

[00:00:48.100]>>The PGA TOUR Champions.

[00:00:50.670]>>Proudly present the year-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup.

[00:00:56.530]>>And today from Sioux Falls, South Dakota, it's first round coverage of the Sanford International.

[00:01:03.940]>>But we are in a holding pattern for now because of extremely blustery conditions here in the Mount Rushmore State. Play was suspended at 11:53 local time here in Sioux Falls this morning. Minihaha Country Club set to host for the 9th consecutive year.

[00:01:24.350]>>These hardy fans here undeterred, some of the best on the Champions Tour, one of the most well attended events over the last 8 years on the Champions Tour as well, but they were waited out along with us for a while. Play has been temporarily suspended due to these high winds here on day 1. The opening round was underway.

[00:01:43.690]>>Three players at -2 right there. Zach Johnson, 4-time champion this season, 2nd in the season-long Charles Schwab Cup points race.

[00:01:53.610]>>Couple of shots back after getting just a couple of holes in under his belt today before play was suspended.

[00:02:01.020]>>John Rollins threw 9 holes coming off a top 10 finish at the Allied Challenge. That was a couple of weeks ago, coming off an off week.

[00:02:08.370]>>Everyone was itching to get back into the competition. They got it going this morning and then the horn sounded to suspend this opening round here at the 9th division of the Sanford International. Yeah, they forecasted the high winds, uh, for yesterday, so they rolled the greens last night, but they did not cut them this morning. So they're running at about 10.

[00:02:28.390]>>Right now, but with the wind blowing like that, it could be very tricky. A lot of slope on these greens. There has been some rain in the area, so the course was a little soft, uncharacteristically so for Minihaha. So this will, ah, put it back to its, ah, its roots if you will, and it will play at its, ah, it's proper presentation. It's a wonderful golf course. The players love it. Minihaha is just

[00:02:48.410]>>They roll out the red carpet for everybody, and the golf course is outstanding. So, uh, unfortunately with the high winds right now, a little bit of a suspension. I imagine they'll get back out and play. Saw Zach Johnson's name on the first page of the leaderboard. What a monster season in his rookie campaign out here. Stewart Cink, a 5 time winner who's number 1 in the Schwab Cup points race, is idle this week.

[00:03:08.460]>>A chance for Johnson to make inroads. Yeah, Stewart Cink said he's going to, you know, take this week off and then he's going to play them out. So it's going to be right down the stretch with wonderful seasons both Zach and Stewart have had. See if, you know, Zach can kind of tighten it, tighten the race a little bit. Yeah, he loves it. In fact, says it's the best tour in the world. He loves it. He's having a blast. And why wouldn't you? Why would you not be? And this is an important stretch here at the tail end of the season.

[00:03:33.140]>>Of course we're headed to Pebble Beach for the PURE Insurance Championship next week. Got a couple of new courses in the rotation coming up as well. Yeah, a new event just outside of Philadelphia, uh, Lehigh Country Club. It's a fantastic old, uh, William Flynn golf course. Uh, and then Furyk and friends have actually moved a little bit south, you know, down the coast to Hammock Dunes down there in Palm Coast. So it, uh, a new event with a new course, an older event, but a new venue. I know when we go back to Pebble Beach.

[00:04:00.810]>>Special place in your heart. It never gets old to get back to the Monterey Peninsula. Been good to the Cook family. Pebble Beach has. We love it. Yeah. So we're in a, we're in a holding pattern here with the play suspended in the opening round of the Sanford International, the 21st events of, uh, the season out of 25 before the Charles Schwab Cup playoffs begin. And, uh, this is, uh, an indication of what we've had today. We've got blue skies. Uh, there's no rain in the forecast. It's warm too. It's, I mean, it's in the 80s.

[00:04:29.600]>>Blowing 20+, sustained gusts of 40+, and that's the scene around 18 on this Folds of Honor Friday where we had the opening ceremonies this morning.

[00:04:40.630]>>We were supposed to have a, uh, a parachuter, but that part of the opening ceremonies was grounded this morning. That'd be a little tricky. It's narrow down there on that that first fairway is down below and it's a little bit narrow and the wind's blowing 30 miles, 40 miles an hour. That's tough duty. So depending on how much the conditions change, as we mentioned, it was a soft golf course, um.

[00:05:01.390]>>When the players do get back out there to resume this opening round, what will the adjustments they'll need to make and how quickly will they have to do? Well, with the sun shining and the wind blowing, I imagine the greens are going to firm up a little bit, so they're going to have to get used to that big first bounce. You have to drive the golf ball in the fairway, so you have control over your trajectory and your spin.

[00:05:22.360]>>Uh, like I said, these greens have some slope to them. There's some that are very slopy, and some have a lot of movement to them. Um, it's some pretty good pins. So they just have to see what that first bounce is going to, how it's going to accept the golf shot. Zach Johnson said the same thing in his comments earlier this week. He said, uh, it sounds oversimplified, but keep the ball in the fairway and most importantly, keep the ball underneath the hole, underneath the hole on some of these greens.

[00:05:47.110]>>Uh, absolute must. He's getting some, some Iowa vibes. Zach is a Cedar Rapids guy, um, kind of the same vibes that Steve Stricker has gotten here through the years as a four-time champion. Yeah, he, uh, pretty much dominated their mini haha for a number of years, and it's just a good Midwest town, you know, and, and both Steve and Zach from the Midwest, um, get those Midwest vibes and, uh, good people like I said.

[00:06:12.050]>>Great attendance there at Minihaha for the Sanford, uh, International, and, um, they, they love it and the, and that they come out the big crowds this week. Oh, always it's, uh, such an embedded part of the community here and, uh, Sanford has been entrenched as title sponsor and will be through 2030, an extension announced, uh,

recently, and, uh, going to keep it right here, mini haha through the years as well. We'll keep it here today as well and hopefully the resumption of the opening round here on day one.

[00:06:44.260]>>Winds cranking still here at Minneaha 40 MPH plus it has been gusting and play has been suspended. So, uh, fortunately we've got John Maginnes with us here this week and he has corralled another special guest.

[00:07:00.170]>>Indeed, uh, brand ambassador who you just saw in the opening ceremony, Andy North. Andy North. Andy, you've been around golf for a long time. When was the last wind delay that you remember? Open Championship Saint Andrews. It was blown about 50 or 60. We had, we filled 12 hours of TV that day without a golf shot. I found the right guy, guys. I found the right guy. You have, uh.

[00:07:25.960]>>You have been a brand ambassador with Sanford for quite some time. What's the appeal? Why does this fit with Andy North? Well, I think as we go back, the former CEO's son played basketball at Wisconsin. We got to be really good friends and we spent a lot of Friday nights in the.

[00:07:41.940]>>Road just the two of us and when when Joe graduated, he said, you, you wanna get involved with Sanford somehow because we talked about kids and you know a lot of things over the years. I said, sure, what do you want me to do? He says, you're the chair of this board. Put the board together we just literally this children's board.

[00:07:58.110]>>And that's where we started out and I did 8 years as that chair and I've been on the board of trustees now for this is my 10th year there, so it's been a really cool deal and this company has gone from about a billion dollars when I started to almost \$15 now, so it's absolutely amazing growth and the end of the day it's all about the patience and taking care of people and I understand Mr. Sanford was very instrumental in all of that. Oh, he was a piece of work. He was an amazing human being.

[00:08:28.260]>>He loved this week more than any other week. He'd sit up in his perch up there and watch every single shot. He loved it and we surely miss him. And when you put

people's names on institutions, it's pretty important. He is one of those kind of guys. What does this mean for this community, this event? Well, I think that's the biggest thing. When we started, Sanford is a huge community involved company.

[00:08:51.210]>>And we're trying to figure out what can we do here that's a little bit different that we can get some recognition for, and we talked about this for probably 2 or 3 years before we actually did it and um you look at the turnout here every year and unfortunately today most of the people are blown away, but um you know it's it's just we've got 170 sponsors from in the community that now are sponsors. Every year it gets bigger and better and the support's been amazing and uh I think that's.

[00:09:19.100]>>The players, you know that you go into a community that it's, it's a community event versus a corporate event. It's a different feel and the players love coming here because of it and you can see it downtown. I mean, I've only been coming for 4 or 5 years now and just in that time you can see the development downtown has changed and it's all driven by the same sorts of things. Oh, absolutely, it's it's really a wonderful community and Bill Gaston, our CEO, talks so much. It's a great place to live and raise your kids and

[00:09:46.680]>>And great health care and you know some great business opportunities and the reason Danny had his company here was because the credit card laws are different here that he could do some things. You look at all the major credit cards they're based in the Dakotas, so it's a great environment and no state tax, which is kind of a nice thing.

[00:10:06.240]>>Uh, it's great. And, and all of that, you still managed to get in a plug for University of Wisconsin. Well, we'll, yeah, we'll, we'll do that as best we can. It will be a little bit better tomorrow than it was last weekend, so that'll be good. Well, it's always good to see you. Uh, keep up the great work. Uh, who are you playing golf with tomorrow? I know that there's a celebrity Andy North thing going on. We're gonna slap it around.

[00:10:28.660]>>Jordan Davis, a very accomplished songwriter and artist, uh, super, I hope he's really playing well. I understand he's like a 10, so he can carry me a little bit against two nasty Vikings that we don't like, you know, John Rand Randolph and Kyle, uh, you know,

Rudolph, great, great players. They, they broke my heart a lot of times over the years, but, uh.

[00:10:52.700]>>John is one of the characters in the game. If you remember the face paint and the whole deal, and he'd stand across the line and yell at the quarterback on the other side. So there'll be some good stories. It'll be fun. Those are fun. Are you playing much? How's your game? You know it's not very good.

[00:11:07.850]>>I played 9 holes on Monday, 9 holes on Tuesday. I actually did play in the pro-am yesterday. It's not very good. It's not worthy of display, but we're going to have to do it anyway. It's always worthy of display, and it's always great catching up with you. Keep up the great work and hopefully, hopefully we're going to see some golf today. Yeah, no kidding. It's supposed to come down about 4, get to maybe 20, so hopefully that's the case. Thanks, Andy. Appreciate it.

[00:11:32.630]>>Gentlemen, greats of the game is a competition that's happening here tomorrow. And when it came to major championships, Cookie, this was one of the greats of the game. Twice a U.S. Open champion, Cherry Hills in 1978, Oakland Hills in 1985, Randy North, two tough ones right there, and you know he got the major championships and he was ready to go. He won, you know, three times on the PGA TOUR, but two of them are US Opens. That's, that's a pretty good record.

[00:11:57.680]>>I've had the good fortune and good fun to work with Andy North a bunch of times. I'm sure you have as well professionally and uh a a classier gentleman and a better friend to the game you will not meet.

[00:12:12.990]>>Well, that leaderboard has not changed in 2 hours because uh we haven't played at all in 2 hours. In fact, since we came on the air with you here on Golf Channel for our opening round coverage of the Stanford International.

[00:12:24.350]>>Players have been told that, uh, no play will resume any earlier than 4 o'clock central time.

[00:12:43.300]>>Saturday in Sioux Falls, we welcome you to second round coverage of the Sanford International 21st event of PGA TOUR Champions season brings us back to Minihaha Country Club where we had some serious wind yesterday, gusting close to 50 MPH.

[00:13:01.300]>>A suspension of play for a little more than 5 hours on day one. They stuck in 2 hours of play last night before Lightning ultimately shut down the opening round, which was buttoned up this morning at 9:56 local time. Retief Goosen is the defending champion, and he's looking for birdie here. John Maginnes is with him.

[00:13:23.370]>>A little left to right.

[00:13:25.690]>>Up the hill

[00:13:28.700]>>Well that would have been a nice start there, John birdie at the 1st. Good look at the 2nd.

[00:13:34.060]>>We're up at the 5th here. Ben Crane in search of a birdie.

[00:13:39.110]>>Tough golf hole right here, the 5th. 420 yards with back into the breeze today. The wind is completely different than yesterday.

[00:13:52.690]>>5th playing the 2nd toughest hole of the day.

[00:13:57.090]>>Oh.

[00:14:00.100]>>OK, Ben, Stamper on the green, you get 10 seconds. Yeah.

[00:14:09.040]>>You know, Ben's never really in a hurry. I don't know what he's in a hurry here for.

[00:14:19.190]>>Like a walk top 10 in Flint, Michigan to play his way into the field here this week. There's another birdie.

[00:14:26.590]>>Uh, he can get hot. We've seen that in the last few weeks. He can make a bunch of birdies in a row.

[00:14:33.050]>>And he'll tell you how much fun he's having. 4 of them on the front side today. Block is out in 30. He's 1 back of Goosen.

[00:14:41.860]>>Back over to 4, we saw Boo's eagle putt a little bit earlier, about 4 ft left for the birdie.

[00:14:48.610]>>Can't be a whole lot in this right here other than the wind blowing a little bit.

[00:15:07.040]>>run boo up the leaderboard.

[00:15:09.770]>>That would have gone in a fumble, as Boo might have said. He might a fumble.

[00:15:14.230]>>Exactly. He dropped that one on us that week. Oh gosh. So Boo's at 300, just 1 back of Goosen up 12, the 4th, Ken Tanagawa for birdie here at the par 5.

[00:15:27.170]>>With his length he could easily reach the screen in two, so.

[00:15:31.180]>>Walks off with a 4.

[00:15:34.680]>>First birdie of the day for Kenny.

[00:15:38.960]>>To the 5th and Birdie Putt coming here for Zach Johnson, Cedar Rapids, Iowa guy. He said, uh, he felt really comfortable when he hit the property here this week. Cookie. First look at Minihaha and said, it kind of feels like a lot of the courses I grew up on.

[00:15:54.730]>>She got my camera just brushing that one in for a deuce at the 10.

[00:16:00.350]>>Over to the 6th, birdie putt for J.J Henry, who made a hole in 1 at 17 yesterday with a 6 iron and a 2 at the 6th today. He's got the par 3s dialed in.

[00:16:12.820]>>Got him covered.

[00:16:15.940]>>Up the slope here, pretty slow putt.

[00:16:24.610]>>Get in, get in, get in, get in. Looking good. Oh yeah, 2 in a row for McCarron.

[00:16:30.560]>>One from short range and one from long range. Oh, that's a colorful scorecard.

[00:16:38.330]>>Michael Block for birdie and a share of the lead at 11, you bet. Straight up the hill.

[00:16:49.560]>>We'll take you to 6, and this is a birdie punt for Ricardo Gonzalez. Right over top of the flagstick here now goes slightly from left to right down the hill and.

[00:17:04.380]>>The official Ricardo Gonzalez birdie call. Let's go to 7 and look in on Bernhard Langer, who had a 7 on the scorecard earlier in the third. Triple that hole, looking to get 1 back here.

[00:17:18.460]>>At the tough par 4 7th, toughest hole on the golf course.

[00:17:25.690]>>Oh my, that's stealing one. What a pickup for Langer. A 3 at the 7th, grabbing about a shot and a half on the field with that one.

[00:17:36.440]>>Here's Goosen

[00:17:39.950]>>He's given himself a good look on every single hole he's played today. Well, every single hole he's played today. Well, every single hole he's played in the 2nd round anyway.

[00:17:52.470]>>Yeah, takes advantage after not birdieing the par 5 4th. Birdie's that 5th hole. Jay Jurissic, one of the qualifiers this week to get into the event, looking for birdie at 6. Down the slope, gotta be careful with speed.

[00:18:08.800]>>Perfect speed.

[00:18:10.450]>>Second birdie of the round for the 56-year-old from Crystal Falls, Michigan in the Upper Peninsula.

[00:18:18.630]>>Check back in with the defending champion who's got the lead on the box at 6.

[00:18:24.220]>>160 up the hill.

[00:18:28.190]>>I can't see the bottom of the flag.

[00:18:30.890]>>Little downwind

[00:18:36.430]>>Got it, got it out there hole high to the right. That's been a popular spot.

[00:18:42.960]>>So we'll go to the 9th, Zach Johnson looking to creep a little closer to the 2nd round lead. Get that nice short iron approach in here underneath the hole, a little right to left, catches that right edge.

[00:18:58.790]>>Just about the length of the putt he had back at 7, just long enough to pay attention to it here and maintain a share of the lead.

[00:19:08.450]>>A much smoother stroke.

[00:19:16.550]>>Long birdie putt coming for Armor here at 9, trying to join the pack at 4 under. Can't get it far enough left, he does.

[00:19:24.640]>>Make it 5 at -4, 6 actually.

[00:19:30.150]>>Gordos next at 9.

[00:19:33.300]>>That's the driver.

[00:19:35.870]>>That's the right hand side. This needs a kick.

[00:19:40.410]>>It got it and bounded forward.

[00:19:46.970]>>Up to 11, Boo Weekley has had 3 bogeys on the cards since the two early birdies trying to get the day back to level par. Yeah, nice approach from the left rough, and he does get one back.

[00:19:59.910]>>Koson stepping in back at 10.

[00:20:05.670]>>He's made a couple and he's had some putts that make you scratch your head.

[00:20:14.830]>>I think you want this to go a little bit to the right actually.

[00:20:21.350]>>But there's not a lot in it.

[00:20:26.100]>>Yeah, that beautiful Putt. How about that?

[00:20:30.520]>>They either it's not like he's burning edges. They're either going in or missing my 2 ft.

[00:20:37.060]>>To the 12th

[00:20:38.970]>>Zach Johnson aboard the par 5 and 2.

[00:20:42.170]>>Have to take advantage of number 12 downhill downwind par 5.

[00:20:47.320]>>Back hole location and there it is.

[00:20:50.170]>>Add his name

[00:20:52.140]>>Look who's coming. Birdies at 4 and 9 and a big bird at the 12th for the co-leader, Zach Johnson.

[00:20:59.940]>>Armor, looking for Birdie. Yeah, not much to this.

[00:21:09.780]>>Good birdie there for.

[00:21:12.220]>>Ryan Alker nearly finding some of his best form out here. Top 10 finish in Calgary for the 50-year-old, and he's got a share of the lead here.

[00:21:21.060]>>Scott McCarron set a very productive back nine looking for a 2 over here.

[00:21:26.760]>>Or rather a 3 at 18.

[00:21:29.640]>>There it is.

[00:21:31.490]>>What a fight to the finish there for Scott.

[00:21:37.860]>>The dream began later.

[00:21:39.830]>>In life than most. He never played on a high school golf team, didn't play on a college golf team as well. He just kind of took the game up his senior year of high

school because he needed something to do and he's played his way into this tournament twice.

[00:21:53.230]>>And he's at 4 under right now. Make it 5.

[00:21:58.280]>>Make it 6. Make it 6.

[00:22:06.630]>>And Goosen will move within one of the co-leaders.

[00:22:14.620]>>The final group heads for 13. We'll go to the last and 2nd shot coming for Charlie Wi.

[00:22:24.960]>>Couple under

[00:22:26.600]>>For Charlie, front left pin.

[00:22:30.600]>>Kabani, look out.

[00:22:33.390]>>Let's see. Zach Johnson just bogeyed the 14th earlier. Can he get it right back here? Played that beautiful little pitch shot, that little low skipper up there and pays off.

[00:22:46.440]>>We'll go to 14. This will be the 3rd shot for armor.

[00:22:54.640]>>Really working hard on his short game, that has not always been the best part of his game, and here's the leader, it's got the tee at 17.

[00:23:04.170]>>192 yards all the way back to this pin and 7 or 9 past that down slope.

[00:23:11.050]>>And that comes up pretty well short, and that's gonna be a tough 2 putt.

[00:23:16.690]>>And that'll do it for us today. Still a handful of holes remaining for the

[00:23:21.710]>>The groups that are on the golf course because of all the time that we lost yesterday with that 5 hour suspension of play with the wind and ultimately lightning on Friday, but under clear skies and

[00:23:33.170]>>Light breezes today. We've got 6 under pars. The best score, Ben Crane with 2 holes remaining in his second round here in Sioux Falls, South Dakota.

[00:23:53.390]>>Championship Sunday in the Mount Rushmore State. We welcome you to Minihaha Country Club in Sioux Falls, South Dakota in our final round coverage of the 21st event of the year on the Champions tour, the Sanford International.

[00:24:08.640]>>John Swantek, great to have your company. John Cook is alongside. John Maginnes is with the final group of the day here. Zach Johnson, Ben Crane, and Jay Jurissi, who open qualified to play his way into the event. And they're down there ready to take on the par 3 6th. Ben Crane first to go down there. Johnny, how about the conditions, the atmosphere, the vibe out there today?

[00:24:32.350]>>Well, as we've mentioned earlier in the week, it's one of the

[00:24:36.740]>>And then right I think right at that.

[00:24:43.810]>>One of the most well attended tournament of the year.

[00:24:47.180]>>So lots of folks out here, cooler, much cooler.

[00:24:52.350]>>We haven't even gotten to the 70s yet.

[00:24:55.910]>>Terms of the high.

[00:25:00.710]>>157 up the hill here for Ben.

[00:25:04.130]>>Quite see the ball land, but she played about 163 to 165.

[00:25:12.040]>>Yeah, plays uphill about 5 yards there, John, like you've mentioned. W kind of maybe in slightly out of the right.

[00:25:22.150]>>Considering we had what a 5-6 hour delay for wind on Friday.

[00:25:28.440]>>It's amazing how calm it is out here right now.

[00:25:31.830]>>Not nearly as noisy. OK, yeah.

[00:25:35.680]>>There's a little double cross there for Ben Crane, pulled in that left long left bunker.

[00:25:44.050]>>Yeah

[00:25:53.430]>>We

[00:26:07.290]>>Zach's tough. He's from Iowa. That's why he doesn't have any sleeves on.

[00:26:13.280]>>It's just like a fall qualifier day right here. This is you prayed for.

[00:26:18.980]>>The mornings to be like this in Columbus. I know Zach did too there at Drake.

[00:26:29.560]>>I noticed you didn't stay in Columbus very long after college. I did not. I did not. A couple, couple of years or so have you cookie.

[00:26:40.540]>>Uh, not really conducive there in, uh, December to get yourself ready for the first of the year on tour, so we moved back to Cauley.

[00:26:49.300]>>Palm Springs and Phoenix, more your speed since those years.

[00:26:54.970]>>56 year old Jay Jeressic shot 66.

[00:26:59.480]>>In the local open qualifier here to get into this event for the 2nd time back in 2021, he shot 61 to crack the field, making just his 4th career Champions Tour start this week.

[00:27:13.080]>>And I like his golf swing, very repeatable.

[00:27:17.890]>>Do I still hit balls this morning?

[00:27:20.490]>>And he hasn't shown any signs of cracking yet. I'll tell you what, he gets up and hits it too. He doesn't waste any time.

[00:27:27.850]>>That is quite a contrast, yes.

[00:27:32.170]>>All three players have basically the same yardage within a yard or two.

[00:27:37.400]>>200 playing 212 or so up the hill.

[00:27:47.260]>>That was solid, yeah, kind of.

[00:27:51.270]>>Brett at it

[00:27:53.520]>>Just pitches through the green up there, John, be an uphill lie, short pitch shot.

[00:27:59.740]>>But

[00:28:02.640]>>That's what you get for writing on, on the button.

[00:28:07.680]>>Has Kris ball even stopped? I mean, Jay is ready.

[00:28:13.850]>>Yeah, he definitely posts up. Undue delay. Hits right in the middle of the green, misses ball, misses a ball just underneath the hole. Good shot. Quality strike. Best of the three. To the 9th we go. Ryan Armour looking for birdie.

[00:28:33.130]>>Both of us coming off a tough loss last night. Good for Rhino. I think he's taking it out at uh Minihaha right now.

[00:28:45.110]>>To the 8th and we've got 160 for the final round today. Zach Johnson first up.

[00:28:52.640]>>And this is

[00:28:54.870]>>The very top of the golf course topographically and still no wind to.

[00:29:01.060]>>Factor in here.

[00:29:06.400]>>There is a little bit of altitude there at Minihaha. It gets between 1400 and 1500 ft, so you know, you can, you can play some bubble go, especially when it's warm, not warm today.

[00:29:22.220]>>Beautiful shot.

[00:29:26.580]>>You hit it that purely, it's not gonna be affected by the altitude. Jurassic next at the par 3.

[00:29:33.500]>>I was just stopped by a member of the gallery who told me to

[00:29:37.650]>>We'll let the world know it's jerk.

[00:29:40.760]>>I don't know if he's right or not, but that's what I was just told.

[00:29:44.680]>>Thanks.

[00:29:47.440]>>Well, over a glass of wine, John, you and I will, will sit down and we'll, we'll go over the basics plum bobbing 101.

[00:29:56.830]>>I'm a little slow. Go take the whole bottle.

[00:30:01.440]>>Good chance we'd finish that.

[00:30:06.980]>>This bomb might try to creep a little bit right.

[00:30:13.250]>>Beautiful stroke, beautiful punt.

[00:30:17.320]>>Crept right in the hole. 2nd birdie of the day for Zach Johnson.

[00:30:21.760]>>Jay Jrsick was the winner of the Michigan Tournament of Champions this past summer. He eagled the final hole from 260 yards away to force a playoff and then win in extra holes to claim the winner's check of \$10,500. Thank you very much.

[00:30:37.700]>>That was not the senior division.

[00:30:40.140]>>That was against the kids. That's right, Johnny. They were 30 years his junior, in fact.

[00:30:48.510]>>And here's Boo with a chance at 14.

[00:30:50.580]>>Yeah, good chance here from left of the hole, not much to this.

[00:31:05.680]>>Dangerous cookie when he starts holding putts as he has today. Look at that scorecard, 6 of them for Boo today was within 1 of the lead.

[00:31:15.450]>>Zach Johnson and Jay Jericy were the overnight co-leaders. Zach has separated by one.

[00:31:30.390]>>And takes care of the tee.

[00:31:38.480]>>Alright, this is Ken Tanagawa here at the 15. Cookie, the short par 4. Yeah, 3:19 to the front, 3:33 all the way to the hole with the win. Oh, second eagle of the day there for Kenny D.

[00:31:51.820]>>Wind is down out of the right, so I imagine you're going to see some players take a go.

[00:32:00.280]>>And here's Weekley in the group with Tama Gower looking to follow him in with birdie here.

[00:32:06.330]>>Yeah

[00:32:08.210]>>From the front of the green, pretty straight putt, does go down the hill a little bit.

[00:32:13.810]>>Once it gets over that crest.

[00:32:18.740]>>Look at this clever little play for Ryan Armour at the 12th. Ryan getting fancy here. Get a little hybrid, pop it through the first cut of rough. Ooh, nice catch hole.

[00:32:31.440]>>That was quite the strategy. Never look like a birdie, and there it is, circle on the card. Textbook execution if you're thinking about trying that one.

[00:32:40.560]>>Armored 8 under, he's within 1 here in the 21st event of the season.

[00:32:46.630]>>Quite a story, so we talked about.

[00:32:49.770]>>Not many tours you can have stories like this.

[00:32:53.900]>>And if he gets out here full time, he can teach long division in the locker room. I'm sure none of these guys know how to do that anymore.

[00:33:00.580]>>I've forgotten everything I learned.

[00:33:03.050]>>All right, first little bit of stress and some time for Zach, but confidently rolls that one in. Very comfortable.

[00:33:10.180]>>Playing with a lot of confidence.

[00:33:12.740]>>And here's Boo from the upslope here at the par 516.

[00:33:18.270]>>On that upslope, coming off that 3 putt bogey at the short 15th, needed that. Mario Tiziani also blazing around Mini haha for birdie at 17 here. Yeah, big breaker from right to the left.

[00:33:32.550]>>Mario making a late run.

[00:33:37.520]>>7 birdies on the round, 5 of them since the turn for Tiziani.

[00:33:44.170]>>102, 102 has got to be playing at least 105 with that wind, right, at least, right.

[00:33:50.490]>>I think it's a 108 shot. Love it.

[00:33:57.910]>>OK, John, 108 shot. Have to control spin here.

[00:34:03.020]>>There's a backstop back there. One way to put him.

[00:34:07.060]>>Well behind the hole.

[00:34:08.960]>>Spent about 12 ft or so.

[00:34:16.810]>>Trying to cut it in there using that slope.

[00:34:20.670]>>Yeah, pretty safe shot, not his best, but.

[00:34:25.930]>>But a chance to move to 10 under and extend the lead here on the final day.

[00:34:35.410]>>Yeah, with Zach, he's so comfortable in the lead and so consistent. He gets through 1314.

[00:34:44.680]>>He's got two birdie holes, so he gets this one to go in. He's really starting to separate himself.

[00:34:56.670]>>Alright

[00:34:58.020]>>First of all,

[00:35:01.750]>>The whole way.

[00:35:05.090]>>I

[00:35:10.320]>>Uh, yes, that's going left early and then right down at the hole.

[00:35:27.100]>>Last part has to go to the front of the green.

[00:35:30.930]>>Yeah, he's aimed outside right though.

[00:35:35.330]>>And then rolled it right in the middle of the hole that was.

[00:35:39.650]>>Like I said,

[00:35:42.130]>>Going to start to separate himself from the field, and he's done that in all of his wins.

[00:35:50.150]>>And let's go to 18. Boo unable to find the fairway with his drive here.

[00:35:55.520]>>It's a small area up on top of that ridge.

[00:35:59.850]>>He didn't come out, he needs to get up that slope.

[00:36:05.520]>>Back to 12 and see if Gera can shake one in here for a par somehow.

[00:36:11.290]>>Well, it's all gravity. I mean, it, it doesn't need to hit it very hard. It's straight downhill.

[00:36:19.230]>>He's picking up some speed. Stay up, stay up.

[00:36:23.050]>>Oh, good pud.

[00:36:28.460]>>All right.

[00:36:29.700]>>Made the aggressive play out of that rough for his second. Unfortunately it didn't turn out the way he wanted.

[00:36:37.200]>>So 1 gone for Jerich at the par 5.

[00:36:40.990]>>OK

[00:36:42.760]>>3 birdies in the opening 4 holes for Ben Crane hasn't had one since that early portion of the round.

[00:36:49.940]>>I think to keep Zac within.

[00:36:52.830]>>Site, you gotta make this one. Have to absolutely. It's a big pot right here.

[00:36:58.830]>>This one turns the other way. He's missed a bunch of left to righters. This one's right to left.

[00:37:08.110]>>Brushes it in. Birdie birdie at the 12th for Ben Crane.

[00:37:14.050]>>And he's within 2. Crane and Johnson both birdied the par 5.

[00:37:21.120]>>Back with the final group at 13, Johnson back to work.

[00:37:27.060]>>As soon as this ball gets on the green, it's gonna start turning right.

[00:37:32.430]>>Not a great lie. It's going to tumble out. No, he gave that a little extra. Yeah, it's got some overspin.

[00:37:38.950]>>I

[00:37:42.340]>>Yeah

[00:37:43.520]>>Potential 2 shot swing there. Off to 15, Scott McCarron drove it right to the front of the green here.

[00:37:51.070]>>Yeah, still got some legs. He's getting stronger and stronger as.

[00:37:56.100]>>The more he's playing and working, going down that slope. Oh, that. I saw 2 from Ken Tanigawa earlier in the round, that's the 2nd eagle at 15 in the final round.

[00:38:09.850]>>Armor looking to move to 8 under.

[00:38:12.680]>>2 bad strokes back at the 14th. See if he can get one to go, he does.

[00:38:18.580]>>Gets that 3 putt back with a par 5, reachable par 5 coming up. Parma within 2 at the minute, all dependent on what happens with this Johnson par putt back at 13.

[00:38:33.020]>>You wouldn't expect me to make it except it's Zach Johnson with the lead on Sunday.

[00:38:40.490]>>He doesn't make too many mistakes.

[00:38:43.640]>>It's kind of a no, I agree.

[00:38:48.470]>>sloppy 2nd shot.

[00:38:51.570]>>Left to the green here.

[00:38:53.490]>>Left him with an awkward pitch.

[00:39:02.190]>>Outside the right lip.

[00:39:08.650]>>Ho ho ho ho ho ho ho ho.

[00:39:11.070]>>That teased him

[00:39:13.560]>>But it's just the 2nd bogey of the weekend for Zach Johnson. He drops back to -9.

[00:39:22.230]>>And Crane wants this par putt to go down, to remain just one off the lead.

[00:39:30.930]>>All of a sudden this is bunched up.

[00:39:37.420]>>Interesting grip, wasn't it? Always been a very good putter throughout the years. Yes, he has. He's messed with grips, but he's always been a good putter.

[00:39:49.690]>>Final group headed to 14. That's where we are for this Jamie Donaldson long birdie attempt.

[00:39:55.980]>>Do it. Oh, do it, he said. Oh, don't, don't you say that. Scares it. You can't talk.

[00:40:03.270]>>the golf ball like that.

[00:40:05.230]>>Up to 18 we go, and here's J.J Henry.

[00:40:11.190]>>Below the hole, not much break there, just have to keep the speed up and.

[00:40:15.190]>>J.J Henry's been playing some pretty good golf as of late.

[00:40:20.240]>>Zach Johnson next here at 14.

[00:40:23.740]>>That's a lofted fairy wood there, a little more aggressive anyway.

[00:40:34.980]>>That'd be just fine.

[00:40:37.650]>>No

[00:40:41.600]>>400 par week going for Charlie Wi, who's up at 16 here.

[00:40:50.240]>>Still looking for the breakthrough out here. Came close so often during his PGA TOUR days as well. He's the owner of 9 international victories through the years.

[00:41:04.400]>>Yeah, he's been hanging around those leaderboards a bit.

[00:41:12.020]>>Not much to this, maybe a little right to left.

[00:41:17.290]>>Birdie at 16 for Charlie, 4th of the final round. It's got him to 5 under. And really of this group, Ben Crane has hit the most quality golf shots.

[00:41:26.750]>>Today it just really has not made anything.

[00:41:31.090]>>Yeah, a quick start, 33 birdies in his 1st 4 holes, but nothing after that.

[00:41:51.300]>>Stay right, left of it.

[00:41:54.710]>>Yeah, I knew he couldn't get over that green in a hurry.

[00:41:58.780]>>That back left pin. I saw that dazzling 2nd shot into 18 earlier from Michael Wright, there's a birdie to cap the week for the Aussie. He'll sign for 70.

[00:42:13.150]>>B

[00:42:14.780]>>OK, that's just a nice, nice comfy wedge.

[00:42:19.360]>>Nice comfy wedge is the plan.

[00:42:22.770]>>From 146, that's a big wedge for Zach.

[00:42:26.710]>>No chance of knocking this over the green though, even downwind.

[00:42:46.640]>>God.

[00:42:50.000]>>OK.

[00:42:51.150]>>OK, wide side.

[00:42:53.710]>>Safety first.

[00:42:56.100]>>So Jerich in there the closest at 14.

[00:43:08.280]>>Well, and the other thing, this golf course lays out right in front of you and these greens are perfect. And this guy's a great putter.

[00:43:19.750]>>He had the recipe going into the week. He said, keep it underneath the hole. He picked up on that quickly. Retief Goosen is the defending champion, not gonna go back-to-back here though.

[00:43:33.000]>>Who

[00:43:34.910]>>Does watch one drop in at 15, however, he does.

[00:43:39.080]>>Gets him to 7 under. He's got a par 5 coming up.

[00:43:44.800]>>Birdie looked for Chad Campbell appeared 16.

[00:43:50.190]>>Not much to this. Gotta keep pace up here, Chad. There we go.

[00:43:56.230]>>Good stroke. Texan picks one up at the par 5. He's within 32 to play.

[00:44:04.130]>>A little left or right.

[00:44:06.720]>>I was going back up the hill. I think he can.

[00:44:10.040]>>Take some pace and take some break out.

[00:44:16.770]>>And he has a set up on that left edge. What a beautiful stroke and putt right in the center. Two up and downs in a row are just world class. And Crane has caught Zach Johnson. Both players at 9 under as they head for the par 516. Chad Campbell just birdied 16 earlier, looking forward to at 17.

[00:44:37.770]>>Pretty straight putt, just need to keep speed up.

[00:44:41.770]>>Now he's making some putts. Of course, late on a Sunday, now they start dropping for Chad, he's got it to 7 under.

[00:44:49.820]>>Ben Crane Bunker, 3rd at 16.

[00:44:54.710]>>Really an awkward length bunker shot.

[00:44:59.910]>>And

[00:45:02.620]>>Yeah, that's well done. That was definitely not the 160. That was 54 probably. Crane has a look for the lead here at 16.

[00:45:12.340]>>And a little right to left.

[00:45:15.290]>>And

[00:45:17.780]>>If you think back to Madison when he partnered with Darren Clarke for the victory there.

[00:45:23.950]>>Did it on the wings of this putter right here.

[00:45:31.480]>>Clarkey hit it brilliantly and Ben Crane made everything. Drops it in, massive putt, a birdie at 16 for Crane and there's your new leader, kids.

[00:45:50.850]>>Having just made par back at 16, feels like a Zach Johnson kind of moment is brewing here, 2, perhaps to get to 10 under with Crane in Stanger of making bogey here.

[00:46:04.350]>>This should have some left or right in it.

[00:46:08.090]>>A little bit uphill.

[00:46:14.600]>>I think he'll tell you he has not put it right today.

[00:46:17.800]>>But he usually has a moment.

[00:46:23.820]>>That was the moment he called the moment.

[00:46:27.690]>>Good call, guys.

[00:46:30.750]>>It's kind of what he's done in all of his wins.

[00:46:36.460]>>Massive birdie conversion for Johnson, the co-leader for the moment.

[00:46:54.490]>>So

[00:46:56.120]>>Oh, he gave it the full go. He's just a tumble. Oh my, I think it was a wedge, Cookie. I believe you're right. I said the whole time we thought it was a wedge.

[00:47:07.500]>>And that was a mighty lash at it. All right, Zach Johnson said he needed a birdie. He was not going to rely on Crane to help him out here.

[00:47:19.770]>>Well, this isn't.

[00:47:21.920]>>Most definitely a ledge of some sort, 27.

[00:47:29.180]>>And this is just right of it.

[00:47:32.000]>>Oh my. So good, so well controlled, right at hole high.

[00:47:37.840]>>One of the most well attended events on the Champions Tour, year in and year out, and every fan on the property is shoehorned into the atmosphere here at 18.

[00:47:50.740]>>With eyes on birdie putts from Ben Crane and Zach Johnson to follow, they are both highly meaningful and will determine the outcome here.

[00:48:02.870]>>They're very similar distances and it does look like Ben Crane is going to go first, which if you were writing the script, that's what you would want, right?

[00:48:19.110]>>Seized the lead with a birdie at 16, promptly gave it right back with a bogey at 17.

[00:48:25.960]>>Chance for 3 at the last to post 10 under and apply a little heat to Zach Johnson.

[00:48:33.430]>>This putt moves a little bit to the left, but not a lot if you keep the pace up. Yeah, pace has to stay up. You're right, John.

[00:48:42.160]>>Or it'll rip right across the hole.

[00:48:50.460]>>It's a whole lot easier than the Par putt was on the last hole.

[00:48:58.860]>>He's in a 10 under. It's a great battle back.

[00:49:03.550]>>54 holes complete.

[00:49:06.570]>>Will it be enough holes required for

[00:49:12.220]>>Us to determine a champion here.

[00:49:18.990]>>He's had some dramatic finishes this year, albeit

[00:49:22.750]>>With comfortable margins, and this for a narrow one-shot victory. It would be his 5th of the season.

[00:49:31.220]>>And this one's going to move a little left as well.

[00:49:34.570]>>A little downhill this is.

[00:49:36.880]>>Well

[00:49:42.360]>>I don't know what distracted him the plane.

[00:49:46.350]>>Were the thoughts in his head.

[00:49:55.600]>>Yeah, he's definitely looking just outside that right edge, John. It does have some downhill to it.

[00:50:09.090]>>And the drive for 5 is complete.

[00:50:13.130]>>Right in the center, step right up. Naka right in the center. 5th win of the season, a monster rookie campaign for Zach Johnson, who takes down the title at the Sanford International.

[00:50:28.410]>>What a finish.

[00:50:30.190]>>And he has matched Stewart Sinkk with victory number 5 and cut into Stewart's sizable lead in the Schwab Cup race, which is a little less sizable now.

[00:50:48.990]>>Ben Crane, who was a worthy adversary today but not quite good enough to deny Zach Johnson victory number 5, he's closed the gap on Stewart Cink within \$660,000 or so as we point toward the PURE Insurance Championship at Pebble Beach.

[00:51:06.540]>>All right, shots of the tournament presented by Sanford Health.

[00:51:12.290]>>Tough to choose from considering the way Zach Johnson came home today, and he said this hole was playing hard and he hit a beautiful 6 iron in there just left of the hole, get that little left to right bender. Beautiful putt, and this one right here never left the center of the cup. Started outside that right edge after a beautiful red shot for the win. Stood back on the tee and said, I need 2 more good shots and 1 more birdie, and he delivered on all accounts.

[00:51:38.880]>>So Crane denied what would have been his second victory of the season. It goes to Zach Johnson for his fifth title of 2026. Good showing from all the players at 8 and under. Mario Tiziani with a 63, the low round of the day, uh, Boo Weekley with a 64. Ryan Armber continues his fine play a couple of top 10s in his last two starts. Zach Johnson's, uh, just chipping away at the Stuart Singh's sleet in the Charles Schwab Cup.

[00:52:05.530]>>Standings, but yeah, good to, good to see Mario Tiziani play well. Boo Weekley, Ryan Armour needed a good week. Chad Campbell up there as well.