

Production Transcript for **REWIND_25RSM_VALIMAKI**

[00:00:26.079]>>The PGA TOUR is proud to bring you.

[00:00:29.879]>>The FedExCup Fall.

[00:00:33.959]>>Now coverage of the 2025 RSM Classic.

[00:00:40.430]>>It is the final 7th of 7 FedExCup Fall events with everything on the line at the Sea Island Golf Club and beautiful views right on the shores of the Atlantic Ocean, Saint Simons Island, Georgia.

[00:00:55.919]>>And the temperature and the weather cooperating as well. The wind is down, the temperature is up. That is not always the case here. It can be bitterly cold at times. This golf course, compared to last week in Bermuda is perfect. The weather is perfect, and it's gonna be a very low scoring day.

[00:01:25.269]>>The Seaside Course is the host course. They are playing the plantation courses you saw as well. Half the field on each for the 1st 2 days. We'll play the Seaside Course on the weekend after making the cut.

[00:01:37.769]>>And they are overseeded, the cool weather grasses.

[00:01:42.730]>>Because we get some cool temperatures as well, but at the top of the leaderboard, the action is hot. This is what's at stake here. We're trying to cut down just to the top 100. You want to be fully exempt for next season. We got a lot of guys on that bubble from 51 to 60, you play your way into the Aon Next 10, you get in the first two signature events of next season. And if you happen to win this golf tournament, the full two-year exemption, 500 FedExCup points.

[00:02:12.860]>>And you're in THE PLAYERS Championship.

[00:02:16.279]>>There are players. Last week, 3 of them sailing into the top 100. Look at the boats there with Fisk, Schenk and Brennan. Schenk winning his way in.

[00:02:30.089]>>Vince Whaley and Rico Hoey with a couple of, uh, other ships coming along. They've got chances and then these guys are on the bubble.

[00:02:41.649]>>Better make sure you make the cut this week or your ship could be sunk.

[00:03:08.429]>>Oh, and that is just poured right in from 45 ft. That helps the scorecard. Doubles his score under par and only a couple of par 5s, you better play them well.

[00:03:21.839]>>This is the 8th, and there's another Sea Island resident, Brian Harman.

[00:03:28.020]>>Brendan DeYoung is going to follow this group here today. Good afternoon, Brendan.

[00:03:32.850]>>Good afternoon, gentlemen. Well, you guys were talking about what a beautiful day it is out here and it is absolutely fantastic, very little breeze.

[00:03:40.699]>>And a great opportunity to shoot some good scores.

[00:03:44.710]>>Brian Harman will be first, elected to lay up off the tee, just hit some sort of rescue club down the left side, but this is where he makes his money. I think more than just a little wedge in here to number 8.

[00:04:00.320]>>One of these players that are well inside that top 50 number are either living in the area, why not sleep in your own bed, come out and play a course you've seen plenty of times and.

[00:04:11.270]>>This course just suits Harman down to a tee.

[00:04:15.440]>>Oh, he hits it.

[00:04:28.760]>>Go

[00:04:30.540]>>Oh, on command. Also these courses, some of the toughest from 100 yards to get it inside 20 ft, ranks 3rd on the PGA TOUR. So, that is because the majority of shots hit by these guys are from that length.

[00:04:45.059]>>Andrew Novak, there's Brendan's plane leaving.

[00:04:50.079]>>Just parachuted down here in time, BK. Different play from Novak, took driver off the tee. Now just a little pitch up the green. You make sure you get this to the hole, there is a slope short.

[00:05:03.779]>>Beautiful. Just deciding where to land it there with the grain changes and that's comfortability, fluid all the way there off that little downhill light. Beautiful spin.

[00:05:16.399]>>Andrew Putnam, everybody else trying to play catch up. The wind is down and the scores are good at this RSM Classic.

[00:05:25.959]>>The color contrast is beautiful, isn't it? With the marsh and the and the overseeded fairways which make it a gorgeous color of green. It's fab.

[00:05:34.730]>>It's a great observation. Here's a guy that takes that in on a daily basis.

[00:05:39.160]>>Davis Thompson.

[00:05:41.200]>>Over at the Plantation Course.

[00:05:46.779]>>That's an amazing shot from some of the waste areas. They strike the ball so well, it's not a problem.

[00:05:52.820]>>Davis gets to 7 under par.

[00:05:56.200]>>We jump back to the Seaside Course at the par 3.

[00:06:03.950]>>Here's Mark Hubbard for birdie.

[00:06:09.660]>>But it is downhill.

[00:06:11.750]>>And that's rolled out unbelievably well. Looked like it was gonna struggle all day long. And it's a ho-hum from 40 ft back to level.

[00:06:25.010]>>We'll back up another hole to the 9th and Doug Ghim from the right.

[00:06:32.250]>>Keep turning, Keep turning, oh.

[00:06:36.190]>>Joyful

[00:06:37.690]>>50 at the turn for Doug Ghim.

[00:06:41.730]>>Quick start.

[00:06:46.140]>>At 12 with Novak hitting his tee shot at the par 3.

[00:06:54.459]>>Brendan, you know, if you don't use those plane tickets, they give you the credits. He didn't have to come.

[00:07:01.029]>>Ah, you're exactly right, but, uh, you know, why not, why not get a look at all these courses, at least you won't be fresh next year now Novak ball on the way.

[00:07:12.100]>>Yeah, that's very good. That's within a couple feet of where he would have been aiming. Good twirl game there from Novak. Very good.

[00:07:20.179]>>Yeah.

[00:07:25.260]>>Now Doug Ghim at the 10th.

[00:07:28.459]>>He's got a line here. Oh, gets it back up on top of that shelf. He gets to 6 under par.

[00:07:38.410]>>Jumping up to the par 3 12th with Novak putting for birdie.

[00:07:46.029]>>To 5 under par.

[00:07:56.040]>>Uh, back over to the Plantation Course, Davis Thompson for birdie here at 7.

[00:08:00.940]>>This is for a 2, it's a little diddy par 3 this just over 155 yards. Will it get there?

[00:08:07.290]>>Yeah, it will.

[00:08:09.809]>>So his day gets better.

[00:08:11.730]>>And this is the easier of the two courses.

[00:08:15.019]>>So Davis Thompson now 8 under with 2 to play.

[00:08:26.070]>>Brian Harman here at 13.

[00:08:29.299]>>That's a pretty sweet wedge shot.

[00:08:31.750]>>He'll get to 3 under par.

[00:08:35.950]>>Here's Novak at 13.

[00:08:39.200]>>Just trying to fly something over the top of that big gaping bunker.

[00:08:44.070]>>Oh yeah, he's done so nicely. He moves to 6 under par, now to the par 4th 18th with Kim putting for birdie.

[00:09:04.789]>>And a long birdie putt goes in for Si Woo back in 29 with a red number. That's ridiculous, borderline.

[00:09:15.450]>>Over to the Plantation Course with Thompson playing his approach at 9.

[00:09:20.190]>>That's Davis Thompson, who's improved to -9, and he's got another birdie putt.

[00:09:25.510]>>It's 10.

[00:09:28.719]>>Takumi Kanaya.

[00:09:36.340]>>From long range. Oh yeah, what a pot.

[00:09:41.520]>>He's just turned it on here a little bit after the slow start and look 4 unders done nothing for him. How do you feel about that?

[00:09:50.570]>>Here's Davis Thompson, finishing hole.

[00:09:54.799]>>And he's in with 62.

[00:10:00.619]>>At 17 with Brennan putting for Birdie at the par 3.

[00:10:07.849]>>It's an interesting

[00:10:10.099]>>Contrast to the 40 mile an hour gusts last week to a complete still week the following week, and sometimes your swing can be a little bit out because you've been buffeted for 4 days.

[00:10:22.190]>>Yeah, to your point, Rob, it's, it's very difficult to to come play a week like this after you have been playing in those heavy winds, but there you go, when you at least expect it from outside of 60 ft.

[00:10:35.419]>>Well, he gets back to level, birdie the last and he'll need 5 under minimum tomorrow.

[00:10:42.390]>>We are gonna have fun with it tomorrow. A little fog is in the forecast for the morning, could slow things down. We don't have too much more daylight than is required to finish this field sunset just after 5 o'clock Eastern time.

[00:10:56.849]>>Uh, they've got plenty more daylight today, so hopefully that's not tested tomorrow and hopefully we get another good one of these here, Rob. I, I love these sprints. Well, it's gonna be, uh, tomorrow is a big day. We talk about Sunday, but tomorrow is a big day.

[00:11:11.969]>>The players who need to make the cut, just to make just a few points, they could be just a hair's breadth from keeping their car for next season, but if they don't play the weekend, they are sweating.

[00:11:22.169]>>For 2 full days, that is a horrible place to be.

[00:11:25.859]>>James, the stress of the last start of the year. Yeah, shout out to Matt Wallace, 3 under his back nine to get to 3 under, a guy that needs to make the cut to have a chance.

[00:11:37.409]>>Round 2 is next.

[00:11:46.150]>>And we have reached the finishing stretch, the 7th of 7 FedExCup Fall events, the end of a fun season on the PGA TOUR. It's been fun for us, maybe not so fun for

the guys in this field trying to play to keep their exempt status, but it's a gorgeous setting for it. Sea Island Golf Club on Saint Simons Island in Georgia.

[00:12:15.359]>>Here's Mitchell

[00:12:17.429]>>And there you go. He's got no cut line issues. He's up to 11 under.

[00:12:28.859]>>Here's our leader, Andrew Novak.

[00:12:35.380]>>Other dialed in short iron for Novak.

[00:12:38.780]>>Time and time again, the course has got no defense, perfect surfaces and soft plugging greens. It's dart ball for these guys.

[00:12:49.580]>>Uh, at 16, this is Adrien Dumont de Chassart.

[00:12:55.440]>>Oh.

[00:12:57.469]>>It's gonna get him to 9 under.

[00:13:06.830]>>Lipsky over at 11.

[00:13:12.039]>>Oh, yeah. David Lipsky.

[00:13:18.030]>>So we watched Ricky Castillo at 9.

[00:13:29.950]>>He gets to 13 under par.

[00:13:33.809]>>We jump ahead to 13 with Lower playing his approach from the fairway at the par 4.

[00:13:42.440]>>He'll moved to 4 under.

[00:13:47.940]>>At 17 now with Valimaki.

[00:13:53.679]>>His tee shot at the par 3.

[00:14:04.799]>>Some work left from off the green.

[00:14:11.609]>>At 14 with his playing his approach from the fairway at the par 4.

[00:14:20.309]>>Back right hole location here, that's a good start. Beautiful shot all the way back there, kick in.

[00:14:27.950]>>To the par 3 17th Valimaki putting for birdie from off the green.

[00:14:36.030]>>This is Sami Valimaki by the way, from off the back of the green when he'd hit it too far and he's just drained that.

[00:14:42.969]>>Which affects everything.

[00:14:45.260]>>Solo 2.

[00:14:48.489]>>It moves Valimaki to projected 53rd.

[00:14:55.229]>>At 13 now with Dahmen playing his second at the par 4.

[00:14:59.460]>>All right, here's Joel Dahmen now, still looking for one. There we go. That's the one we needed. Yeah, that's what you need. You need to go up there, just kiss one in from a foot. He gets to 5 under.

[00:15:13.919]>>At the par 5 15th, Rosner putting for an eagle.

[00:15:21.869]>>The

[00:15:23.210]>>Long range there. That's an eagle at 15.

[00:15:28.489]>>The 10 under

[00:15:34.099]>>Uh, Michael Thorbjornsen over here at 3.

[00:15:37.859]>>That's a low flying with an open face, and that is a Brucie. That is such a bonus from down there.

[00:15:45.260]>>How about those hands? Yeah.

[00:15:53.929]>>We'll go over to the 9th and Eric Cole.

[00:16:01.460]>>Oh, there you go. There's another guy up there near the top.

[00:16:11.070]>>Move ahead.

[00:16:12.630]>>To 16 and Rosner.

[00:16:17.510]>>32 year old Frenchman.

[00:16:21.190]>>A couple of threes in a row. Rosenmuller making a move. The end of the season.

[00:16:28.880]>>Patrick Fishburn with a birdie look here at the 18th.

[00:16:33.909]>>This will just be creeping next to the hole.

[00:16:38.200]>>Oh, how about going in?

[00:16:40.520]>>At a time where you think maybe the cut could be 8 under a 7 under, I'll just pour this in for birdie, great putt.

[00:16:48.469]>>This is Lower.

[00:16:50.070]>>It's got a very busy, energetic swing.

[00:16:55.020]>>What a time to do it. Hit it in there to gimme range, great shot.

[00:17:00.869]>>Over at 15, birdie putt for Nico Echavarria. Echavarria loves this place. Second place finish last year, had a putt on the last to get into a playoff. It's a long birdie putt to have at a par 5, but to take it.

[00:17:15.729]>>Let's go over to the Plantation Course. Here is that US amateur champion, Mason Howell. Mason Howell, another exciting young player, he's just committed to Georgia.

[00:17:26.550]>>How about that par for an eagle.

[00:17:30.310]>>He gets to 3 over.

[00:17:35.949]>>Andrew Novak, the man at the top.

[00:17:39.079]>>Two shots clear.

[00:17:44.130]>>We've reached the halfway mark of this RSM Classic.

[00:17:48.660]>>A seaside paradise.

[00:17:51.479]>>Round 3 is next.

[00:18:01.609]>>From the Sea Island Golf Club on St Simons Island, Georgia. Beautiful views of the causeway, and if you look the right direction, you can see the Atlantic Ocean.

[00:18:13.530]>>There's a wonderful vacation spot.

[00:18:17.170]>>Just a little bit north of PGA TOUR headquarters and the temperatures have been wonderful this week. We can get cold every once in a while this time of year, but that is not what's happened. The wind poking its head above ground.

[00:18:33.510]>>Michael Thorbjornsen almost 50 yards closer to the green here, Brendan. Michael Thorbjornsen's got 215 yards to the front of the green. When right left, maybe a little bit of help, and this is a 7 iron, so he's gonna have to start this out way right and try and get it riding that breeze.

[00:18:52.280]>>Maybe playing for a little bit of a jumper. Starts on a great line. I don't know if that's gonna get all the way to the green.

[00:19:03.180]>>Good call, Brendan, good call.

[00:19:07.329]>>Back out to 7 and Thorbjornsen.

[00:19:10.989]>>Well thought out shot took long completely out of play. This one carrying a little bit of speed.

[00:19:17.579]>>OK, pretty good. The wind just moving a little further from the hole, but that'll be straight up the hill.

[00:19:25.099]>>Valimaki here at 8.

[00:19:27.900]>>Oh, what a shot. Back right hole location, wind off the right, the big fin just stuffs it in there. So, so he plays, he's the, he's the finished pin seeker, that's what he does.

[00:19:41.510]>>All right, back out to the 7th now and Thorbjornsen.

[00:19:45.170]>>Yeah, to Rob's point, this pin is cut exactly on, well, it's a little bit of a grain change and it's kind of a crested part of the green, but Thorbjornsen's left it in a perfect spot. It can be aggressive up the hill.

[00:19:57.510]>>Yeah, that's a well thought out birdie there.

[00:20:00.000]>>He made a run in Japan in the final round. It was utterly exhilarating, and I have got big plans for this kid, Michael Thorbjornsen.

[00:20:13.189]>>An 8 Keefer for birdie. Long range, this would be a bonus.

[00:20:18.469]>>He moves to 15 under par.

[00:20:22.439]>>Zac Blair looks like he's gonna give us something special here at 14.

[00:20:27.050]>>Use that breeze. Oh it's high fade in there. Playing a shot here, BK, I love it.

[00:20:34.599]>>Most of the guys would have just gone straight over that tree. He didn't have that.

[00:20:41.109]>>Over at 9, Sami Valimaki. From 164. Only one can find the flag he can. Get in, get in. He's the pin seeker. He just goes looking at flags. Back here at 8, we see the disparity in distance from 88 yards farther away than Thorbjornsen, this is Rodgers. And a tough one to keep far enough right, that seems to get down. Oh, big mistake there with just a wedge. His mistake is gonna be very difficult.

[00:21:15.959]>>Blair. How about that 3 at 14.

[00:21:23.109]>>Almost a Justin Rose walking, wasn't it?

[00:21:28.449]>>And our final group back here at the 8th. Well, the only thing Patrick Rodgers has going in his favor is that this ball did get into the first cut. That little bit of

cushion underneath it is going to make this much easier for him to flip it up. Only way to stop this is with elevation. Oh, and a ton of spin.

[00:21:47.020]>>Watch the speed here.

[00:21:49.219]>>Oh, he's flown this too far. This needs to get down.

[00:21:52.290]>>All kinds of problems for Patrick Rodgers. Part of this quartet of leaders at 17 under.

[00:22:01.030]>>Yeah, and you know, we, we start asking the questions. Patrick Rodgers was obviously one of those guys that was uber talented coming out of Stanford, you know, just all sorts of wins at the collegiate career. Big things were expected of him on tour. Now over 300 starts without a win out here. Is he one of those guys, maybe he gets a little bit too conservative as he gets around the lead. It's gonna be something that we're gonna have to watch today and tomorrow.

[00:22:27.369]>>A quick one here coming out of that fringe needs to settle.

[00:22:30.729]>>Uh, that's gonna leave a couple of feet left for the bogey and what is really one of the easier par 4s on the golf course.

[00:22:39.160]>>At 9 with Valimaki putting for birdie.

[00:22:42.439]>>I said I've given this to Valimaki, uh, the brilliance of the approach again. feels lucky he didn't hole it in the air. He's, he's on a different game plan to Patrick Rodgers.

[00:22:54.800]>>And bogey there for Patrick Rodgers, was just all out of sorts.

[00:23:06.760]>>To 9. Patrick Rodgers ball in the air right at it.

[00:23:11.520]>>Oh, how to make amends, hey, how to make amends after just a very weakly played 8 pole which you could drive it up within a chipping distance, and you come right back at the next.

[00:23:23.099]>>He gets to 17 under par.

[00:23:29.310]>>Let's move up to 15. This is Zack Blair here. Got here in 2 at the other par 5.

[00:23:37.489]>>I'm trying to get this to release down to the hole, not quite.

[00:23:45.719]>>Out to 15, Blair for birdie.

[00:23:49.810]>>He's finding distance with that putter, that's keeping him sane that, look at that rattled it in from all over the place. One back Zac Blair.

[00:24:00.569]>>At 15 with Valimaki playing his approach from the fairway at the par 5.

[00:24:08.709]>>233.

[00:24:11.199]>>It's like he's got a lot of club here to me.

[00:24:19.719]>>Oh, has he fetched it back, wind down off the right, carry the bunker.

[00:24:25.010]>>And it has by a a Nats, you know what.

[00:24:30.050]>>Ear?

[00:24:31.319]>>You could go with ear, you could go with ear. There you go. He is good.

[00:24:38.349]>>He's just making the right decisions over and over.

[00:24:54.880]>>Sami Valimaki though, our leader.

[00:24:58.819]>>And really take control here.

[00:25:04.689]>>Oh, here's a good view.

[00:25:08.839]>>It's not bad, you know. Oh, it didn't need much more.

[00:25:13.089]>>A little bit of shine on top of the grass now, afternoon shine, which when the breeze is kicking a little bit, is never comforting.

[00:25:22.280]>>And we're not seeing a lot of putts go in today with this wind.

[00:25:27.069]>>And to your point, Rob.

[00:25:30.439]>>This Bermuda sometimes, and this is one of those cases, can look a lot faster than it is.

[00:25:39.469]>>What I've got for you here is a little tap in to get to 19 under and he's the man to catch.

[00:25:49.579]>>Sami Valimaki takes advantage of the easiest hole in the course.

[00:25:54.390]>>2 putt birdie, 3 shot lead.

[00:26:01.670]>>Novak's 2nd.

[00:26:05.229]>>Can he get this hit shot right, and a lot of players just buy this whole location and that's very nicely done.

[00:26:15.810]>>Another big tee shot for Thorbjornsen, he was just about looking at the upslope, just short of the green. Yeah, is this too close on this down slope?

[00:26:24.540]>>Troll your spin.

[00:26:26.739]>>Shot, Michael.

[00:26:28.839]>>Oh, that is perfect. What a shot. Made that look much easier than it was. Yes he did.

[00:26:41.099]>>Thorbjornsen just cleaning up for his birdie.

[00:26:45.130]>>To 17 under par within two of the lead.

[00:26:56.010]>>Michael Thorbjornsen moves to 17 under within two shots of the lead.

[00:27:07.859]>>And this is a run, really, 14, 15, 16. Here's your chance with a a favorable breeze. 17's tough, but the others are all.

[00:27:17.420]>>You're expecting to have a look on all three of those holes.

[00:27:21.859]>>Novak

[00:27:23.630]>>You get this read right, a lot of players missing even from short range here to the left.

[00:27:42.209]>>At last, at last, Novak, a move in the right direction.

[00:27:47.219]>>It's hard to commit to a putt like that when you're feeling everything moving left and you have to use that, you'd call it home course advantage there, he's played around here enough that he should know these greens pretty well.

[00:28:08.579]>>Nobody went lower than 6 under par today after a, a sprint of a start for the scoring. 19 under will lead.

[00:28:18.709]>>With 18 holes left to play.

[00:28:22.130]>>Karl Vilips started as the man at 100 in FedExCup points, projected to go to 99.

[00:28:29.790]>>Davis Riley made the cut, but he's projected to lose a spot.

[00:28:34.500]>>It's been a wonderful week of weather and conditions. Great scoring, Rob. We're going to have a shootout on Sunday. We are. There's lighter winds forecast than we

saw today, so somebody from the pack that needs something to save their career could go super low and make it all happen. The Cinderella story is just ahead of us.

[00:28:53.500]>>The final round is next.

[00:29:34.020]>>It all comes down to this, the 7th of 7 fall series events. It's the 16th playing of the RSM Classic hosts course, the Seaside Course. It's Sea Island Golf Club, about an hour and a half north of PGA TOUR headquarters down in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. This across the state line, and the weather is perfect. It is warm and mostly windless like we had the 1st 2 days, and that is having a big effect on this golf tournament right now.

[00:30:04.150]>>Take a look at some of the action for earlier today. The par 33 on a sleepy Sunday morning, Sam Stevens.

[00:30:16.800]>>Waking up the island. Oh, I'm just watching hole in ones through the fall series when I've never made one. Never, Never. I'm sharing that with you too, hoping for, you know, a gentle rhythm through the day. Stevens is 5 under today. He's 4 shots off the lead. Sami Valimaki made that one back at the 4th.

[00:30:39.339]>>That got him to 2 under par in the round and was taking control of the round, but it was this man he's trying to hold off. Ricky Castillo made that for 28 on the front nine.

[00:30:51.790]>>7 under on his round at the time. Max McGreevy, we told you also well under par today. He's now 2 shots back.

[00:31:02.719]>>And that got him one shot off the lead, so that's where things stand and that's how we got there. Respect to Castillo, he's a rookie on the PGA TOUR, knew he needed something special in this final round, comes out, shoots 7 under as a rookie, 28 on the front.

[00:31:17.689]>>Back to 8.

[00:31:19.500]>>Valmiki was short of that fairway bunker.

[00:31:22.709]>>And

[00:31:24.010]>>This looks a little awkward today, considering overnight leader.

[00:31:33.109]>>Uh, back to 8 and our leader.

[00:31:39.239]>>Oh what a part. Average wedge shot cans it. The big fin. It's 2 in front. There are some fins in that audience, by the way, definitely some fins in this audience too, yeah.

[00:31:59.780]>>Well

[00:32:03.819]>>To 9. 179 yards for Valimaki. There's a little 7-9 just trying to hold it into that right to left breeze. Starts on a good line, a chance.

[00:32:18.079]>>Up to 10 and Blair. And what Blair is doing this week is so impressive. He is one of the shortest in the field, and he's leading from that spot right there in the middle of the fairway. He's leading iron player.

[00:32:35.640]>>Uh, you see the numbers from the whole season were over a million shots played. This is for everybody because that would be a really bad, this, this person would be way down in FedExCup points.

[00:32:46.900]>>47th event of the season.

[00:32:58.260]>>6 multiple winners.

[00:33:03.599]>>Sami Valimaki was knocking on the door.

[00:33:06.709]>>Last year in Mexico, Brendan, that was a wild final round between he and Jake Knapp, and here he is with another chance.

[00:33:14.300]>>Yeah, I was knocking on the door a few weeks ago in Mexico as well, likes it down there, but uh.

[00:33:19.920]>>This is a new territory for him on the PGA TOUR coming in with this 54 hole lead. He's, uh, used to be in the chaser, but it's looked somewhat comfortable for the most part.

[00:33:29.739]>>Not unlike Brendan, the putty made on the previous screen.

[00:33:34.150]>>Uh, yeah, that's right, Rob, and well, he's got a wonderful teacher on this one as well.

[00:33:41.290]>>Exact same line that Patrick Rodgers was on.

[00:33:51.670]>>Oh, that looked good for a long time, keep him interested.

[00:34:04.089]>>So

[00:34:08.878]>>All right, Valimaki with the par stays at 21. It's still a two-shot lead in the final round.

[00:34:30.969]>>Ahead to the 12th Echavarria for birdie.

[00:34:37.550]>>He putt, oh, flies up the projections.

[00:34:46.760]>>I like the

[00:34:51.370]>>There's everything you need to know about Sami Valimaki. And here he is at the 10th.

[00:35:00.330]>>Sami just requested that the drone be removed, and it is, it's out of here. Dom put in the request and next thing it was gone, but uh this is a little 79, 155 yards, trying to flight something lower left to right, this looks great. You know what's brilliant for him. Wow.

[00:35:19.989]>>But on display there, he's one of the better iron players on the PGA TOUR. So not the longest, but seeker, but from the fairway, he is elite. Shades of Ben Hogan, I'll hit first and I'll hit it inside of you. Colin Montgomery would do that as well. Look at this shot.

[00:35:37.989]>>And outside of putting this is, that's what he's done well this week, he's, once he's been in the fairway, he's hit it in there tight.

[00:35:55.389]>>This is the second longest drive of the day here. Only Norgaard hit it past Castillo. This is from 179. This is a 99.

[00:36:06.260]>>To the par 5, by the way.

[00:36:10.330]>>Castillo with 2 putt from there to get to 2 under par.

[00:36:15.129]>>We'll go over to 13 and Echavarria, 19 under par. If you can roll this in, the putt is warm.

[00:36:22.010]>>Putter is very warm. How about that? And remember, Echavarria finished 2nd here last year, so he's very comfortable down the stretch, especially on the greens.

[00:36:35.270]>>Second best shot of the day here at 10 for Sami Valimaki, Brandon, and it was absolutely perfect. If you were standing in the fairway, what you would have drawn up was a little squeeze fade with a mid iron. That's exactly what he did. Took all the trouble out of that right side, used them from the middle of the green, and well, he's left himself with what's essentially a tap in.

[00:36:59.379]>>Squeeze fade with a mid-iron, that sounds like a shot that Brendan was very good at hitting. I was thinking exactly the same thing. One of the best.

[00:37:10.179]>>Oh, the iceman from Finland wearing the white and the light colors.

[00:37:19.149]>>Max McGreevy here off the tee at 1630 years old.

[00:37:25.260]>>Also looking for his first career win.

[00:37:31.120]>>Anything on the green here is good.

[00:37:34.090]>>Now this will show how he's feeling.

[00:37:40.439]>>Awkward yardage.

[00:37:42.830]>>Beautifully played.

[00:37:47.649]>>I

[00:37:52.959]>>Back at 16, Max McGreevy for birdie. Castillo would have a keen eye on this man. McGreevy trying to win for the first time on the PGA TOUR. Castillo trying not to get overtaken and and lose that second place position. He's just dodged one, yep.

[00:38:10.060]>>Back to 15. Well, you'd like to tell Sam Sammy somewhere between those two, but there's about 120 yards between those two.

[00:38:19.739]>>This one right hanging out there, should catch the right part of the green if it gets up.

[00:38:26.169]>>Yeah, nicely done again, good solid golf shot. Just an impressive run out the middle of the club face all the way down this back nine. He hasn't won before on the PGA TOUR. Yes, he's won on the DP World Tour, but this will be a step up. And with that 2 wood in his hand, which seems to be very popular, James, he'll be thrilled with that, just thrilled. I love that. You never see players do that, fist pump with a fairway shot. He's had a couple of sneaky fist pumps today and I'll, I'm with you. I enjoy them.

[00:38:55.739]>>Back at 18 now, Max McGreevy's only 1 off the lead.

[00:39:00.469]>>Can he post?

[00:39:03.139]>>Castillo can't watch this.

[00:39:05.510]>>Oh, it's gonna be a lengthy putt for his birdie and where Valimaki just hit it at 15, that is most likely gonna have to go if he's gonna have a chance at raising the trophy.

[00:39:18.310]>>We'll go over to 18 and the birdie putt for Max McGreevy.

[00:39:27.889]>>It's gotta go this putt.

[00:39:32.689]>>Can't believe it. You can't believe it. Ricky Castillo, you can't believe what you just watched there.

[00:39:39.669]>>He leapfrogs into 2nd alone.

[00:39:43.739]>>At 22 under par.

[00:39:46.669]>>He is tied for the lead.

[00:39:51.409]>>McGreevy, birdies at 1415 and 18.

[00:39:57.800]>>And is there a chance?

[00:40:00.820]>>Castillo bumped to 102 with this putt.

[00:40:09.030]>>I mean that's heartbreak, that's fantastic for him.

[00:40:12.820]>>And for the guy that shot 62 and needs some bad luck in terms of what he needs, that's just unbelievably difficult to take. He's just got to avoid a 40 footer.

[00:40:24.290]>>And

[00:40:25.899]>>Because Castillo needed, at worst, a 3-way tie for second.

[00:40:34.290]>>Alright, Sami Valimaki is now tied for the lead, but this is for Eagle. Oh, having to make the adjustment now. Put with the breeze is gonna have to give this a good whack. It's a pretty good putt. Can't remember the last time he's had to hole a 3.5 footer after being on a green. It's a good point. It's been a no stress tea to green fest for him.

[00:40:59.520]>>Well, we'll see if he can keep things.

[00:41:02.350]>>As stress-free as we could imagine, clearly there's some, some paddling going on under the surface here, Brendan. Yeah, definitely, but I'd have thought he did a really good job with that approach putt. It was, uh, one thing he was putting straight back into this breeze, did a good job getting it inside, inside at 3 ft. No, not too much to this one other than the situation.

[00:41:24.840]>>And you can see there the pant leg's going pretty good. It's a very exposed part of the golf course.

[00:41:33.310]>>That's another very well played hole.

[00:41:38.959]>>Well, he only was out of the lead for about a minute and a half.

[00:41:43.580]>>Maybe 2. Sami Valimaki back into the lead alone.

[00:41:50.510]>>But this is the actual leader Sami Valimaki.

[00:41:53.889]>>151 yards, just a little chip with a 7 iron. Oh, first mistake he's made, you've got to hit that ball left of the hole that's gonna feed well below the green surface, and we'll test the nerves. And after the decision of the tee to be that conservative, he's always gonna have a long way into this short par 4. So first hiccup we've seen from Valimaki.

[00:42:16.909]>>There's a little bit of breeze here that's gonna help Sami Valimaki. In fact, it's not gonna help him at all because he's not gonna risk any loft in his hand. He's got the putter from the first cut. This is interesting. Brendan, what do we think about this?

[00:42:31.510]>>I don't like it at all. I, I don't understand this play. Very good line in that first cut, a little bit of cushion underneath it, going straight back into the breeze, would have no problem stopping the ball.

[00:42:42.530]>>This is so hard to judge. You need to give it a good whack up the hill.

[00:42:47.280]>>Oh, this is carrying way too much speed.

[00:42:51.060]>>Oh, that just did not make sense to me, Nor me. He's been great from around the greens, out of 14 times, he's only failed to get up-and-down 4 times. I mean that's scrambling, it's, I think he wedging his hand is ideal. Had a little wall of wind into his face as well.

[00:43:09.290]>>This is why it's so hard to take that final step and win. It's been going so well today.

[00:43:16.600]>>One misstep with the approach shot. A poor decision there.

[00:43:23.800]>>And now we're against the wall.

[00:43:28.520]>>But once again, Brendan, obviously a decision most likely made because of the position he's in, but it was almost a.

[00:43:36.399]>>And anti leave it short with that putter that he's been so good with his, his pace control all week long.

[00:43:43.100]>>Yeah, it was a, it was a curious play, James. I, I, I really didn't understand it. It was, uh, you know, everything was kind of in his favor for the shot that he needed to hit. Back into the breeze, a little bit of cushion underneath it, on a little bit of an upslope. I mean, it was just screaming chip me and, uh, as I say, went straight to the putter and, well, because of that, he's gonna have to make something in this 15 ft range now to keep his lead.

[00:44:09.939]>>He's quirky though, it wouldn't surprise me if you hold this. Well, and this is a difficult read Brendan, it's a couple grain changes. Rodgers was not even close from a similar angle.

[00:44:37.209]>>Wow.

[00:44:40.020]>>Like it was nothing.

[00:44:42.530]>>Valimaki pours it in, saves the par. He knows how big that was.

[00:44:52.169]>>Rob Leeney's crystal ball.

[00:44:54.909]>>That is an incredible read to go straight at that and pauses it in to stay in front.

[00:45:02.520]>>Back out to 17 and Patrick Rodgers.

[00:45:07.139]>>This kind of feels like it's been the story of this back nine for Rogers having a putt from long range outside of 50 ft.

[00:45:14.760]>>Down the hill breaking left to right.

[00:45:24.030]>>Oh, there you go.

[00:45:28.179]>>Where has that been?

[00:45:33.820]>>Well, too little too late, but that will give them an opportunity to make another birdie and hop inside that top 10. I think that's an 11-way tie right now at 18 under par. We don't have enough room for all the 18.

[00:45:49.350]>>It's

[00:45:51.320]>>It's perfect sir.

[00:45:54.790]>>Right.

[00:45:57.699]>>Yeah,

[00:46:00.739]>>Come on

[00:46:03.239]>>175 yards coming off a slight downslope. This one's gonna come out a little bit flatter.

[00:46:12.209]>>Look for him to try and take this at the flag, let it bleed to the middle of the green.

[00:46:17.989]>>Should just be a perfect date, iron.

[00:46:24.620]>>That's when.

[00:46:28.580]>>Leaking a little more than he would have liked, but that's just fine, right in the heart of the green.

[00:46:34.010]>>Beautiful swing, exactly what he needed to do as Brendan said. I like what his caddy said to him just before he took the swing. That club's perfect. I mean that's what you want to hear from your caddy.

[00:46:48.040]>>Looked like a guy that was in complete control of his game. Yeah, it looked like he had that extra gear if needed, if someone else made a bit more of a charge.

[00:46:57.590]>>Felt like he could've pressed a little harder, unfortunately he didn't need to.

[00:47:04.659]>>Fortunate for him

[00:47:08.189]>>Look, you're leading. He's gonna, if you two putts shoot 66.

[00:47:12.199]>>You know that's, that's strong stuff.

[00:47:15.379]>>He hasn't three-putted this week.

[00:47:21.300]>>It's hardly come close.

[00:47:26.580]>>I'm looking at James's face, I know what he's thinking.

[00:47:30.610]>>James did did not want us to bring that up. Brendan, this guy is rock solid.

[00:47:37.750]>>I'd rather you hadn't said that either, BK, but I agree, he has been rock solid and from just inside of 30 ft, tournament's not on the line, this is about as easy as it gets as far as a two-putt.

[00:47:50.040]>>Now, just that, uh, just makes you think that a little bit.

[00:48:01.120]>>Oh, we've got Sami Valimaki shirts.

[00:48:05.889]>>Not surprising at all. He's an easy guy to pull for.

[00:48:12.330]>>Not a difficult putt, as I mentioned, very, very flat.

[00:48:26.909]>>Perfect. Oh, that's easy. Is he gonna mark and wait?

[00:48:32.770]>>I would say that nerves completely intact right there. That was ideal. He is, deserves the weight. Sami Valimaki.

[00:48:42.929]>>We'll get the stage alone.

[00:48:47.379]>>Sami Valimaki has knocked on the door.

[00:48:52.250]>>And today he was as cold as ice.

[00:48:56.649]>>The 27 year old from Finland is a first time winner on the PGA Tours, he's won the RSM Classic.

[00:49:05.889]>>The big fan. I'm a fast fan, Robert. Yeah.

[00:49:10.419]>>Finished pinseeker, that's how he plays. It's, he's an exciting watch.

[00:49:15.469]>>It's a great addition for the PGA TOUR. 100%.

[00:49:19.709]>>And now Patrick Rodgers stays in that 11-way tie for 7th at 18 under, didn't get enough points to bump Max McGreevy out of the top 60.

[00:49:31.669]>>Close call for Patrick Rodgers, but the celebration can begin.

[00:49:36.689]>>Sami Valimaki can relax.

[00:49:41.120]>>There's 100,000 reasons why I'm hugging you.

[00:49:45.840]>>Here comes the fan club.

[00:49:53.449]>>Those look like beer boys to me. I think the beer is gonna flow tonight.

[00:49:59.449]>>Not sure they're gonna get to tonight.

[00:50:06.750]>>And who could blame him? Sami Valimaki.

[00:50:10.989]>>Really didn't sweat too much today. He had a ball out in the swamp at number 5. In a curious decision at 16, but he escapes that.

[00:50:20.729]>>And Cruises, 23 under par.

[00:50:28.060]>>First career win.

[00:50:30.879]>>He's been knocking on the door, finally gets it in his 2nd year on the PGA TOUR.

[00:50:36.520]>>Impressive victory too, with the weather wise, with wind picking up and, and what he did, it was, it was fun to watch. You know, he didn't have his card a few weeks ago, then he takes care of that, then he comes to the last event and takes care of the hump that every player's trying to get over, which is win for the first time. You success. 64 in the final round in Mexico to finish tied for third.

[00:50:59.159]>>And then as you said, that gave him that comfortability to come out here and and get a victory.

[00:51:04.719]>>Just shows you what's possible if you have a fine fall series. Perfect example. The winning moment, 17th first time winner of the season.

[00:51:15.570]>>12th different country to win.

[00:51:20.600]>>And we get a winner from Finland. He's got a cousin that plays in the NHL.

[00:51:27.389]>>No Stanley Cups yet.

[00:51:30.050]>>But a PGA TOUR win.

[00:51:32.560]>>For Sami Valimaki.

[00:51:44.510]>>And he claims that 51st spot there in the Aon Next 10.

[00:51:50.550]>>McGreevy gets the last spot.

[00:51:56.939]>>Sami Valimaki, PGA TOUR winner. What a, what a week. What a fellow. Well how about changing the flight with him and his buddies, because if I win, we're gonna party tonight. How about that? Bit of foresight just went up in my book 100%.

[00:52:14.649]>>Sami Valimaki gave us a lot. We got the hearts beating a little bit there at 16, Rob. He sure did. It was a very strange choice from off the green, then had to make a devilish 15 footer to keep it all that he was just in front and he hung on the last two holes. Basically, he played really good front-running golf to win for your first hand and break through like he did. I think it bodes well for the future.

[00:52:38.750]>>This concludes the PGA Tours coverage of the RSM Classic from the Seaside course on Saint Simons Island, Georgia.