple of holes and this will just continue to build that momentum that is created on the last few holes if he can make this.

[00:26:17.760]>>That was a, a huge miss for his first putt, 12 ft there and a player that's looked good over the last couple of holes after those 3 birdies and making that 12 to 15 footer.

[00:26:29.599]>>But 18, Cameron Champ, get up and in 10 to 8 under par. He'll be right there, but up-and-down from that greenside bunker.

[00:26:37.530]>>Back on the 14th, Meisner trying to get this up and in from distance to save par.

[00:26:43.250]>>113, really hard shot. Easy to come up very short with this condition.

[00:26:49.739]>>Yeah, it's a 2nd swing, that was almost identical to the swing off the tee here and.

[00:26:56.469]>>What, 18, Jackson Van Paris, man, this guy, a young star out of Vanderbilt, he's playing on a sponsor's exemption, he's got conditional status for the year, so you get a sponsor's invitation into this event, you make the cut, that's just gonna help his 2026 season.

[00:27:13.219]>>So Meisner had about 6 ft to save his par, or excuse me, for his bogey.

[00:27:18.930]>>All right, so dropping just one shot after the errant tee shot.

[00:27:22.859]>>In Paris now at 18.

[00:27:26.719]>>Really nice week. You said it, I mean, he needs any high finish considering the status he has this season, and weak to this point.

[00:27:36.510]>>Richard, it feels like about that time for Boa to hit a hit an approach shot close.

[00:27:43.579]>>This is a good opportunity coming in from 123, slightly on the downhill line, which will help him flight this ball.

[00:27:56.729]>>Fuck it.

[00:28:04.369]>>Gordon, another player that has a fairly high apex with his ball flight, can he backfoot something down and get it in there close, hold it up against that breeze.

[00:28:19.810]>>Mael trying to knock something down.

[00:28:24.000]>>There we go. Oh yes.

[00:28:27.880]>>I mean, Richard, it feels like that Botha has been living in the land of 40 ft 30 ft all day long. He really has been grinding. I mean, everything but the driver has been a grind seems like, but this putt is gonna be, gonna give him all his attention that he needs. If he gets a little aggressive here, you can easily putt this thing 6 7 ft by the hole.

[00:28:49.270]>>Easy. Oh, how about it? Finally one goes in for Baron Botha.

[00:28:56.719]>>Atkins trying to save his paw, no.

[00:29:05.520]>>Gordon tapping in for his birdie at 17. We're starting to see some stuff happen, James, in this 3rd round.

[00:29:11.619]>>Atkins for his bogey, so a really disappointing close to an otherwise solid round of golf.

[00:29:17.810]>>Now Gordon at the 18th after that very strange bunker shot.

[00:29:24.469]>>So gonna make a bogey here at the closing par 5.

[00:29:33.430]>>OK, it's gonna be a disappointing finish.

[00:29:37.459]>>Here in Botha, a few birdies as of late.

[00:29:42.339]>>Really difficult shot, boy, this is unbelievable. I mean this short game, this guy is so good around the green.

[00:29:53.719]>>Now our leader Holt carrying it deep, so trying to get this up and in for birdie. This one's pretty straightforward. I mean, he's been chipping it great today into the wind.

[00:30:05.739]>>Oh, Easy, gave it a chance, yeah, he's been lights out when it comes to scrambling, perfect today, 5 from 5.

[00:30:16.530]>>So Mitchell Meisner has a putt for Eagle.

[00:30:22.060]>>This one's moving straight up the hill, but it's straight downwind.

[00:30:27.180]>>Can he do it?

[00:30:29.500]>>Oh, look at the wind whipping too, it, it's gonna be a good fight back for Meisnik.

[00:30:36.800]>>About a 3 footer up the hill. The tricky thing is it is blowing hard from his right to left. So this is normally on a smooth, calm day, an automatic putt, but today he's still got to focus hard and just make one last solid stroke.

[00:31:03.550]>>Yep, there you go, on a day where the conditions got to a lot of the players atop this leaderboard, Ian Holt bogeyfree on this Tuesday, really impressive round of golf.

[00:31:13.959]>>See if Botha can roll this in. This would be birdies on 3 of his final 4 holes after struggling in the middle of this back nine.

[00:31:24.459]>>Great way to finish off an otherwise ho-hum day here at the Abaco Club, and both are right there.

[00:31:35.670]>>Mitchell Meisner, and that is a closing birdie. Birdie at 18, 1011, 1216, and 18. Gonna have to get another pencil to finish off that thing.

[00:31:49.329]>>3rd round done in a holt at the top the board to clear.

[00:31:53.579]>>I think the highlights, if we were to show them all, would come from a lot from the fairway, from Holt, and if you remember, I mean, he got caught in a divot, managed to make par there, really good up-and-down at the 15th, and, and we've just seen him fairly steady. He looks comfortable in a situation considering he's never won on the Korn Ferry Tour, Shane.

[00:32:17.670]>>Final round coverage of The Bahamas Great Abaco Classic at The Abaco Club. Not many better spots in all of golf than right here in the Bahamas in late January. The golf course is a fun one to play in 9 conditions. It can play really tough when the winds are

up like they are today, and they've been up the last couple of days. I mean, we are seeing completely different scoring, James, what we saw last week to kick off the season. The even par, a good number each and every round.

[00:32:45.349]>>You're talking maybe 1516 under winning this week, especially the finish, Shane, and this is what we want to see, we want these players to be tested, we don't want it to be a putting comp, and with these conditions, the breeze, we've seen past champions' winning score be -10, -12, -14, and the Abaco Club on Winning Bay, it's just a beautiful resort here, just a shade over 7200 yards, they've added.

[00:33:10.814]>>150 yards since last year, Pas Bland Greens, 8 of the last 12 holes play straight back into the teeth of the breeze. So considering that 7 of the last 8 Champions went on to get a PGA TOUR card and 50% of those Champions that won here won on the PGA TOUR, so it just shows how good of a test and just the pedigree of winners that end up hoisting the trophy this week.

[00:33:37.369]>>Free and Holt, it's got that 2 shot lead. I mean this is one of those, you can try to get cued here and make a big number. You can basically give yourself 20 ft and be OK walking away with 5.

[00:33:50.719]>>It's a beautiful view of what what he has, you can't really.

[00:33:55.239]>>Pick a defining spot because that huge knoll that separates the front and the back of the green, so he's gonna have to land this, perfect.

[00:34:04.209]>>That is so well executed. The players, I mean, are making a mess left of this 9th green.

[00:34:10.908]>>Justin Hastings made bogey there at the 9th after a really nice eagle at the 8th. He is making a move, the young man.

[00:34:18.100]>>That has been so impressive as an amateur turning pro last summer, looking for his first victory on the Korn Ferry Tour. How about that putt from Hastings? Wow.

[00:34:29.070]>>You're outside the top 100 in putting, and sometimes they can wear on you, you find yourself with a lot of birdie opportunities and, and usually proximity, like, you're not that close when you hit that many greens, so you have to get used to not seeing a lot of putts go in.

[00:34:42.300]>>But yesterday, he looked very comfortable in those blustery conditions and, and really left, still left a couple of shots out there, even though he had a clean card, 3 birdies and excuse me, 4 birdies, so it's, these are, this is the length, this is what he needs to get done, especially with momentum if he's going to hoist the trophy at the end of the day.

[00:35:06.100]>>Big pot right here. You're gonna have a couple of these if you want to try to win a golf tournament, and you gotta convert.

[00:35:13.899]>>Yeah, it looked good for a while. I believe that didn't move.

[00:35:18.320]>>He knew it, he missed this green left yesterday, he missed it left again today, straight away knew that, I mean he was trying to get it 30 ft 40 ft out to the right, so big miss.

[00:35:39.479]>>Hastings fighting this in at 13.

[00:35:43.250]>>Loves it. Oh yeah, oh my goodness, how good is that?

[00:35:48.510]>>Holt with an opportunity here at the 12th.

[00:35:58.550]>>1:32 straight into the wind. This whole location is on a little tablet top, a little left that gives you a little more room.

[00:36:07.159]>>Beautiful. What a shot.

[00:36:11.239]>>Well, let's go to Hastings. It's an opportunity to take the outright lead.

[00:36:18.260]>>After that beautiful approach, I mean, that was dead center, kid is ice cold right now.

[00:36:28.840]>>Back here at the Bahamas Great Abaco Classic, you mentioned Blades Brown going straight to Cali after this, having himself a really solid week. He already there at the 16th.

[00:36:39.600]>>Let's go to the 15th. We've mentioned Docherty and the run he's had today, 6 under par, no bogeys on the card. Best round going on the golf course. This would be a bonus if this goes at 15.

[00:36:51.000]>>Oh, that awkward length, just wants to get it down in 2 here, considering he can drive 16 and easily get to the par 5, 18th in 2.

[00:37:00.000]>>And now Ian Holt, who we have talked about the iron play, never the issue in these conditions today, he's continued to throw dart after dart, but putter, James, you mentioned it a moment ago. It's just been a little wishy in terms of the stroke the last few holes. Love to see something committed here if you can knock this in.

[00:37:18.709]>>Really needs to make this putt. I mean, he's coming off of many missed opportunities. This putt's going to break to his right a little bit. One, you really have to release the putter.

[00:37:36.889]>>There we go. Positive stroke, big birdie for Ian Holt.

[00:37:44.550]>>Now Docherty is to save his par.

[00:37:54.209]>>Just when we say it, a 3-putt.

[00:37:58.969]>>like an 85 shot yeah.

[00:38:02.620]>>That awful lot. Turn the clock.

[00:38:05.540]>>Gordon.

[00:38:09.689]>>This is where experience comes into play. I mean, he's got to navigate around the palm tree, use the wind to try to bring it back in play, coming out of the rough, it's harder to put side spin on it.

[00:38:20.939]>>Trying to get a big cut.

[00:38:25.810]>>that there's some way to not make double, that's a really nice shot. Yeah, using the breeze there, especially ball above his feet, you have to take it outside the palm trees.

[00:38:35.850]>>Back here with our leader. I seen him have to pitch and scramble much this week, James, with the iron play.

[00:38:41.989]>>It's more of a basic releaser, he's got to judge the wind and.

[00:38:47.989]>>Not very good there.

[00:38:51.810]>>Gordon, try to get this down in 2. Drop just 1 after the Aaron tee shot.

[00:39:00.790]>>What a great idea with the pace, it's gotta go, just gotta go.

[00:39:06.409]>>OK.

[00:39:08.649]>>Saw a real positive stroke from Holt at the last. See if he can do it again.

[00:39:17.919]>>Yeah.

[00:39:19.199]>>That is gonna be a really frustrated bogey, it's just a, a very nervy bogey, from the middle of the fairway, basic pitch shot, and when we have seen him miss those short putts, they've always been just a little low off impact.

[00:39:37.010]>>Gordon now trying to drop just one.

[00:39:49.250]>>The pot is to stay 2 back.

[00:39:55.469]>>20 shots? Uh, I think you can bump it.

[00:40:00.000]>>I like 25.

[00:40:06.000]>>You do not want to leave this short ride of the green, have to hit this beyond the flag.

[00:40:26.000]>>Sounded heavy too.

[00:40:28.979]>>Just an awkward pitch across the bunker there, now from the middle of the fairway, trying to lay up, he's got to get up-and-down for a 6.

[00:40:41.689]>>Both are now

[00:40:47.360]>>Oh, what a shot. Really well executed.

[00:40:51.860]>>Now if you're Ian Holt, just take a couple of breaths. Been in this situation before in your career, been in a situation before collegiately, and floated around the top of the leaderboard before on the Korn Ferry Tour, but these conditions are tough. golf course is not easy today.

[00:41:09.760]>>Oh, what a shot.

[00:41:11.860]>>Considering, I mean, he's none from 2 from around the greens today, everything happening, his head's spinning, not an easy little hit shot.

[00:41:22.340]>>Get it up there, kick in length, that's huge for Hall. It's most likely save bogey.

[00:41:34.580]>>We'll happily tap that in.

[00:41:37.330]>>His 14th has been the hole that is.

[00:41:39.989]>>Doomed the leaders.

[00:41:45.120]>>Botha, an opportunity to get to 10 under if this goes.

[00:42:02.659]>>Yeah, it's going to come down, really Shane, to that tee shot at 18, but this is huge, this putt to give himself a chance to get within 1.

[00:42:14.629]>>Like you said, it's been bouncing around the golf course the last 15 minutes. Can he finally get a putt to go, and he can. Baron Botha, what an up and in for Birdie.

[00:42:27.709]>>You're at the 15th warden's 2nd.

[00:42:35.659]>>117 yards, location just up on a shelf on that left side.

[00:42:42.909]>>Beauty right here from Gordon, getting better by the 2nd. How about that golf shot?

[00:42:49.750]>>Doc, what a rake here at 18.

[00:42:56.520]>>This is gonna come out of here spicy.

[00:43:00.360]>>Begging for it to get down.

[00:43:03.979]>>Oh, get down and did, gonna stay there? Sit right there. Oh, get your skates on, what a shot, what a time to do it.

[00:43:12.169]>>James, we talked a lot about Barend Botha in the end of his season last year, how well he played, the consistency, just found something latter part of the summer. He was one of the best players on the Korn Ferry Tour to end the year, and himself in

contention a couple times, has continued that momentum into 2026, and no surprise to see him atop a leaderboard at a golf course that feels PGA TOUR level.

[00:43:38.629]>>Yeah it's as far as a rookie goes on the Korn Ferry Tour, can he hold his head high. It was a successful season.

[00:43:48.629]>>It's not easy to make from here.

[00:43:52.979]>>He's gassed it, yeah, he knew it right when he hit it.

[00:43:58.320]>>As we go to 18, Alistair Docherty, how about the move he's made today, just to finish things off with an eagle to take the outright lead, was to shoot 65 in the final round, and just not quite the stroke he was looking for there.

[00:44:16.090]>>Docherty still work left for the birdie to post 11 under. Both are trying to remain 1 back at the moment.

[00:44:35.050]>>Now that is a very disappointing bogey for Barron, especially you give that birdie at 14, right back and it's just a very sloppy 3 putt from the edge of the green.

[00:44:47.290]>>This is an important part for for Gordon too, Downhill is to get to 11 under. Closest we have seen today, you're at 15.

[00:45:05.260]>>That is a big time birdie from Will Gordon.

[00:45:09.939]>>Now Boa, you talk about needing to get this up-and-down. I mean, it's a must birdie if he wants any chance of winning this thing. The way he's been around the greens, I mean, what a time it would be if he could hold this somehow. It's gonna take a huge bounce.

[00:45:26.000]>>Just over and over, so impressive from the young man from South Africa.

[00:45:31.489]>>Up at 18 in this race by 2.5 3 ft, and even if he doesn't go on to win, this is a very important week for Docherty in a big time final round in nasty conditions, 66, Mallister Docherty.

[00:45:49.280]>>And both, I mean, a chance to get back to 10 under par and you're sitting there going, not out of this thing yet.

[00:45:57.780]>>I feel like the moment we, we kill him, he comes right back to life.

[00:46:02.000]>>These, the massive ones, both players tied atop the leaderboard with an opportunity, the 18th, a par 5, potentially birdie and went out right, but you gotta hold this first, and this is no easy putt. Gordon's got some 12 ft left.

[00:46:27.830]>>3 putt. The doors opening right now for Ian Holt if he can make this.

[00:46:33.590]>>We're now gonna head to the 18th, a shot off the lead.

[00:46:37.479]>>For Ian Holt, who's had a lot of success at 18 this week.

[00:46:44.679]>>Brian Holt, one great swing. Keep it somewhere left of this hole location, a birdie likely gonna get it done. 198. Another difficult thing is where the players are hitting from. It's guarded by this little hill on the left side, so they cannot feel how strong the wind is off the left. So but he just got two good looks from the two previous players. So I'm going to predict that he's going to aim it further left than the others. Just got to get on the left side, just have a little chip or a long putt at it. Big swing.

[00:47:14.229]>>Biggest of his career right here.

[00:47:19.550]>>Watching it closely you gonna stay there, gonna stay there? Easy.

[00:47:24.070]>>What a shot. Holt leaning on the iron play that has got him here.

[00:47:32.199]>>Gordon at 18 needing to hold this.

[00:47:35.899]>>Ken hit it behind the flag here, used the slope, and carries it a yard too far. He is just hasn't been on the right side of luck when it comes to using backstops this week.

[00:47:47.469]>>Now if anybody's gonna hold one of these out, it's bearing both the best hands on the Korn Ferry Tour.

[00:47:55.739]>>Wow, took a wicked bounce. What did that hit? You can see he's frustrated.

[00:48:03.879]>>Will Gordon was looking for a little more today. We talked about it with him yesterday, James, what he was thinking about in terms of being back in contention, having those feelings again, being excited about the test and the challenge, and all in all, he's been pretty impressive today. A couple of missed putts. Outside of that, it's been hanging around the near the top of this leaderboard and Gordon a positive to lean on as he gets set to kick off a full season on the Korn Ferry Tour.

[00:48:34.659]>>Really speedy putt here, but Shane, you, you said it right. I think after today Gordon's gonna have positive experience after a couple of missed opportunities. All in all played really solid.

[00:48:49.739]>>Like be a top 5 finish for this man right here. James, I mean, the, the short game is so polished, the driving was incredible this week. Iron plays something he could refine a little bit, didn't see his best stuff with the irons and still gonna finish a couple of shots off the lead.

[00:49:07.530]>>Mention how close he came to a PGA TOUR card last season, had a real chance last round of the year. Pick up a win in the full sin for the big show, came up a little short there.

[00:49:22.399]>>But the focus now is on Ian Holt, the 30-year-old from Ohio, two putts away from his first career for Ferry tour title.

[00:49:31.840]>>This is going to be the longest 18 footer of his life. Just got to get it up near the hole.

[00:49:38.760]>>Does it?

[00:49:42.510]>>warden feet away from par.

[00:49:48.629]>>Ah.

[00:49:50.310]>>Easy to lose a bit of concentration. It'll be a disappointing 6th at blast.

[00:50:00.070]>>Yeah

[00:50:11.699]>>Week for Baron Botha, consistent week after an opening round 67.

[00:50:20.719]>>Champion this year, Ian Holt tapping away, needed birdie at the last and got it, and Ian Holet gets his first win on the Korn Ferry Tour. Classic Ian Lowe.

[00:50:37.020]>>Long time Korn Ferry Tour caddies, that jubilation, Shane, it just comes down to the putt he made at 1710 footer for par, and then that drive at 18. What a week for Ian Holt.

[00:50:56.620]>>I'd have done at the last. You love to see it. Birdie at the last, the 18th, a par 5 for a guy that grew up in Ohio, played his collegiate golf at Kent State, impressive collegiate player and has rolled all that into some success here on the Korn Ferry Tour and in his 45th start, a victory finally by 1, and it was tight. Ian Holt, our champion.

[00:51:21.030]>>Hastings, the young man, you've got Docherty shooting the round of the day, 6 back, he has a chance and then me and Holt, that putt at 17, the drive at 18, and then the second shot to just put the icing on the cake, being able to have 2 putts to win for his first time.

[00:51:37.225]>>The corn-free tour. Really good story. Yeah, Taylor Dixon last week, bogey-free on the week, 27 under to pick up the first victory of the year, and then you get Ian Holt winning for the 1st, 1st time in his career. Very different ways to win two different golf tournaments here in the Bahamas, but a fun way to kick the season off here in the Bahamas. Winds were up, conditions were tough.

[00:52:00.699]>>I mean, you were just trying to keep it between the ears for 18 holes on a Wednesday. We saw some great play, none better than that man right there, birdie at the last to get it done for the first time.