

Production Transcript for REWIND\_25SENTRY\_MATSUYAMA.mp3

[00:00:28] >> The PGA Tour is proud to bring you the season-long race for the FedExCup. Now, coverage of the 2025 Sentry.

[00:00:40] >> First round coverage of The Sentry, and the PGA Tour's Opening Drive. Well, the Plantation Course always looks incredible, but by all accounts, this is the best condition it has been in in the 27 years they've been playing this tournament here. And if golf is not your thing, you can head over to Kapalua Bay and take a crack at those waves. Like this veteran who had no problem negotiating some good waves out there this morning. Seen here unlike any place in the world. Breathtaking, the whales that migrate down offering their own artistic moves along the cliffs of Kapalua. Twenty-five-year-old Chris Gotterup had the honor of hitting the very first tee shot of the 2025 PGA Tour Season. That downhill 522-yard par 4, didn't birdie it, ended up with a 1-under round of 72, but Gotterup punching his ticket with that win at Myrtle Beach. And then, Adam Hadwin playing with Gotterup in the first group, also a part of that first group with Tom Hoge. And Adam Hadwin drops one there at the 8th, part of his first round 67. But it was Tom Hoge who had the best round. This is Will Zalatoris at the 11th, who went out 5-under 31.

[00:02:54] And it'll be interesting to see what kind of year Zalatoris can have. He was on a hot streak early, 6-under through 11, and stayed on that number since. Cameron Young still has not won in the PGA Tour. It is hard to believe. Birdie there at 15. He's one of the main players in the field on the PGA Tour. This would be a great place to break through. Here is the hottest player on the course. He was also out at 5-under 31. Birdie there, drops at the 14. One win still for Hoge, came 3 years ago at Pebble Beach. So maybe this guy has a good way of not getting caught in the beautiful scenery around him. Another birdie drops there at the 16th. And then, Hoge came to the famous par-5 18th, the land of 400-yard plus drives. He had 310 yards down the hill for his second. And this is how you play the 18th. Downwind today, reading the slope. And this had the look of the really big bird for just a moment. Two putt birdie there for Hoge and a first round 64, currently the leader by three. Back to the seventh for Sungjae Im. Chance to get to 2-under. He's still just 26 years old. Seems like he's played in a million of these. This is at the 6th. Hideki Matsuyama for birdie. Longtime fixture here in Kapalua, Smylie.

[00:04:16] >> Yes. Just an incredible ball striker. This has been -- you know, his putter, when he has elite weeks, he contends and most of the time wins because his ball striking in a short game is just so phenomenal. The 6th hole, just a driver wedge today. Some players getting it down the hill, making birdies.

[00:04:24] >> Feeds her right in. Hideki making his eighth start, his fifth in a row. He's got three Top 10s here, with the best solo second coming 7 years ago. Over at the 6. Talk about a veteran. Adam Scott at plus-1. Slow start. Wants to get it back to even here.

[00:04:31] >> Night start for the Aussie.

[00:04:31] >> As we check in with Ludvig Aberg at the 14th for birdie. What kind of year is this guy going to have, Smylie?

[00:04:34] >> I mean, the sky's the limit. He was in contention in so many majors last year.

[00:04:36] >> For Justin Thomas, trying to get it going here with his second down the scenic 7.

[00:04:38] >> Well, I for one think it's going to be a great one. I really do. He made a comment earlier this week that he thought he could maybe have a Scottie Scheffler kind of a year. I thought that was quite aggressive. But hit shots like that, who knows?

[00:04:44] >> We jump ahead to the 14th hole with Hovland putting for birdie at the par 4. He gets to 2-under par.

[00:05:06] >> This is Matsuyama over at the 7th.

[00:05:08] >> This one's got pretty much left hand break all the way to it and dead center. That one was rolling pretty fast, but dead center.

[00:05:16] >> Matsuyama moving a bit up the board. And now, for birdie, Adam Scott over at the 7th.

[00:05:23] >> As we have come to see from him, flagstick in and so is the ball.

[00:05:27] >> Yeah, seen a lot of that, especially the last few years. Back at 17 here, Zalatoris' second.

[00:05:36] >> Drove the ball all the way through the fairway into the light rough here. Take a little bit of spin off this one.

[00:05:46] >> Wind downwind, downhill. And Zalatoris is set up for another birdie that could get him within one of Hoge. Back at 14, Corey Connors, his second shot. Zalatoris for another one at 17.

[00:06:07] >> Beautiful gap wedge to hear out of that rough. Use the slope to get it close.

[00:06:14] >> Tell you what, it could be shaping up into a great year for Zalatoris to get back on that major track that he was on.

[00:06:21] >> Corey Connors looking to get to 6-under and add another one. This guy can get on a heater, and he's on one.

[00:06:28] >> It seems like the guys that struggle inside of 10 feet always seem to better away from the hole. And Corey Connors making two long putts on the last two holes.

[00:06:37] >> Picking up Hovland at the 15th, hitting his second shot into the par 5.

[00:07:01] >> Beautiful look down the par-3 8th. And Justin Thomas on the tee at even par.

[00:07:05] >> The wind just off the right here. Just trying to get it to this left hole location.

[00:07:12] >> Oh, man.

[00:07:13] >> Back to back. Really nice shots. The 7th and 8th underneath the hole.

[00:07:18] >> Back over the par-3 8th, Matsuyama for birdie.

[00:07:21] >> He's been making some putts. Made one off the green at 7, along with at 6.

[00:07:25] >> Another one here. He walks it in.

[00:07:26] >> Looking easy with that flat stick.

[00:07:29] >> Hideki Matsuyama moving it to 4-under with a birdie there at the 8.

[00:07:34] >> Hovland make a big move here. This for eagle. Might have seen it on the plane through.

[00:07:40] >> Hit a beautiful second shot, but just can't capitalize. So, disappointing birdie there is one here. Can't be easy walking around this place with that toe.

[00:07:51] >> It's hard walking without the toe.

[00:07:53] >> Exactly. Back over here at the 8th, Justin Thomas for birdie. Needs to get it going. That's a start.

[00:08:01] >> After that triple bogey lost ball at the third hole, gotten back under par in his round. There's so many birdies on the backside. And he's heading to a par-5 9th, which he hopes to make a four.

[00:08:12] >> This is Campos finishing up at 18 for birdie.

[00:08:14] >> He's really only hitting this putt about like a 6 or 7-footer on a flat green as he gets to this slope and very quick. And let's see if he got the line right.

[00:08:28] >> Yes, he did.

[00:08:30] >> It's just, you know, you do your best to just try to pick a spot, but when you're aiming that far to the right, Dan, you lose a picture of where the hole even is. So you're basically putting blind.

[00:08:40] >> You know what's ironic? He made seven on the first hole, which is right across the way here from number 18. And then, a three at 18.

[00:08:48] >> Kevin Yu on the over at the 14th.

[00:08:52] >> Seventy-eight ball speed. Is that enough to get there? It's on line.

[00:08:57] >> Wow.

[00:08:58] >> Just hops over that little elbow just in front of the green. So that for eagle for Kevin Yu to jump to plus-1.

[00:09:05] >> Over at 11, we've got Matsuyama on the tee. And Bones has been on the move. He's hustled over to this group.

[00:09:12] >> And the star studded threesome it is with Adam Scott, Justin Thomas, and this man, Hideki Matsuyama. The 11th today playing down the hill with some helping wind at 171. And the one thing you got to do here is protect against going long.

[00:09:24] >> Players always seem to have trouble getting the correct distance here, Bones. I think it's because of that swale right in front of the green. That kind of the ground just sort of disappears there for a while. It's hard to judge.

[00:09:34] >> It is. And to your point, I think here, Hideki bringing Shota in for a little discussion here as to exactly what this wind's doing at the moment. Hasn't been a whole lot of wind the last hour, but it has been fairly inconsistent in terms of the angle that it's been coming down the hill on. Hideki's going to hold up a 9-iron here.

[00:10:21] >> This ball up in the right to left wind. It's going to finish left of the flag.

[00:10:29] >> OK, not bad.

[00:10:32] >> Matsuyama's had his flirtations with this title. He's got three Top 10s. His best finish was a solo second years ago to this guy, Justin Thomas.

[00:10:44] >> Remember the beautiful tee shot by Kevin Yu at 14. Paying it off with an eagle.

[00:10:50] >> I mean, it's hard to hit a chip or a wedge shot that close. And he was able to do it with a driver. Helps the score as well.

[00:10:57] >> Absolutely.

[00:10:59] >> Catching up with Aberg at the par-5 18th, playing his third from just off the green.

[00:11:14] >> That's left for birdie to move to 4-under.

[00:11:17] >> Back at the beautiful 11th here, the par 3. Hideki, Justin Thomas company here.

[00:11:27] >> See the bunker being right there. Justin played out of that bunker. These greenside bunkers at Kapalua are so difficult. In fact, there was, I think, only one golf course on the PGA Tour where they're more tough to play out of last year than these bunkers. And Chris Kirk, last year when he won, did not hit it in a single greenside bunker.

[00:11:46] >> Why is that, you think, Ralph?

[00:11:47] >> I don't know. Maybe it's the sand.

[00:11:50] >> Not able to spin it quite as much you think?

[00:11:52] >> Yeah. Definitely can't spin it that much.

[00:11:56] >> Oh, Hideki just pours it in.

[00:11:58] >> How many putts has this guy made today?

[00:12:01] >> And now, here from short range.

[00:12:05] >> Nice up and down from short right of the green. Good start for Aberg.

[00:12:10] >> We jump back to the par-4 12th, where Scott is playing his second from the fairway.

[00:12:34] >> Flighting down the wedge, looking to skip one back there, but he's flung it a little bit too far. Poor shot from Adam there.

[00:12:40] >> Maybe decided to land that a little further after watching Hideki Matsuyama's ball spin back. Although that ball did roll back and get a little bit better.

[00:12:51] >> Interesting to see what kind of year out of Scott has. We're talking about Scottie Scheffler, and we kind of raised some eyebrows when Justin Thomas said, "I still fully believe that I can have a year like Scottie just had." I mean, he said, "There's no reason I can't. I think I would be doing myself a disservice if I didn't think I could at least do that." And so, it may come off as a little cocky, but that is the mentality that Justin Thomas has. And he's not afraid to kind of tell everybody the kind of player that he believes he can be and should be.

[00:13:25] >> I think that's very well said, Dan. The one thing, as you say, about Justin is he is not afraid to share with the media exactly how he feels about the state of the game or where he is or isn't in the world rankings, things along those lines. Just looking to pitch it downwind now. This looks really good for pace.

[00:13:44] >> Is it ever? He said being left off that President's Cup Team really burned at him as well.

[00:13:51] >> Now, back to the work with Adam Scott. On the green at the par-4 12th. Putting for birdie.

[00:14:07] >> Scott with a chance to take it to red figures. He moves to 1-under. Thomas also in the group, putting for birdie from close range. So 1-under as well.

[00:14:31] >> All right. You got to deliver here, right, Bones, with that too?

[00:14:35] >> Oh, you can. Yeah, for sure. Coming off a 15-footer at the last.

[00:14:39] >> That's right.

[00:14:40] >> This guy's not afraid of anything either. He will take this right at it.

[00:14:46] >> I'm saying no, Ralph. And I know you've seen a lot of action.

[00:14:51] >> And I'm saying no, too.

[00:15:05] >> Very high. Into the center of the green, it appears.

[00:15:11] >> Good catch the ridge.

[00:15:12] >> This going to be good.

[00:15:14] >> Oh, baby.

[00:15:14] >> This is going to be good.

[00:15:18] >> All right, stay tuned.

[00:15:21] >> Matsuyama putting for eagle at the par-5 15th.

[00:15:29] >> There you go.

[00:15:30] >> One for three. Not bad. And they play the hole in 4-under. That's not bad either.

[00:15:35] >> And Matsuyama is right back up there within two of Hoge's lead with plenty of golf left to catch him.

[00:15:42] >> We skip ahead to the par-5 18th, where we pick up Matsuyama playing his second from the fairway.

[00:15:48] >> Two-eighty-five front edge. The shot plays 20 yards down the hill. Just looking to smoke a 3-wood. Sending it out to the right. I would anticipate this getting something of a soft bounce.

[00:16:12] >> Correct.

[00:16:14] >> Back in the fairway at the 18th. Thomas playing his second into the par 5.

[00:16:19] >> Just 20 yards down the hill. Looking at like a 284, 260 front.

[00:16:26] >> This ball needs to turn over just a little bit more.

[00:16:32] >> Maybe just got caught a little bit in between clubs.

[00:16:36] >> Last to play in the group with the par-5 18th. Scott with his second.

[00:16:40] >> Going to play 243 adjusted to the front here. He should have no problem getting this fairway medal there. In fact, I think he can hold a cut up against the right to left breeze.

[00:16:49] >> He's taking right up the right center of the greens where he's looking.

[00:16:54] >> I think he can be aggressive from this left side.

[00:17:03] >> Yeah.

[00:17:05] >> Good shot there. I mean, when you get it down that left side, looks like that was maybe something like a 7-wood that he may have hit there.

[00:17:12] >> Now, Matsuyama with his third.

[00:17:15] >> Much like the guys in front of him, I assume he's going to play a shot that lands some 15 yards onto the green, then takes that slope directly towards the flag. Aiming just a little bit right of it as he looks at it.

[00:17:27] >> So this for the first round lead.

[00:17:28] >> Let's see if he tries to fly it onto the green. He went with the spinner.

[00:17:42] >> Given how that ball reacted on the green, it wouldn't surprise me if he caught that at groove low. I was surprised it didn't check up a little. All right. Justin went up and read the last half of this shot. Just like a putt. Let's see if he flies this on or just a little short.

[00:17:56] >> He just is able to pick it off of the grass. He hardly ever takes a divot when he pitches.

[00:18:08] >> So also carrying some speed. He won't be happy with that one either.

[00:18:16] >> Adam Scott trying to finish up here.

[00:18:19] >> And Smylie, I'm assuming that this is pretty close to where Max putted from for eagle also.

[00:18:23] >> It sure was. And he about made it too. Everybody's been missing in low, Bones, but Max was the only one to get it high enough and there.

[00:18:30] >> Kind of like that.

[00:18:31] >> That was well judged too from Adam. He's looked really solid today, Bones.

[00:18:36] >> Yeah, he really does look good. Looks great, obviously, with the broomstick putter. And, you know, you don't even have to question the guy's ball striking. He's, you know, still to this day one of the Top 10 ball strikers in the world, I feel.

[00:18:47] >> Let's not even mention the Red Sox.

[00:18:48] >> And the Red Sox. And experience matters on this golf course. And nobody's got more of it. He's played more golf than anybody at this place.

[00:18:57] >> Matsuyama putting for birdie to tie the lead at 9-under.

[00:19:09] >> Matsuyama gets through it. Tom Hoge will have the first round lead by himself.

[00:19:18] >> What an impressive round from Hideki Matsuyama in the tougher conditions. Like Ralph was talking about, difficult windy conditions, and Hideki just so solid on the greens.

[00:19:29] >> At the 18th, Thomas putting for birdie.

[00:19:38] >> Nice finish for Justin Thomas, who again, made that triple bogey seven at the third hole.

[00:19:46] >> He wanted to get under par going to the back nine, and be able to walk away with the buried 18 was huge for him. Get that confidence heading into his Friday round.

[00:19:55] >> It was a little up and down day for Justin Thomas, but in the end, he's 2-under and seven back and doable with three rounds of golf left.

[00:20:02] >> Tom Hoge with an opening round 9-under 64 leads the way. Matsuyama and Zalatoris just one back. Then, you got Morikawa. Cameron Young looking for his first win. Corey Connors just two back. Finau and a lot of other players still right in it as well.

[00:20:17] >> Round 2 is next.

[00:20:24] >> Second year in a row. This is the opening event of the PGA Tour Season. The one and only Plantation course at Kapalua. Weather has been absolutely perfect. The winds are down, so great scoring conditions on another 80 degree day. So Happy New Year, everybody. And if golf is not your thing, you can check out the surfing action of Honolua Bay out there. This guy had a good ride going until it ended abruptly. So we've already amassed a pretty good highlight reel thus far. And it is paced by Sepp Straka. We talked about, it was out 1-under. Then he birdies 10 through 15. And this was his second at the 16th, which came back, used the slope, made it seven birdies in a row for Straka, who has instantly got himself into contention in this tournament. Maverick McNealy broke through in the last event last fall on the PGA Tour for his first win, and he's bidding for his signature event win. Birdie at 13 there. Seven birdies to the first 15 holes for McNealy. And then, we just showed you Corey Connors and his finish. This was a part of it, a part of this stretch where he did indeed go 5-under in the last four holes. Birdie there at 17 drops. And Corey Connors is in contention at Kapalua. But everybody's still chasing Hideki Matsuyama, who began this day one off of Tom Hoge's first round lead. Hideki with a 65 yesterday staring down this tee shot. This is what you do at Kapalua. You use the slopes. And this of the 203 yard par-3 8th. A birdie there for Hideki Matsuyama, who changed putters. He is a tinkerer. So he's gone to a new putter. It paid off yesterday, and it's been paying off again today. This a long birdie putt at 11 to send him to 14-under. Matsuyama has had some close calls here at Kapalua, but has not been able to win yet. Maybe this is his week. Then, just a couple holes later here, at the 13th, his second up the hill, gauging everything, the elevation.

[00:22:32] And another chance for Matsuyama to put the lead at 15-under. And with this putting stroke and with this new putter, not a problem at all. So Hideki Matsuyama with a one shot leader for Corey Connors in the second round of the century. Exactly what Corey Connors has been doing. He's coming off a great stretch where he eagled the 15, birdied 16 and 17. So trying to go 5-under on his final four holes today. And Corey Connors, who began this second round two off the lead, turns in a pair of 66s. Thomas Detry on the tee at 14.

[00:23:13] >> We talk about a swing that's pretty to watch. And pretty effective. This is on a good line.

[00:23:21] >> That landed into a false front. It helped kill that ball just a little bit. He is going to have a great look at eagle.

[00:23:28] >> We jump ahead to Matsuyama, the leader, playing his second at the par-4 17th.

[00:23:34] >> Eight-iron from 185.



[00:23:36] >> With a downhill of 46 feet. There's the adjusted yards there.

[00:23:40] >> Not a lot of wind to deal with today.

[00:23:44] >> Trying to hold up a cut. This is on a really good line, if he's got the number right.

[00:23:48] >> Yeah, he does.

[00:23:51] >> Is that any good?

[00:23:52] >> What a shot.

[00:23:54] >> Detry looking to get a little closer here. Eagle at 14.

[00:23:59] >> Moving pretty good to his right.

[00:24:03] >> That's how you do it at the 14th. Little birdie eagle action there for Detry. Matsuyama over at 17.

[00:24:17] >> Straight back up the hill, as makeable as a 6-footer gets.

[00:24:24] >> There we go. Maybe the putter has a little more life. Another birdie for Matsuyama. The lead back up to two.

[00:24:32] >> We jump back a hole to the 16th, where Hall is playing his second into the par 4. He'll move to 11-under.

[00:24:50] >> Here's Detry back over at 16 with his second. Just 77 yards left

[00:24:58] >> On the land, this all the way to the hole. Those guys, with that hole location today at 16, every player is thinking taking advantage of that.

[00:25:06] >> Harry Hall is just off the green at 17.

[00:25:09] >> He's got a lot of closely mown grass to putt through here. Oh, come on.

[00:25:17] >> No problem.

[00:25:18] >> Come on. Nobody can make it from 10 feet from down there.

[00:25:23] >> Catching up with Morikawa at the par-5 18th, playing his second from the fairway.

[00:25:29] >> Now, you got to be careful. You cannot try to cover that left side with that wind in your face. Morikawa is not going to even flirt with it.

[00:25:38] >> No.

[00:25:39] >> Now, Morikawa with his third shot into the par 5.

[00:25:49] >> Based on that, the shot link has him at 78 yards, Bones. And he's talking about flying at 70. So he's going to try to take all of that early slope out of play.

[00:25:58] >> Yeah, exactly. Fly it as deep into the green as he possibly can. We've been talking a lot about how much spin all of a sudden he's been creating with these short shots.

[00:26:10][ Applause ]

[00:26:14] >> That to tie Matsuyama for the 36-hole lead.

[00:26:18] >> Boy, wouldn't it be a great place to finally win this tournament and break through and get another win? >>

[00:26:25] >> Yeah, this could surprise you too. This putt right here would be for the sixth consecutive birdie. And that would be the longest streak of his career consecutive birdie.

[00:26:35] >> Goes just a little left.

[00:26:38] >> It's just tough to judge it. Match the speed in the line. But Morikawa is going to be inside the Top 5 for the 13th time after 22 rounds he's played at Kapalua. He's just been living on the leaderboard here.

[00:26:52] >> And now, just a little left here for Morikawa to officially get in with one back of Matsuyama for the 36-hole leaderboard.

[00:27:09][ Applause ]

[00:27:11] >> Sixty-six, 65, Collin Morikawa.

[00:27:15] >> So it's Morikawa, Matsuyama, both off the strengths of 65. And you can't emphasize enough, Curt, Mark, the difference between yesterday and today. And again, I think a lot of it has to do with a lot of guys taking some time off and coming in here and kind of knocking the rust off of the golf course. Just played a ton easier today. Hole locations is what Houma and Theegala were talking about when they were with Smylie as well.

[00:27:38] >> Then you throw in very little wind. For Kapalua, it's very little wind all day long. And with those hole locations and fairly soft conditions as well, you just can't hide the flagstick from these guys. They're going to attack and they're going to shoot low scores.

[00:27:52] >> You saw Malnati go by there. He was one of those guys that had a 10 shot improvement, 54 to 64. Denny McCarthy with a much better day. And the list goes on and on.

[00:28:03] >> Round 3 is next.

[00:28:13] >> We say it every year, there is no place like it, the Plantation Course. And for the 27th time it's hosting what began as a record field of 60 when the golfers gathered here for the Season Open. It's moving day on Saturday. It's also moving day for the dolphins out in the beautiful turquoise waters here at the Pacific. Just breathtaking views everywhere you look. A few moments ago, we had three major champions tied for the lead at 17-under. This is how the US Open Champion from a couple of years ago joined the group at 17-under. Wyndham Clark with his second at the 6th. Almost went in. He's 4-under through the first six holes. You got to keep your foot on the gas to stay alive atop the leaderboard here at The Sentry. Collin Morikawa knows all about that. Two-time major

champion. He's never finished worse than seventh in five previous tournament appearances here. Second at the 4th, a birdie there, got him to 18-under. He began the day one back of Hideki Matsuyama, who he's playing with in the final group. Matsuyama birdied the 3rd, and then, came back with another one at the 4th to push it to 18-under and tie Morikawa at the top. We check out Matsuyama here at the par-5 5th. Bones is with this group. And Matsuyama and Morikawa tied for the lead. Bones, good morning.

[00:29:44] >> Thank you, Dan. Good morning. Big drive from Matsuyama here is left with just 189. Just trying to leave something a little short and left of this back right hole location. Cutting on a really nice line. Just a little deep. Had some helping wind there, I think a little more than he expected.

[00:30:03] >> At the 5th, Morikawa with his second into the par 5 from the fairway.

[00:30:12] >> And Collin who loves to cut the ball, maybe looking green light at this flag. He can just send something out from 185 the center of the green, and use the wind to get it to cut back a little bit more towards the flag. Just into the right center of the green. Good club selection there.

[00:30:34] >> The 5th, beautiful par 5. We got Matsuyama and Morikawa here with a couple of really good eagle looks.

[00:30:43] >> Putting back a little bit into the wind at the moment. Maybe be just a touch more aggressive than you otherwise would be with this downhill.

[00:30:50] >> Yeah. With the conditions like this, Bones, this is actually a putt you can make. Typically in fifth green, you don't see a lot of putts made, but he could make this one.

[00:30:58] >> Oh, it's looking good. It is an eagle for Morikawa to jump up to 20-under. Matsuyama trying to match Morikawa at the 5th.

[00:31:12] >> Putting out of a low area here. He can be quite a bit more aggressive than the other two players in that it's a little bit uphill, the first two-thirds.

[00:31:25] >> Matsuyama could have been lower than his second straight 65 yesterday had he made a few putts. But that's a tap in birdie. This is the second shot for Cam Davis at the short par 4. So he drove it to this point. Excellent chance to maybe pitch it in for eagle or -- Yeah. No, it is going to be an eagle.

[00:31:51] >> We jump back a few holes to the 11th, with Morikawa hitting his tee shot into the par three.

[00:31:58] >> Morikawa did say it early in the week. Bones, he said, I look at this like I can. I absolutely can birdie every hole out here.

[00:32:06] >> A lot going on this course route, Ralph, but do you think it favors a fader of the ball like Morikawa this place or not necessarily?

[00:32:14] >> You know, I always think a fader is the favorite because you can control it a lot better.

[00:32:23] >> Yelling at it to go left of the flag.

[00:32:26] >> Oh, it's fine.

[00:32:26] >> Great club.

[00:32:28] >> Man.

[00:32:29] >> At the 11th, Morikawa putting for birdie to tie the lead at 22-under.

[00:32:43] >> Yes, sir. We're starting to see some separation now with Matsuyama and Morikawa. Look at them both there at 22 under. And next best score, four shots higher than that.

[00:32:55] >> Over at the 12, Matsuyama, Bones.

[00:32:57] >> From 124, no wind. Just a comfortable gap wedge. Bringing it in from left to right.

[00:33:15] >> Didn't look like he liked it at all. I was just about to say anything outside of 10 would be a poor shot. And of course, he almost makes it.

[00:33:23] >> The 12th now. Matsuyama for birdie to tie the lead at 23-under.

[00:33:30] >> And you just marvel at this guy's approach game. So many one arm shots, so many shots that he seems to thin a little bit to end up right next to the hole. His misses are tremendous.

[00:33:42] >> We skip ahead a few holes to the par-5 18th with Matsuyama playing his second from the fairway.

[00:33:53] >> Two-ninety-five front edge. It's 24 yards downhill, so let's say 271, wind back in. He's going to have to hammer something here to get it within 20 yards of the green. He sits this nicely up the left side of the fairway.

[00:34:18] >> Oh, he's gotten aggressive, didn't he, Bones? How good was this?

[00:34:21] >> That is a power 3-wood right there. Holy cow.

[00:34:27] >> Step up and hit that shot. Especially with the numbers that you just spit out of this, Bones, he had to hit that right on the button. And from that lie, how good was that?

[00:34:46] >> Morikawa, not wasting a lot of time here stepping in.

[00:34:50] >> He saw the picture.

[00:34:51] >> Playing more of a cut shot. I think this is basically a aggressive layup.

[00:34:53] >> That couldn't have fit his eye quite as much, Bones, with the cut that he hits.

[00:34:55] >> Morikawa going through the motions here with his third.

[00:34:56] >> From 47 yards. And it appears as though he's going to hit a carvey cutty 60 here trying to spin it.

[00:34:59] >> This is the cut spinner, Bones. Trying to fly this on the green.

[00:35:01] >> Beautiful sound.

[00:35:03] >> Oh, that was so well executed.

[00:35:10] >> Man, is this guy taking it next level with his short shots.

[00:35:16] >> Oh, man, that's just such a small little landing area that he was dealing with. Just hit it right on the number.

[00:35:22] >> And Dan, I can't tell you how proud he was of that second shot. He walked past me with the biggest grin on his face I've ever seen from a guy playing in the third round of a tournament.

[00:35:34] >> He doesn't show a whole lot of emotion, Bones, though. It's been a good day when he was fortunate at 17 and was able to hit that bullet across the ravine here at 18.

[00:35:43] >> Still have to manage the pace here. Uphill, turning left.

[00:35:44] >> Popped it pretty good. The right speed on it. That's pretty good.

[00:35:46] >> Morikawa at 18 for birdie.

[00:35:55] >> What a say for Morikawa. And he's had a lot of good days here. But this one takes the cake. Sixty-two, momentarily tied with Matsuyama. But Matsuyama has a great look to keep the one shot lead.

[00:36:15] >> No matter what Matsuyama does here, guys, we got one heck of a shootout going on tomorrow afternoon out here on this great golf course.

[00:36:25] >> You had to have a pretty good seat today, Bones.

[00:36:34] >> Yeah, it's going to be fun.

[00:36:36] >> Walks it right in. It's a new 54-hole tournament record for Hideki Matsuyama. Most birdies in a round. And this is the 921st career round that he's had.

[00:36:47] >> Twenty-seven-under par. It almost looks like a misprint looking at it on a Saturday. But no win. These guys, they can go very deep and they showed it.

[00:36:59] >> Also in the process matches the lowest 54-hole total to par in PGA Tour history. It was a day to remember at the Plantation Course, especially for Matsuyama and Morikawa.

[00:37:17] >> The final round is next.

[00:37:18] >> The game's best return to Hawaii, where the 2025 race for the FedExCup begins. With the PGA Tour's Opening Drive.

[00:37:21] >> Starting here, testing a game against the best players on the PGA Tour, it's what it's all about.

[00:37:24] >> This is the best of the best. It's fun being here, fighting against the best competition in the world.

[00:37:26] >> There's no place like starting in Hawaii. It's special.

[00:37:35] >> Best New Year's postcard you could possibly imagine. Great way to start off the 25 PGA Tour Season, the first of eight signature events being staged here. The scoring average yesterday was 67.49, the fourth lowest scoring average to par in PGA Tour history. But the winds are up a little bit. The waves are cracking out there. This guy giving it a shot in the nearby bay. Hanging in there until he takes a back seat. But a gorgeous day for golf, just like it has been all week. This was earlier in his final round after a couple of pars at 1 and 2, his second at the par-4 3rd. From 107 yards out, the eagle drops in for Matsuyama. It has been building up into a duel between Hideki and Collin Morikawa. And on the same hole, Morikawa for birdie to just lose one to Hideki. Clutch birdie. And so, Matsuyama still had that two shot lead there. And then, just seconds ago at the par-5 5th, Matsuyama and his third shot at this par 5. The field has been tearing this par 5 up today. Matsuyama setting up another birdie to get it to 30-under. And he's only through his first five holes of his final round.

[00:38:57] >> Seventy-one trying to land at 69. Straight at it.

[00:39:00] >> Yes.

[00:39:09] >> So the 71 he's talking about, that's the adjusted yardage for the slope. So 8-iron in his hands. And to your point, Smylie, this is a chance to attack. You know, these guys look for these openings like this. And with his iron game as good as he is, he needs to put something in there and start putting some pressure on.

[00:39:28] >> His miss has been a slight pull. Let's see if he's able to actually get some cut on this shot.

[00:39:39] >> This is going to cut right at the flag. May get some help from the slope there.

[00:39:45] >> Should push off this right shoulder, get a little closer.

[00:39:49] >> You're right, Smylie. That was more the cut that Morikawa could just dial in shot after shot.

[00:39:58] >> Just a touch of help in this left to right wind.

[00:40:01] >> I would expect to see a three quarter follow through here from Hideki just to control the flight a little bit. This isn't a full one from him.

[00:40:09] >> This is on a really good line, if he's got the number.

[00:40:16] >> Boy, it's not a solid, Bones. And it is. Both he and Morikawa with good looks at birdies at the par-3 8th.

[00:40:25] >> We jump up to the green at 8, with Matsuyama putting for birdie.

[00:40:31] >> This putt should move a little to his right in the first half, and then, straighten right at the end. But let me tell you, it is pumping out here all of a sudden. Going to make making this putt much, much harder.

[00:40:43] >> You can see him setting up over it right now. He's going to be giving it plenty of break, bring at least a foot looks like.

[00:41:01] >> Morikawa now putting for birdie at the 8th, looking to match Matsuyama.

[00:41:10] >> It is gusty. Tough to stay still over these putts.

[00:41:14] >> Or a great answer. Matches it. Boy, did he need that. Stays within three. Matsuyama and Morikawa continue this duel on Maui in the final round of The Sentry.

[00:41:34] >> Just going straight across.

[00:41:36] >> Straight across?

[00:41:37] >> Yeah.

[00:41:38] >> See how hard they're grinding on the wind. It's mostly left to right. You have to get this wind right if you're thinking about attacking this flagstick. I think you have to play just a touch of help here.

[00:41:48] >> So hard gauging the distance, Curt. This hole is 22 paces from the front edge, but that front edge is way over on the right-hand side. So it's not nearly the 22 paces from the front edge of the bunker over on the left on the direct line to the pin. Not a lot of room over there.

[00:42:06] >> Kind of a mid-150s shot adjusted for the slope.

[00:42:12] >> The shot does not fit his cut.

[00:42:19] >> We started right at it, just drifting a little. It's an excellent shot. Great shot.

[00:42:24] >> Boy, what a time to hit it too.

[00:42:31] >> Morikawa has the full press on Matsuyama.

[00:42:35] >> Well, that got my man Hideki's attention, I'm sure. That was one heck of an effort. Let's see how aggressive he wants to be with a lead.

[00:42:47] >> Still playing under par. Look at the average score this week. Just a half shot under par for the four rounds. Eighty-four percent hit the green of regulation still. So it is gettable, even though there is definite danger if you mishit it.

[00:43:29] >> He's bailed on this one big time. He's going to finish well right of the hole.

[00:43:33] >> At the 11th, Matsuyama putting first for birdie.

[00:43:42] >> There's very little movement in this dance, so I think he's got a really good idea what it does. And I got to think he's thinking make here. He's going to want to stay aggressively considering Morikawa's got a little bit of momentum right now.

[00:44:09] >> Bones has made two putt from 30 feet on this hole this week.

[00:44:13] >> Are you kidding?

[00:44:14] >> Walking after it. How many were you saying? And that would be the third there, Bones.

[00:44:19] >> Matsuyama would camp out there at 11 and join a few.

[00:44:22] >> That is an incredible performance of putting at this hole alone.

[00:44:29] >> Did it change the mindset, thinking, OK, I got a chance to get another one here on Matsuyama? And then, he has to watch that.

[00:44:34] >> Know that if he misses, he's back down to four.

[00:44:35] >> Clutch.

[00:44:35] >> So Morikawa not giving much.

[00:44:36] >> Then, how about Hideki Matsuyama making 97 feet of putts on the 11th hole?

[00:44:51] >> Matsuyama now has 118 yards, and certainly the ability here to separate himself that much more from Collin. But the wind is really picking up in the last several seconds.

[00:45:05] >> I think he could just go chippy pitching wedge here. Keep the ball under the wind that's straight into him.

[00:45:12] >> Typically, Hideki will set up a left ball back the three quarter follow through when he wants to break the ball down.

[00:45:22] >> Big wind gust as he steps away from the ball. No need with the kind of lead he has to play anything quickly. Wait out the wind, make sure it's doing exactly what you want it to do.

[00:45:35] >> You definitely don't want to club up in this situation, Bones, for the heavy gust, because the last thing you want to do is go longer than this green.

[00:45:44] >> That's a great point.

[00:45:45] >> Look at that beautiful shot. Ocean in the background.

[00:46:02] >> Trying to keep it under the wind. It's on a good line. We'll see if he can get it in the green. And he just gets knocked down by the wind.

[00:46:09] >> Up at the 12th green, Matsuyama putting for birdie to extend his lead to four.



[00:46:21] >> Is that a good stroke or what? Matsuyama is going to have at least a four shot lead.

[00:46:30] >> Ahead at 14, Morikawa playing his second into the par 4 from the bunker.

[00:46:34] >> Well, the lie is perfect. It's flat. It's in a rake job. It's really well done. So there's nothing about the lie. It's the uphill. It's the false front to carry it to the top of the false front, you're only carrying -- you're carrying it almost four steps short of the hole location. He had two sand wedges out. I think he thought about bumping it into the false front.

[00:46:54] >> Four guys have driven it in this bunker today. Everybody's gotten it up and down for birdie.

[00:46:59] >> You see on the follow through base on which club he selected. That's the 60.

[00:47:04] >> Got to go. Oh, what a shot. Just on top.

[00:47:07] >> I'd say much improved from that effort from the year he was in that same bunker and hit it over the car path and eventually lost the tournament.

[00:47:16] >> Right back to 14, Morikawa for birdie.

[00:47:21] >> Chance to putt first, make birdie, and put a little pressure on hopefully.

[00:47:26] >> Got to have it. And hope that Matsuyama misses.

[00:47:30] >> Really nice up and down from that greenside bunker. Forty-yard bunker shots, those are not easy, especially to a little tucked hole location.

[00:47:40] >> We skip ahead and catch up with the final group at the par-4 16th. Matsuyama playing his second from the fairway.

[00:47:54] >> Great lie, great angle, 76 yards. He's just got to make sure he takes care of the false front that Curt referenced. Make sure your ball flies at least 2 or 3 -- within 2 or 3 yards of the flag.

[00:48:06] >> He's had this numbered four days in a row. Tons of comfort. Hit a beauty in there yesterday to a tap in.

[00:48:11] >> Let's see if he plays behind the hole like he did yesterday.

[00:48:17] >> Oh, man, almost made eagle.

[00:48:22] >> Lucky missed the flagstick or that would have come all the way off the green.

[00:48:26] >> Jumping up to the 16th green, Matsuyama putting for birdie.

[00:48:29] >> Dan, how many times over the years have you watched Hideki Matsuyama and just his overall mental temperament ever see him get mad? He just always is so even keeled, and on Sundays, like Curt just talked about, and Bones, he just is able to just keep it so level.

[00:48:49] >> He doesn't strike me as a nervous golfer in the least, whether he's made birdies on the back nine with the lead or the occasional bogey.

[00:48:56] >> He doesn't let us in very much. I mean, he gets in that media room afterwards and is pretty succinct with all of his answers. He gets asked a lot of questions, but doesn't give a lot up as to what is really going inside.

[00:49:09] >> Looks like he's playing this just outside the left. Got to keep it up.

[00:49:12] >> He lets his clubs do the talking. And they just delivered another birdie.

[00:49:16] >> We catch up with Morikawa at 18 playing his second shot into the par 5.

[00:49:36] >> How good is this? I mean, that's what we saw most of the week for Morikawa.

[00:49:41] >> To Matsuyama now at the 18th with his second from the fairway.

[00:49:47] >> Yes, with the lead, I'm sure that drive from Hideki off 18 tee felt so good. Well past his playing partners.

[00:50:01] >> He's just looking at the right Side of the green here.

[00:50:04] >> Picked it off the ground, heading right of the green I think.

[00:50:09] >> That's right where he was aiming. No sense to accidentally hit a draw into the penalty area.

[00:50:16] >> Hideki not messing around. He wants to get his hands on the trophy. Playing very quickly.

[00:50:25] >> Went with the cut spinner, down grain, out of that fringe area.

[00:50:31] >> Morikawa putting for eagle at 18.

[00:50:34] >> Close calls. He played in the last pairing of both the Masters and the PGA. But he had disappointing rounds, did not break any par in either of those final rounds. But you get the feeling that Collin Morikawa is going to take care of that elusive win at 25.

[00:50:51] >> It's a little intimidating to think. If he knocks this in, he's 33-under par for the week. So he's averaging better than 8-under par a day and it's not going to be good enough.

[00:51:00] >> Second closest shot, Curt, at 18 to get in two. Just 20 feet.

[00:51:06] >> Have to settle for 32-under.

[00:51:09] >> Yeah.

[00:51:11] >> Still an incredible week from Collin.

[00:51:13] >> Yup.

[00:51:13] >> He's going to be shaking his head about a couple ones that he let get away today.

[00:51:17] >> Matsuyama now putting for birdie. Looking to put an exclamation point on the week. Needs this birdie to break the scoring record.

[00:51:40] >> Record breaking win for Hideki Matsuyama, 35-under, where no one has ever gone before in a PGA Tour 72-hole event.

[00:51:57] >> What a master class performance from Hideki. Almost birdied to get to 36-under par almost. Burning half of your holes is just incredible. Thirty-five, breaking the record.

[00:52:08] >> Little bow there from his caddie.

[00:52:09] >> Here's Matsuyama after his win.

[00:52:21] >> I was able to get a great offset season and get a fresh start this week and play well this week. So it's great way to start.

[00:52:29] >> Congratulations. Mahalo. We'll see you next week.

[00:52:31] >> Thank you.

[00:52:33] >> This concludes the PGA Tour's coverage of The Sentry from the Plantation Course at Kapalua, Maui, Hawaii.