

Production Transcript for 25INTCUTCH - PURE INSURANCE CHAMPIONSHIP - MASTER.mp3

[00:00:43] >> What a scene, as it always is, and what a Friday it is along the Monterey Peninsula. It's first round coverage of the PURE Insurance Championship from Pebble Beach for the 22nd consecutive year.

[00:01:07] >> PGA Tour Champions proudly present the year-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup. And today, from Pebble Beach, California, it's live first round coverage of the PURE Insurance Championship. Well, if you're lucky enough to have been here, or you've just seen the images on your TV screen through the years, you know it's a scene that never gets old. It's simply like no other place. We welcome you to Pebble Beach, the breathtaking backdrop for what is just one of the coolest events of the season on the Champions Tour. Legends of the game are here this week, and they're partnered with the young stewards of the game. Really impressive boys and girls representing 45 first tee chapters around the country. And they will tackle a couple of different courses this week. We unveil the tournament format for you. They'll play Pebble Beach and Spyglass each of the first two rounds. Eighty professionals, their first team partners, and then 82 player amateur teams as well. There will be a cut. Low 50 professionals and ties will make it to Sunday at Pebble, along with 24 pro junior teams. I'm John Swantek. Great to have your company. And a pleasure to be alongside Paul Ainger, John Cook, Jeff Sluman, who have combined for six professional victories through the years here on these hallowed grounds.

[00:02:40] >> There you go. Stewart had a big win there a few weeks ago.

[00:02:44] >> Yup. Took the Ally Challenge.

[00:02:49] >> Yup, that's right.

[00:02:49] >> Warwick Hills for second win of the season.

[00:02:53] >> This will be a fun little shot for Justin Leonard. It's his third shot, so he wants to get up and down for par. Yeah. He had almost no chance there.

[00:03:09] >> Par saving putt for Tanigawa here at the 9th.

[00:03:12] >> It's not a gimme. This thing's going to snipe to the right on him. And after that pitch shot, you just want to capitalize so much. Yes. And he made it look very easy. You know, I think I've been struggling on that length. That's why that looks so hard to me. Even from the ear. You know, you got to want to make it more than you're afraid you're going to miss it.

[00:03:40] >> Kirk's got 6-iron here. Slightly into the wind. Not much wind blowing. It's an absolute beautiful afternoon to play golf, as it has been all day long. It starts to the right. Fanned it out there.

[00:03:57] >> And not a good strike for him.

[00:03:58] >> That's OK. Pitching a putt.

[00:04:00] >> Yeah, maybe chip it in. Swings a lot like Jay Haas. He does -- Clubs just goes kind of up and out and never gets off plane. They both and -- He and Jay both hit it great. Stewart Cink looking for birdie back here at the 8th.

[00:04:32] >> Kirk Triplett came up a little bit short of the green at 17.

[00:04:35] >> He has great touch. That's why he's a great putter. And he knew exactly how fast that would be. You know, one of the tricks to chipping well here is anticipating the first bounce.

[00:04:46] >> Justin Leonard for par back at 11. Finally broke into the winner's circle out here on the Champion's Tour at the Chubb Classic in Naples earlier this spring.

[00:05:10] >> Tim O'Neal picks up a birdie at 13. That's a nice one.

[00:05:13] >> It is. He deserved it. Coming out of the right rough. Left it in a perfect spot. And a terrific round going. Only blemish there at 10th.

[00:05:22] >> Back 12. We'll see if Leonard can pay off his cracking tee shot.

[00:05:27] >> Oh, yeah.

[00:05:37] >> We'll sneak up to 18 for the Kirk Triplett birdie putt to close out his day.

[00:05:41] >> Well, wouldn't this be a heck of a round for Triplett?

[00:05:44] >> Will it reach?

[00:05:45] >> He scooped it just a smidge. What a shame. Great round, though.

[00:05:52] >> So par at the last and a round of 69 for Kirk Triplett.

[00:05:57] >> Back to 12, where Leonard made the birdie from about 8 feet. Ken Tanigawa's in the same range here.

[00:06:07] >> Just made a nice putt the previous hole. Great shot in here at 12. Good stroke. Hello. Going to walk that one in. That's a nice two.

[00:06:23] >> Kenny T's got it to 4-under par.

[00:06:35] >> Justin Leonard scrambling back at 13.

[00:06:38] >> Well, that just looks so pure. I mean, did you see how the clubhead went right by the ball there? And that's just as soft and as pretty as you can do it.

[00:06:47] >> Going to keep Justin in the red.

[00:06:52] >> Couple feet for Leonard to clean up for his par here at 13.

[00:06:56] >> Well, you can't give anything at Pebble Beach. This Poa annua grass, I think, grows about as fast as anything. I was always just horrified over those 2 and 3 footers here.

[00:07:14] >> OK, Rocco. Had a tremendous 6-iron in here. And denied Rocco. That's a bummer. He was deserving of that birdie.

[00:07:25] >> I know you have a deep appreciation for this man's game.

[00:07:28] >> I just seen Rocco hit a thousand balls. Hundreds of thousands of balls probably. And he just doesn't miss the sweet spot very often. He flights it.

[00:07:37] >> Approach shot into the 13th for Tanigawa here, Jeff.

[00:07:40] >> He's got 125 yards. This is one of the easiest shots you'll face and have all day. Playing about 130 up the hill. Just wants to hit it right of the hole ideally and let it filter down. But he's pulled it a little left, but it still should be OK. About pin high.

[00:08:01] >> What a shot Tim O'Neal just hit into 15.

[00:08:04] >> Yeah, 15 is a real birdie hole here. Perfect tee shot. Short iron right over the flag. Yes, sir. This guy's clutch now. That was big time down the hill.

[00:08:18] >> Nice little stretch there for Tim. Birdies at 12, 13, and 15. Get himself into the picture here.

[00:08:27] >> Here's Leonard back at 14 for his birdie.

[00:08:30] >> That stroke hasn't changed in the 26 years since we saw that Ryder Cup putt.

[00:08:37] >> Yeah, that's right. He's always been an incredible putter.

[00:08:44] >> Weir at the 9th, his final hole of the day.

[00:08:48] >> This is a hard shot. Now, you want to be smart here, Mike. Don't go for this flag. It's right over the bunker. That's a good shot, boys. In control of his iron game, that's for sure.

[00:09:01] >> Fifteen looks like a pretty decent live for Justin Leonard in the rough there. Just want to be in the fairway so bad here on 15 because you're just licking your chops with a shorter iron into this flag. The rough is just, you know, hit and miss. And there it is. Looked like a good lie from our angle, but for Justin's, not so much.

[00:09:24] >> Third for Leonard now. Just short of the 15th green.

[00:09:26] >> A little bit of an indifferent lie or shot anyway from the rough, but, boy, doing what he does best. He has got some short game. And that was into the grain.

[00:09:37] >> To the other side of the golf course. Final hole of the day for Mike Weir at the 9th.

[00:09:45] >> Pretty sure he'd be happy with two putts from down there. Probably the slowest putt on the course. You don't dare hit it past the hole here. Swanny, you're just like, what did I do that for?

[00:10:01] >> That should be a par for Weir. Great start.

[00:10:04] >> And Weir looking for a round of 66.

[00:10:19] >> Good start to the week for the former Masters Champion of 2003.

[00:10:23] >> In the clubhouse, atop the leaderboard.

[00:10:26] >> Seventeen, Tim O'Neal and Jeff Sluman.

[00:10:31] >> Yeah. Tim's a beautiful swinger of the ball. It's 169 yards. He's hit another beautiful shot just underneath the hole. He's on a heater, Zinger. He's making a lot of birdies today.

[00:10:47] >> Yes, he is. He's hit a lot of shots right at it, Slu. On camera, too, we've seen some beautiful shots.

[00:10:54] >> See if O'Neal got a little intel from Lily.

[00:10:58] >> Yeah. You know, Zing, if Tim makes this, it's so lucky to have somebody hit it on your line like Lily. But he didn't capitalize on the read.

[00:11:09] >> No. And he hit it pretty hard. So he's got a little tester.

[00:11:21] >> Another sneaky good week for Cameron Percy. It's going to be a 66 for the Aussie, who made it eagle at 18 earlier in the round. He's been in the hunt a handful of times this year. Eight Top 10 finishes, couple of runners up, including one in St. Louis just a couple weeks ago.

[00:11:41] >> O'Neal's comebacker now at 17.

[00:11:44] >> It's not quite 4 feet, but not a gimme. And he handled it beautifully. Greens are absolutely beautiful today. They're firm enough that they're not getting all the footprints that we're used to seeing in February.

[00:11:59] >> Tricky one here for Tanigawa.

[00:12:01] >> Yeah. He's got to go up a hill and then back down over it. And with the ocean to his left, you know, it's like double jeopardy here. You've got to really get the speed right. But this can be misread badly. Big old backswing. He's playing it like it's a pretty slow putt. Well read. Full flaps, he says. I heard him say full flaps.

[00:12:38] >> Nice.

[00:12:40] >> Well, Tanigawa, having just seen his partner rumble one in for birdie. Keeps his scorecard clean. So really solid day going for this team.

[00:12:51] >> What a great day. It's been so much fun to kick off this 22nd edition of PURE Insurance Championship.

[00:12:57] >> Fine days for Mike Weir and Cameron Percy, the co-leaders after matching rounds of 66. And we'll see Steven Alker and Vijay Singh tomorrow here at Pebble Beach.

[00:13:17] >> A splendid Saturday in one of the most breathtaking places on earth. We welcome you to Pebble Beach, second round coverage of the 22nd edition of the PURE Insurance Championship. Get you right out to the 6th there. Jeff Sluman's there with Steven Alker trying to grind one out for par.

[00:13:36] >> He's got about 12-footer. It's up and out of it early. Missed it on the low side, Paul. Obviously didn't like it.

[00:13:45] >> Bogey's on par 5.

[00:13:47] >> Making bogey.

[00:13:49] >> Yeah. Not on a par 5.

[00:13:50] >> Yeah.

[00:13:50] >> Especially that one, because every player in the field, if you hit a good drive, you can reach that par 5.

[00:13:56] >> So Alker drops to minus-6. And we move up to the 7th with Fred Couples and John Cook.

[00:14:03] >> Yeah, good afternoon. Another picture perfect day here in Pebble Beach. Beautiful tee shot in there for Fred, and he takes advantage.

[00:14:10] >> That's the voice of the 1976 California State Amateur champion, John Cook, one of his three victories on these hallowed grounds.

[00:14:19] >> Stephen Ames looking for birdie here at 9.

[00:14:20] >> Freddie Couples on a heater with three birdies in a row. Couples will be on this green in about 20 minutes. He's got to play the difficult 8th. This is really a tough place to put the flagstick. I got to say, John, it's one of the hardest hole locations, maybe in all of golf. Front left on 9. This is one slow putt. If Vijay can reach, he's going to have it right on line. But you don't see a lot of guys hit it past the hole. They're going up the hill at 8 or 9, because if you do happen to get by the hole, and it's just terrifying downhill.

[00:15:08] >> Good look for Freddie here.

[00:15:36] >> Yeah. What a great second shot out of that left rough. Ran it up there. And that's an unfortunate miss after birdie in 6 and 7. Boy, he'd love to have that one.

[00:15:46] >> Nice little run. That would have been four in a row for Couples.

[00:15:55] >> This is the slowest putt on the property. Up the hill here, Vijay. And that is big time for him. That is the way to do it. Great par at 9.

[00:16:05] >> And we're back at the 7. Pretty sporty tee shot from Ernie at the par 3. Looking to pay it off here.

[00:16:12] >> Well, look like it might go in for a second, and then it backed up to get to this point. Ernie works so hard on his putting. He switched around a couple times this year. He's

changed his grip a little bit periodically, I feel. And that's got a break to the right, but doesn't. That's a shame.

[00:16:34] >> That club hasn't always been its most cooperative on a handful of Sundays last couple years.

[00:16:43] >> It's been a seesaw battle for him on the greens, I think, and he's used a couple putters back and forth and -- But he's still one of the greatest putts.

[00:16:50] >> Yup. What a putt.

[00:16:55] >> Alker connecting. Get it to 7. Third birdie of the day for Steven.

[00:17:03] >> The reigning Charles Schwab Cup Champion.

[00:17:05] >> Couples on the upslope of the bunker here at 9.

[00:17:10] >> Yeah, makes it a lot easier. Just going to flip it up in the air. Just like that. Very underrated part of Fred Couples' game. Short game. That was really nicely done.

[00:17:19] >> Nice bucket shot from Couples at the 9th. Trying to keep it at 6-under here.

[00:17:27] >> Kind of stay with these putts. He did. Boy, Freddie follows through, drops putter on the ground. After he hits it, he doesn't recoil.

[00:17:42] >> Stephen Ames with a birdie look here at the 11.

[00:17:46] >> You always feel like 11 is a birdie hole because you get a wedge chance. And generally, you can -- it's a predictable bounce on this green. But then, you get up there and you realize you've got all kinds of slope to deal with.

[00:18:00] >> Goosen here. Short of the green at 12.

[00:18:06] >>Excellent shot. Not the gimme he was hoping for, but still a good shot.

[00:18:16] >> Goosen can still make three. Keeping it 40under par.

[00:18:24] >> Learn a lot just watching his routine. And I like watching his head when he walks in. Like how he turns and cocks his head. He's got everything perfectly square here. And then, the prayer grip, which he went to a few years back. And that's just butter. Smooth as silk.

[00:18:45] >> Nice work from Goosen. And hold it steady here at the 12.

[00:18:53] >> Alker has been striping iron shots all day long. Another birdie look.

[00:18:58] >> Well, he didn't flirt with that. Oh, boy, he didn't flirt with that right side. You can make 25, 30 footers. You don't have to hit every shot at the flag.

[00:19:08] >> Let's go to 12 and check in on Vijay here.

[00:19:11] >> Well, it's important to be pin high master here at this level. And Vijay rolled it up there. Hit a good iron shot, pin high. That's a super slow putt, one you can make.

[00:19:23] >> Looking on the birdie putt of Alker back here at 11.

[00:19:26] >> Yeah. Well, this is the hole where they get to hit the wedge. And as much as you can hit a good wedge, the green is so hard to make a putt on. And he and Freddie Couples both taking advantage of 11.

[00:19:39] >> You know, he's just -- they raise all the money, so.

[00:19:44] >> He knows him well. In fact, Gary wrote the letter of recommendation for --

[00:19:47] >> Is that right?

[00:19:48] >> -- to get into this event this week.

[00:19:49] >> Yup, for sure. Well, that first tee chapter in Tampa is enormous. And they really do a great job.

[00:20:05] >> Steven Alker looking for the sixth birdie of the round here at 13. Jeff Sluman has been following.

[00:20:11] >> Yeah, it's been nothing but impressive. He just continues to hit it inside 15 feet in the correct spot, Paul. This one's got to go a little to his left. It's not going to break too much. Maybe cup and a half or two. He sure makes it look easy.

[00:20:40] >> There is your co-leader at 10-under par. See if Broady can knock one in for birdie here at the last.

[00:20:51] >> Well, he deserves it. What a good way to finish.

[00:20:55] >> Hopefully, that won't be the last putt of his career, but he's definitely going to have career threatening surgery coming up on his foot or ankle area there, so.

[00:21:06] >> Stephen Ames ready to roll here at 17. One of the best setups you'll ever see. And that is a terrific golf swing. Not sure why he hasn't been his normal self. Look at this.

[00:21:19][Applause]

[00:21:27] >> Freddie at 14. Sneaks one in for 5.

[00:21:31] >> Playing a condensed schedule at the age of 65, making just his eighth start of the season here.

[00:21:42] >> Ernie's had some issues here. Pokey putt on his hands.

[00:21:46] >> Well, now that's going to get him outside the cut line. He's got to make this to stay even par. OK. He needs a couple birdies. He's got two par 5s waiting.

[00:22:06] >> We'll go to 16. And that's Goosen.

[00:22:22] >> We've got our sights on Goosen. Trying to save par at 16.

[00:22:26] >> Something happened back there that caused him to go in that back bunker.

[00:22:34] >> Take you out to 15. And Fred Couples looking to move to 6-under.

[00:22:40] >> Has hit a lot of good shots. And it's another nice putt. And in this time, finally. He got on a little tear in the middle of his round. Even par on the backside. Just a good round. Freddie needs a couple more birdies. He will be totally in contention.

[00:22:58] >> Steven Alker is the co-leader, 10-under par.

[00:23:01] >> He's in a spot of bother here, as they would say. It's a long third shot to 14, and he has judged it for beautifully. Oh, wow. Look at the shot. Right by the hole.

[00:23:12] >> They gouge that one out of the heavy rough, but Alker with a chance to take the lead if he can hole it.

[00:23:18] >> Vijay looking to roll one in here for birdie.

[00:23:27] >> Had four on the scorecard today, offsetting a couple of drop shots at 5 and 8.

[00:23:39] >> Alker trying to get his nose in front.

[00:23:43] >> Quick one there. It's just wandered by the hole.

[00:23:50] >> One South African to another. Off we go to 17.

[00:23:55] >> That's the most neutral grip possible.

[00:24:05] >> Four birdies in the opening seven for Retief, but they have dried up. And he's 3-over par since that point.

[00:24:13] >> Par-5 18th to come.

[00:24:23] >> Yeah, Alker had just another beautiful shot where you won't have it. You know, Paul, I can understand why he gets frustrated. But, you know, he's still playing great golf, and he's tied for the lead.

[00:24:37] >> You know, one thing I noticed, Slu, is every putty misses, goes about 12 to 14 inches past the hole. I mean, that his speed is just impeccable. Every time I watch Alker --

[00:24:50] >> Yeah. His distance control with the irons and his speed on the -- yeah, his speed on the putting is -- he doesn't have a lot of stress if he misses the putt.

[00:25:05] >> Back at 18. And Vijay Singh looking for four at the last in a round of 69.

[00:25:11] >> This would be nice for Vijay. I think he'll feel a lot better about himself and his chances. And that's the way to get it done. But that's good. I had the privilege of playing a lot of practice rounds with Vijay right in his prime, and he's giving himself a chance to win this golf tournament.

[00:25:46] >> So Steven had four chances for the lead across the final four. All pars for the New Zealander. And he's in 10-under. A really productive round, a fine round of 67. But oddly, it may feel a little unfulfilling.

[00:26:05] >> Isn't that crazy? Think about that. Shoots 5-under around Pebble Beach and it could have been, gosh, it could have been four or five shots better easily. Great round, though. Tied for the lead. It's going to be a shootout tomorrow for sure.

[00:26:18] >> Alker and Weir, the co-leaders at 10 under par. Stewart Cink, has won a couple times this season, is at minus-8. Vijay Singh, who won here at Pebble Beach on the PGA Tour 21 years ago, trying to win tomorrow as well. He's within striking distance, just two shots off the lead.

[00:26:46] >> Championship Sunday at Pebble Beach. And what an incredible week it's been. This is final round coverage of the PURE Insurance Championship, 22nd edition of this event. I'm John Swantek. Paul Azinger is alongside. Got some highlights from earlier today. Steven Alker in the hunt on a Sunday. What else is new?

[00:27:04] >> A rough start for Alker today. Two bogeys out of the gate. You have to play the first seven holes well here at Pebble Beach usually, but boy, did he make up for it at 4. Almost holed it. Bogeyed 1 and 2. Birdied 3 and 4. He's right back in it.

[00:27:20] >> That got Alker to 10-under. This birdie putt for Mike Weir at the 5th got him to 10-under par.

[00:27:25] >> This will make you want to do a little dance. Fantastic.

[00:27:31] >> So those two are in the final group together today. There's a number of players that are pressing the lead, including Vijay Singh, who won at Pebble Beach on the PGA Tour 21 years ago.

[00:27:40] >> Yeah. Well, he ought to know the greens by now. And he just rolls that right in the center.

[00:27:45] >> That got Vijay to 11-under. Alker picked one up here at the 6th as well to get through 11.

[00:27:51] >> Alker was so steady yesterday, tee to green. He needed a few more of those.

[00:27:56] >> Boy, what a comeback after bogey in the first two.

[00:27:59] >> And a bogey from Mike Weir at the 8th just moments ago. So he slips a shot off the lead. It's Steven Alker up top on the leaderboard here at the PURE Insurance Championship. Gets you right out to the 9th. Stewart Cink has this for birdie. Jeff Sluman's down there.

[00:28:15] >> Beautiful shot in there by Stewart. Needs this desperately. What a nice putt and played the hole perfectly, Paul. Three-wood off the tee. Little wedge in there and just didn't convert.

[00:28:27] >> Yeah. Another great tournament for Stewart. Fantastic par save from the bunker on number 8. And now, so far, he's gotten through the two of the three toughest holes with pars. Just two shots off the lead. Vijay hit it right at the flag here, Jeff, on a very difficult pin.

[00:28:48] >> He sure did. And he's putting it. So what's the usual saying? Putt to make par and chip to make birdie from that position?

[00:28:56] >> Well, also, the further off the green I get, the more likely I am to putt.

[00:29:02] >> He makes it.

[00:29:03] >> There you go for Vijay Singh.

[00:29:06] >> I think the older I get, the more likely I am to putt that too.

[00:29:09] >> Keep that thing on the ground, right?

[00:29:11] >> Good job. That was tough. You know, that wasn't an easy putt either. The ball wasn't sitting perfectly clean, but he caught it just right.

[00:29:19] >> Alker at 9. John Cook.

[00:29:23] >> Lesson driver. Good to be with you all. Love Pebble Beach on a Sunday. This should be good up the left-hand side. Nice par save back there for Steven.

[00:29:34] >> Yes, it was. This just did catch some rough. That will make a huge difference with the hole cut on the left side at 9.

[00:29:42] >> Fred Couples trying to hang around. This to get to minus-8.

[00:29:46] >> Attaway, Freddie.

[00:29:49] >> Freddie and Vijay turning back the clock. Look at that. Four birdies on the card. Just the one slip up there at the 9th.

[00:30:01] >> Vijay Singh ready to start the back nine here. And Slu, he reeled in four birdies across the first half of the day.

[00:30:09] >> He sure did. And he's swinging great. I was with him all day on Wednesday, and it was practice round. He didn't miss a shot. And Paul, this tee shot right now is perfect for Vijay. Hard fade. It's straight downwind. I would expect to see something down there in the middle of the fairway on the right side with probably a wedge left.

[00:30:39] >> Oh, yeah, Fantastic. I've been in the last group.

[00:30:42] >> Absolutely perfect.

[00:30:43] >> Yeah, I've been in the last group on Sunday with Vijay before. And he was just so aggressive with his driver. And I expect to see that again today.

[00:30:53] >> This is the seventh time Mike Weir has taken the lead or co-lead into the final round of his Champions Tour career. He's one for six, converting those leads into victory.

[00:31:04] >> That was a beautiful stroke.

[00:31:09] >> So Weir, 10-under par to the turn. Birdie putts for Stewart Cink back here at 10, Jeff.

[00:31:18] >> It's a new putt. I don't really know what this is going to do, but it's probably going to be very straight. Looks like he's pushed it a little to the right.

[00:31:26] >> Vijay Singh kind of crooning the classics this week, you might say. Twenty-one years removed from winning here at Pebble Beach during his PGA Tour days. And the putter, in particular, has looked very solid over the weekend here. Four birdies on the card to get to 11-under today.

[00:31:48] >> Yeah. Had a beautiful drive, exactly how you would want to. It's got a natural fade off tee. And the wind really helped him out there.

[00:32:00] >> Some sort of gap wedge in there. About 12 feet for birdie.

[00:32:08] >> Looks very free with the putter, though, Zing.

[00:32:12] >> Well, that sure did. Beautiful putt that didn't go in. I think he hit it right where he was looking. Vijay's patient. I think he's going to just kind of plug along. You know, you see how he just going like a little extra slow, keeping his heart rate down a beat. That's the whole game.

[00:32:31] >> Back to 17 with 2022 PURE Insurance Champion, Steve Flesch.

[00:32:37] >> There you go.

[00:32:38] >> Oh, yeah.

[00:32:39] >> Two at 17 at Pebble Beach. Back at the 18th green, and the fourth shot for Paul Broadhurst, who's won this event a couple times, 2016 and again last year.

[00:32:53] >> He's really hobbling around, Azinger, as you can see. He announced that this is going to be his final tournament for a while. He's undergoing ankle surgery in October. And Broady says he hopes to be back out here in 2027.

[00:33:05] >> Yeah, he loves it here. He just loves it. He never really played in America until he turned 50, and felt welcome, and has had the time of his life. But now, he is truly injured. He's got to address the ankle. Look at that consistency. He can barely walk. And he's shooting those kinds of scores.

[00:33:26] >> These are hard courses, too.

[00:33:28] >> We'll miss him.

[00:33:31] >> Back to the 17th. Retief Goosen birdied his first five holes of the round today. Just level par since then.

[00:33:38] >> Those first five holes can be had. But five straights, pretty strong. And another good shot for Goosen.

[00:33:47] >> Greenside bunker for Singh at 11.

[00:33:50] >> Yeah. Nice little flat lie. I think it's a big long swing, which he did. Very nice shot.

[00:34:02] >> Goosen can go birdie, birdie, if he could make this one and birdie 18. He can post 10-under, it's going to play really difficult coming in.

[00:34:10] >> He is stacking them up today. Look at the birdies on the card. Eight of them for Goosen so far. Eighteenth to come.

[00:34:18] >> Up ahead one, and an important par putt here, Jeff, for Vijay Singh.

[00:34:21] >> Yeah. At this point of the tournament, they're all important. But I think if Vijay makes this, he's going to feel a little like he's invincible. He can get it up and down from anywhere. And, you know, as Paul mentioned earlier, he's driving it so well. That's going to be very important on these last seven holes.

[00:34:47] >> What a putt.

[00:34:49] >> I haven't seen him putt like that in a while, Paul.

[00:34:54] >> We'll scoot up to 18. Birdie Paul Stankowski would certainly help Naomi fan. He gave it a good run.

[00:35:09] >> Stankow has come into some form recently. Had a good showing.

[00:35:22] >> Well, what's he got, Slu?

[00:35:24] >> He's got about as easy a putt as you're going to have on 12. Nobody's really putted from there today, Paul. Probably 4 feet. I'd say inside right.

[00:35:40] >> I feel like everybody plays this putt to go left. You can't dare get it outside the hole. When you say inside right, you are correct. It should go to the ocean. But it doesn't always. This putt, usually straight, Slu.

[00:35:52] >> You can't, to your point, give the hole up. Keep your pace up and hit a good putt.

[00:36:03] >> Yeah. Beautiful shot into the 12th and a birdie to follow for Stewart Cink. Trying to capture his third victory of the season.

[00:36:20] >> Long birdie putt for Weir at 11.

[00:36:22] >> And one of the slowest on the peninsula right here. Goes straight into the grain. Will kick a little left off that shoulder on that right bunker.

[00:36:33] >> Yeah, yeah. Ran out of energy quick.

[00:36:38] >> Sing is ready back at 13.

[00:36:40] >> Back into this cool breeze that's come up. And it was perfect. Right off the get go, Paul.

[00:36:53] >> Yup. Dead center of the fairway.

[00:36:57] >> Alker for his birdie back at 11.

[00:36:59] >> Yeah. Nice approach shot in here. This putt does not do a whole lot.

[00:37:05] >> Robbed.

[00:37:07] >> Looked like it was in the whole way.

[00:37:09] >> Perfect speed.

[00:37:11] >> Big birdie putt at 18. Goosen to post 10-under.

[00:37:16] >> Well, this could really be huge for Retief. Wind is up. And, oh, man, right in the middle. His confidence is sky high. And that might be the winner.

[00:37:30] >> Weir has been really struggling from this distance today.

[00:37:35] >> Yeah. Walk that one in pretty nicely. That keeps him in touch.

[00:37:41] >> Avoids what would have been a third bogey in a four hole stretch. But Weir holds it steady at 9-under. Vijay working from the bunker here, greenside, Jeff Sluman.

[00:37:53] >> Similar shot to 11 that he had. He's got to carry it on the green. Hit a beautiful shot, but he needed to carry it another yard. Probably would have been almost a tap-in.

[00:38:06] >> Up to 16. And Doug Barron trying to keep his nose in the fight here at 9-under.

[00:38:12] >> He's very much alive. Just one shot off the clubhouse lead. And a good shot. He hit the right shot in here at 16, man, and left it in a perfect spot.

[00:38:25] >> Let's go to 12 now for the Alker birdie putt.

[00:38:27] >> Yeah. Good breaker from right to left, and very fast. Just has to get it to its apex and just let it go down that slope. A little careful. Got a couple feet. You don't want those this time of day here at Pebble Beach.

[00:38:43] >> Barron for birdie and to get to 10-under here.

[00:38:47] >> Well, he just needs to be real free on this thing. Let it release. Hang on to this putt. He's got a real chance. That's a beauty, and he knows it. That's a worthy fist pump and a tippy toe right over to 17. He has got a real chance now. He's tied for the lead.

[00:39:09] >> Mike Weir has been working awfully hard, Cookie, the last five, six holes, hasn't he?

[00:39:16] >> Yeah, that he has. Missed a little tiny putt at the 4th, came back with a couple of birdies. Let one go at the 8th. Another one at the 10th. This for a par save. About 15 feet down the hill. Doesn't do a whole lot. He also gave it a little too much respect.

[00:39:45] >> Stewart Cink trying to save his par. He's got a lot left here.

[00:39:49] >> Yeah, 10 feet up the hill. Got to get it there. He likes it. He's looking at it. Wow, what a save. Those are the ones that win you the tournament, Paul.

[00:40:03] >> Alker just kind of steadying himself in these blustery conditions, but misfires there at 12.

[00:40:09] >> Well, Cookie, was all over that. You don't want to leave yourself those little ticklers on Sunday out here late. Footprints and --

[00:40:18] >> Yeah, that's a huge mistake there, Paul. Three putting from, you know, a really good tee shot.

[00:40:29] >> To the 17th with the co-leader, Doug Barron.

[00:40:34] >> Hundred and eighty-six yards to pin on the left hand side. Doug Barron hits it really a long ways. And this is a doable shot for him. And I mean, that is right on the money for Doug Barron.

[00:40:49] >> Up to 17. Barron for a two, Zinger. Talk a little bit about what you learned about what he's working on with his putting.

[00:40:59] >> Well, I know he's got a 9-footer right here. Just listen in. Just sent a video. He's been working with his coach to try to catch the putt, catch the ball a little more in the equator. And it has worked beautifully. It sure did on the last hole. This is a real pressure putt for Doug Barron. He has not won in a while. This to take the lead. Big time. That is big time. You know, he's putting with intent. Look at that score today. He's putting with intent. He is trying to catch that ball in the equator. That's all he's thinking about. He's got nothing else on his mind, I imagine. And he just made a huge birdie. Just a little tap for par.

[00:41:47] >> Alker to avoid another bogey at 13.

[00:41:52] >> Huge putt here for confidence, and also keep in touch, and put a battle.

[00:41:58] >> He's so good. What a big time putt that was for him. He's leaking oil big time. He's been spiraling down the leaderboard a little bit, but that might right the ship.

[00:42:09] >> Well, Stewart's left himself a little bit of work still. Outside Vijay's --

[00:42:15] >> Yeah, Paul, it's about 4 feet. I don't think it's going to do too much.

[00:42:31] >> Shows you the quality of shot Vijay hit in there that he's still inside Stewart. Made it look easy.

[00:42:43] >> I like Stewart's effort there. You know, he really did try to make that shot. Tied for the lead. You know, you got a couple more short clubs. You hit a good drive on the next hole, you can get a short wedge in your hand. This is a chance for Vijay now to tie the lead, Slu.

[00:43:02] >> He was so disappointed with his bounce on 12. He told me that on 13 after he hit his tee shot. I think that shook him up on 13, frankly. But now, he's back. Made a nice beautiful birdie there, and tight for the lead.

[00:43:19] >> Doug Barron has seen a lot of the 18.

[00:43:24] >> He feels like if he can just make a par, he's going to win this golf tournament. That's a great shot. Oh, boy. Big time. Caught a good lie in the bunker, and wow, totally capitalized on it. Doug Barron can maybe put the tournament away if he makes that.

[00:43:44] >> Back for Vijay's birdie putt.

[00:43:46] >> Yeah. It goes downhill left to right, and then, the very end, it's going to go uphill and swing right. Oh, boy, what a beautiful birdie.

[00:43:58] >> Two in a row for Singh. He's at 11-under. So is Doug Barron for the moment. Chance to get it to 12 here. A brief hesitation before he fist pumped it in there.

[00:44:17] >> That is awesome.

[00:44:20] >> My man is fired up.

[00:44:23] >> Oh, boy. How about those two birdies to close? Three birdies to close with that great birdie at 16 as well. And then, watch his reaction here.

[00:44:32] >> Yeah, it was worth the wait.

[00:44:34] >> It means everything to him. He's not done yet.

[00:44:39] >> Bogey-free 66 for Doug Barron on Sunday. So that knocks Goosen out of the picture. Barron in at 12-under.

[00:44:48] >> Well, Cink's chances were kind of fleeting when he stepped to the tee at 16 and manages to make four. But he's three off the lead with only two to play, as Doug Barron sees if anybody can catch him here on the final day at Pebble Beach.

[00:45:16] >> Long birdie putt for Stewart Cink at 17.

[00:45:20] >> Yeah. Another 70-foot plus putt for Stewart. Got to go up over that little ridge. And a beautifully judged putt.

[00:45:33] >> Well, there was a big reaction when Alker tossed in that sparkling approach shot there. And once again, quality birdie look. I don't know what his proximity to the hole has been over the last two days, but there's no way it's outside 20 feet the way that he's been striping these iron shots.

[00:45:51] >> No, he's been flushing it. And I can't ask for a better look right here. Very similar putt to what he made for par at 13. Got to get it outside that left edge. Keep the speed up. Pretty slow. Loses speed, it'll miss to the right.

[00:46:18] >> Bingo.

[00:46:19] >> You got that right. You know, that was a lot of conviction on that stroke, too. Making some big time putts here at the end.

[00:46:31] >> Stewart Cink drove it out of bounds. Still a chance to make five here, Slu.

[00:46:35] >> Yeah. He really bombed the second shot. He only had 241 with the hole.

[00:46:42] >> Let's go watch Vijay live here at 18. Slowish putt, Jeff.

[00:46:48] >> Yeah, the greens are much slower than the beginning of the day. It's straight uphill, into the wind. He gave it a pop. I know how disappointed he is. He hit a great shot on 12 and a great shot here into the green. And he doesn't feel like he got rewarded for it.

[00:47:11] >> Time now for shots of the tournament presented by PURE Insurance. And look no further than the way Doug Barron played the final three holes today, Zinger.

[00:47:20] >> Well, he had a perfect drive here at 16, and just gave himself a short shot into the green. He played that perfectly. That's not an easy putt. It's got a lot of break. Here it is. Watch this fist pump. It reminds me when Tiger made a putt here the year he won the US Open.

[00:47:42] >> Big time putt. Now, 17. This again. A hundred and eighty-six yards. Pretty difficult shot, really. But just enough wind off the right side. I think the players feel very comfortable here today. Wow. What a leave that is. And again, another -- It's just only about 9 feet, but it's a tricky little kind of slider. And in it goes. Couple bad tee shot off the tee. Laid up in the bunker. Hit a great third to here. Watch this putt.

[00:48:17] >> And the reaction.

[00:48:20] >> Each putt was more meaningful. Each reaction was more dramatic. Doug Barron tied for 36 going into the weekend and finishes 67, 66 without a bogey over the final 36.

[00:48:36] >> And now, he can only wait and stay warm in case Alker birdies the last to force extra holes here.

[00:48:42] >> The back half of this green doesn't really hold all that well. The front half of the green, the ball can back up on you. Alker will be watching how this ball reacts when it hits.

[00:48:58] >> No question.

[00:49:08] >> On a nice line. Right there, right underneath the hole.

[00:49:13] >> Yeah, great shot.

[00:49:13] >> Very good shot.

[00:49:14] >> Yeah. Super shot. That's a nice teach for Steven Alker.

[00:49:21] >> It goes at this hard, he could overspin it. He's pressing it back there, but it's left.

[00:49:33] >> Oh, boy. And that's what I was afraid of. The big first hop on the back of that green. And that is no man's land. It would take a miracle to hole that shot.

[00:49:47] >> Adrenaline or any other explanation.

[00:49:49] >> Probably adrenaline. I think, you know, his desire to get it back there hole high. He's made some nice putts here the last five or six holes. I'm just shocked that he would go all the way back. That looks like your possible winner. And wouldn't that be something for Doug Barron? You know, he'll be the happiest guy on earth.

[00:50:10] >> Barron's been getting regular updates as to what's happening on the golf course. So he probably is aware of what just unfolded.

[00:50:22] >> He's going to have to land it on the green and let it just trickle out of here. Doesn't want to hit a super spinny little thing. You know, the gift is to be able to hit it so it doesn't spin too much. He holes this, this is something special.

[00:50:38] >> To send it to sudden death.

[00:50:40] >> Not going to happen. And Doug Barron, huh? How about it?

[00:50:44] >> What a weekend. Doug Barron is the king this week. No one saw him coming. Sixty-seven, 66, without a drop shot over the weekend to win the PURE Insurance Championship, his fourth victory on the Champions Tour.

[00:50:59] >> Congratulations to Doug Barron. What a career he's starting to have. And he's really enjoying this golf out here. He's been out here a number of years now. I'm sure Alker is going to be really disappointed, you know, after the way he hit it yesterday, not quite as good today. But he sure has had a lot of putts not go in, even though he's been good here at the end. This was a tough pill to swallow, I'm sure.

[00:51:31] >> The wind out of the sails. It's going to be six at the last for Alker.

[00:51:36] >> Drop him into a tie for third with Retief. And Vijay Singh will get a solo second.

[00:51:50] >> Going to be another high finish for Alker, who's had so many since 2020 when he joined this tour. He has been an indomitable force out here, and he was a terrific partner to Margaret Kerr, the champion this week. Fifty-six-year-old from Memphis, Tennessee. Champion again on the PGA Tour Champions. Congratulations to Doug Barron.