

Production Transcript for **26INTCUTCH - PRINCIPAL CC - MASTER**

[00:00:41.540]>>PGA TOUR Champions in Des Moines, Iowa for the 25th year. This is the Principal Charity Classic, the 12th of 28 on the PGA TOUR Champions schedule for 2026. Perfect conditions. Wind up a little bit. Vaughn Taylor off to a nice start. 5-under through his opening 13. Cameron Percy, Matt Gogel at 4-under.

[00:01:06.529]>>And we take you over to the seventh. Ernie Els says this putt for birdie. Ernie won here in 2024. John Cook is with this group.

[00:01:18.870]>>Sure, but.

[00:01:22.290]>>His 2nd birdie of the day against 1 bogey.

[00:01:26.699]>>When Ernie won here in 2024, he won by two shots over Stephen Ames, who was trying to go back-to-back. Ellis shot a 65 in the final round, bogey-free, set the tournament record, shooting 21 under.

[00:01:42.040]>>Good to see Steve Stricker back. He was a runner-up to Stephen Ames in 2023.

[00:01:49.339]>>Steve played in his first event of the year last week at the American Family Insurance Championship, and, uh, John, good to see him out in back-to-back weeks.

[00:01:58.779]>>Yeah, he's happy to be out. He said, uh, he was a little sore after last week. He walked most of the way there at TPC Wisconsin.

[00:02:05.699]>>Uh, not so much this week. It's a very hilly golf course, but he's just happy to be back out playing very rusty, he says, but.

[00:02:12.770]>>He gets better and better each day.

[00:02:16.119]>>2 bogeys and a birdie for Strick, and that was a nice opportunity missed. As you know, John, when you're coming back from injury or a hip replacement.

[00:02:25.660]>>It just takes a little time, as you said, he walked last week, which is a

[00:02:30.509]>>That's, that's good news.

[00:02:34.050]>>They added a ton of bunkers and they're deep and the greens are bigger as well. So although it's the same, same routing, it's really a different golf course. Nice birdie for Cameron Percy.

[00:02:48.240]>>At the 11th, Percy comes into this week, 21st.

[00:02:53.149]>>But this is the part of the game that he works so hard at.

[00:02:56.789]>>It's very meticulous.

[00:03:00.789]>>Some people may say slow. I choose meticulous.

[00:03:05.860]>>Look at that card.

[00:03:08.179]>>It looks like a FedEx tracking number.

[00:03:12.520]>>Scott Hend for birdie over at the 8th. Scott was pretty dominant in winning in Morocco. 5 shots over Tommy Gainey, final round 4 under 69.

[00:03:26.729]>>Thank

[00:03:30.949]>>Darren Clarke trying to go back-to-back, birdie the 8th.

[00:03:36.679]>>And Ernie's the 9th. How good was that?

[00:03:41.389]>>He has been putting

[00:03:43.600]>>Extremely well for the last couple of years.

[00:03:50.029]>>Now Els with a.

[00:03:52.220]>>Lengthy birdie putt

[00:03:54.529]>>Yeah, similar line to what Zach Johnson just pitched from, so he kind of knows what it does, doesn't do a whole lot. Wind might be blowing hard enough that it would hold up any right to left brake.

[00:04:06.309]>>Hold it up, keep it pretty straight.

[00:04:10.940]>>Have to be careful with speed.

[00:04:15.720]>>2 in a row. How about that 4? Looked like a 4 the whole way, didn't it, John?

[00:04:24.709]>>I know from personal experience, John, that, and I know you have too when you come back from injury.

[00:04:31.209]>>You could have gone into the injury riding a confident high, but when you come back.

[00:04:36.950]>>And you're trying to find it again that touch, it almost feels like you're playing a brand new game.

[00:04:43.720]>>Yeah, not much to this. Got to keep speed up. That's a nice up-and-down, and you know, like you said there, uh, uh, Peter, you, you kind of lose your feels. You don't really lose your golf swing. That comes back pretty quick. It's the feels on different pitch shots, kind of funny looking putts, different lies in the fairway. That's all field. That's not technique.

[00:05:06.440]>>Between 2022 and 2023, Steve Stricker.

[00:05:12.220]>>Won 10 times over those 2 years.

[00:05:19.350]>>Going back a couple of years earlier, a couple of majors in the Regions Tradition, the US Senior Open, Bridgestone senior players, region's tradition again.

[00:05:31.339]>>One here in Jacksonville, Furyk and Friends, another Regions Tradition, a Senior PGA, another Senior Players. I mean, he was dominant.

[00:05:43.399]>>Kind of what Stewart Cink is starting to do. I remember that battle they had at, uh, PGA Frisco with the senior PGA down in, uh, just outside of Dallas.

[00:05:56.309]>>And the rookie, Zach Johnson gets it back to even here at the 25th playing of the Principal Charity Classic. He for birdie at 10.

[00:06:17.250]>>McCarron for birdie at 17. Yeah, this is not an easy two-putt here, but

[00:06:28.690]>>That is excellent speed. That thing really starts falling to the right.

[00:06:34.679]>>So it should be a par for McCarron. You go to the 18th tee.

[00:06:38.570]>>Just 2 back. Go over to 13.

[00:06:42.130]>>Richard Green.

[00:06:44.329]>>Playing his 3rd.

[00:06:47.070]>>At the par 5.

[00:06:50.299]>>We've had 3 eagles here today, Chris DiMarco, Tom Pernice, and Brad Elder. How about this one? Make that 4.

[00:07:02.829]>>So Richard Green, the 4th eagle of the day at 15.

[00:07:07.579]>>13, excuse me, that was a classic little pitch and run right there.

[00:07:12.769]>>Zach was talking earlier in the week about, um, he's so proud now to be an honorary member at the Wakanda Club.

[00:07:21.779]>>There you go.

[00:07:23.230]>>The newest member at the club.

[00:07:25.779]>>Makes birdie.

[00:07:27.589]>>Heck of a bounce back after the bogey double start. It doesn't matter however, however it goes in as long as it goes in.

[00:07:42.940]>>So the defending champ gets to 2 under.

[00:07:48.630]>>Tom Bernice

[00:07:50.519]>>Trying to pay off that birdie over at 17.

[00:07:53.989]>>Yeah.

[00:07:56.559]>>Former UCLA Bruin.

[00:07:59.609]>>It's a heck of a battle back.

[00:08:02.750]>>We saw the wonderful 2nd.

[00:08:06.399]>>Into

[00:08:08.010]>>12 for Jiménez and the defending champ now gets to 3 under scoot.

[00:08:18.790]>>Let's go over to 14 and.

[00:08:20.989]>>Ben Crane was flirting with disaster with that front right hole location.

[00:08:27.309]>>And he turns it into it too.

[00:08:30.350]>>Just the 9th birdie here at 14 today.

[00:08:36.380]>>3 in a row for Ben.

[00:08:40.390]>>Bernhard Langer.

[00:08:42.989]>>To get to even.

[00:08:46.590]>>Saw Ben Crane make it. Did he make it? He did.

[00:08:50.830]>>And you and I discussed over the years Langer making his 12th start here in Des Moines. He skipped it a couple of times. He had family trips to Germany, but really shocked that he has never won here.

[00:09:03.919]>>Of course, PGA TOUR Champions played there as well, uh, with the Senior Players one year.

[00:09:11.039]>>Oh, how about George McNeill? Here he comes.

[00:09:15.849]>>He's gonna win. I bet you he wins.

[00:09:18.820]>>Before the year is out.

[00:09:28.099]>>Scott Hend makes his birdie putt at 14 to get to 5 under and is always accommodating the years that we were out there at Wakanda Club.

[00:09:41.049]>>Yeah, being extra careful with speed there.

[00:09:52.169]>>That's one thing about these old style greens.

[00:09:56.200]>>Designed more than 100 years ago, is the slope or the tilt, I should say, is not obvious.

[00:10:06.609]>>Zach Johnson playing here at Wakanda Club for the first time on the PGA TOUR Champions got off to a rocky start. Bogey won 22.

[00:10:16.630]>>Makes a birdie here at 13, which gets him back to red figures.

[00:10:24.679]>>Let's go up to 18 Tag Ridings.

[00:10:29.450]>>Has this pot for birdie.

[00:10:32.849]>>Post 6 under.

[00:10:35.049]>>Great finishing hole here. When I say great, I mean easy. It's a pretty exciting finish.

[00:10:43.690]>>Let's go over to 18. Doug Barron for birdie. We have had an eagle here at 18, Bo Van Pelt.

[00:10:50.130]>>We have seen some

[00:10:52.349]>>Wild finishes here at the drivable 18th.

[00:10:58.969]>>Take you over to 16.

[00:11:02.070]>>And George McNeill.

[00:11:05.239]>>As this putt for birdie, 16, playing as the 5th hardest hole, only 6 birdies here today.

[00:11:22.489]>>There we go.

[00:11:24.679]>>I'm sticking with my prediction he's going to win in 26.

[00:11:34.539]>>Short birdie putt for Scott Hend at 15.

[00:11:47.299]>>So Scott

[00:11:49.940]>>To 6 under.

[00:11:53.750]>>Back up that hill

[00:11:55.960]>>Zach Johnson for birdie.

[00:11:58.359]>>And a great look here guys, doesn't have to worry about speed, we'll move to his left.

[00:12:06.000]>>He has to keep the speed up here, Peter, or he'll miss it left, but great opportunity. I'm calling a make.

[00:12:15.559]>>I know the Greens are different after the redo, but.

[00:12:19.640]>>He's got positive emotions and positive thoughts from back in his days when he played.

[00:12:26.940]>>Here when he was on the Drake golf team. Scott Hend for birdie at 17 and a share of the lead and Scott pours it in.

[00:12:37.359]>>Scott Hend is making golf look really easy the way that he's played.

[00:12:42.719]>>This year, this season, or I should say the last couple of months, defending champ Miguel Angel Jiménez.

[00:12:50.010]>>To finish with a birdie.

[00:12:52.150]>>Here at 18.

[00:13:04.299]>>Birdied 18 last year to get into a three-way playoff with Soren Kjeldsen and Cameron Percy.

[00:13:11.719]>>Round one in the books at the Principal Charity Classic in Des Moines, Iowa. George McNeill, Scott Hend, each at 7-under, shooting 65 today. Defending champ Miguel Angel Jiménez leads the group at 6 under par. A lot of good scoring. Scoring average today, just a tick under 70 here in round one.

[00:13:39.340]>>PGA TOUR Champions in Des Moines, Iowa for the Principal Charity Classic, 25th edition.

[00:13:46.390]>>They sounded the horn at 10:48 local time. They had a 1 hour and 30-minute weather delay, resumed play at 12:18.

[00:13:55.869]>>And local favorite Zach Johnson, 8-under on his round today and the PGA TOUR Champions' rookie has the lead. He's at 11 under par, 2 shots clear of Retief Goosen.

[00:14:08.229]>>Goosen's lone misstep, a bogey at the 10th today. Bob Papa, Peter Jacobson, so glad you can join us. John Cook on the golf course in Des Moines.

[00:14:21.309]>>Let's go over to the 10th. Brett Quigley, who fired a 5 under 67 yesterday, has this putt for birdie.

[00:14:29.469]>>To get to 9 under and Quigley pours that in.

[00:14:33.239]>>Uh, it's such an an impressive part of his game. He's so good with the putter. The defending champ, Miguel Angel Jiménez.

[00:14:41.229]>>Shot a 66 yesterday.

[00:14:44.320]>>Made a triple bogey at the par.

[00:14:47.590]>>3 2nd, made his first birdie of the day at the par 5 8th. This is tee shot at the par 3 9th and Miguel.

[00:14:56.429]>>Has a chance to chip his way back into this.

[00:15:03.929]>>Well, over at the 8th, this is the 2nd easiest hole, 20 birdies, 16 pars, no bogeys.

[00:15:20.030]>>And George McNeill pours that in.

[00:15:23.619]>>McNeil in his rookie campaign on the PGA TOUR Champions, 11th in the Schwab Cup standings, gets his first birdie of the day.

[00:15:33.320]>>You know, one of the other aspects about great old golf courses like the Wakanda Club is.

[00:15:38.789]>>You've got a tremendous combination of hard holes and hard tee shots.

[00:15:45.210]>>You mix it in with some easy holes like the drivable 18th hole. That's what makes a golf course fun. It's like a roller coaster.

[00:15:52.619]>>up-and-down and around.

[00:15:55.809]>>It's gonna challenge you and also give you a break on some holes.

[00:16:02.039]>>Scott Hend for his birdie.

[00:16:05.559]>>Scott won in Morocco by 5 shots over Tommy Gainey.

[00:16:10.419]>>To earn his PGA TOUR Champions card and.

[00:16:14.520]>>Making just his 4th start of the year on the PGA TOUR Champions, now a full-time member, he's won all over the world.

[00:16:22.270]>> Vaughn Taylor, who won 3 times on the PGA TOUR.

[00:16:32.099]>>Rolls that in for birdie at the 9th.

[00:16:36.130]>>So he's at 9 under.

[00:16:39.419]>>See if defending champ Miguel Angel Jiménez can get a little momentum going. Birdie the 8th, great look here at the 9th.

[00:16:49.289]>>Shot 17 under last year.

[00:16:52.750]>>Well, after Goosen made birdie at 12, John, with the gettable par 5, 13th, and 15th, you would think his score would be better, but 4 straight pars has a look for birdie here at 17.

[00:17:06.530]>>Yeah, I made a bounce back birdie at 11 too, then birdied 12, did not birdie 13 or 15.

[00:17:14.270]>>He's got a good look here and he saw the last half of what Zach Johnson's putt did, so he's got a good idea. Last time he got a preview was at 12, and he knocked it right in the middle of the hole, so maybe he can cash in on this one.

[00:17:31.510]>>Pretty good breaker from right to left.

[00:17:35.839]>>Why not?

[00:17:39.010]>>That's just the 7th Ernie.

[00:17:42.040]>>Of the day here at the tough 17th.

[00:17:46.910]>>Keep the speed up pretty straight.

[00:18:09.170]>>What a day for Zach Johnson.

[00:18:12.849]>>A bogey-free, 9 under par, 63.

[00:18:18.239]>>And he's put himself in position for Sunday's final round of the Principal Charity Classic.

[00:18:27.089]>>And that's pretty impressive when you think about how we started.

[00:18:31.489]>>Yesterday started bogey, double bogey. It was 3 over after 2.

[00:18:37.270]>>Talk about hanging in there. He played the last 34 holes, 15 under.

[00:18:42.959]>>Now Goosen

[00:18:46.050]>>To shoot 64.

[00:18:51.989]>>Now the Hall of Famer pours that in. The only blemish was a bogey at the 10th. And to think that Zach Johnson and Retief Goosen.

[00:19:00.000]>>Neither one of them birdied the par 5, 13th, or 15th. Yeah, those.

[00:19:05.300]>>They'd got birdies on those two par 5s, these rounds would be even more spectacular.

[00:19:11.689]>>Zach Johnson making his 8th start of the year, has a win, his worst finish, a tie for 8th at the Senior PGA.

[00:19:21.579]>>Brett Quigley has a putt for birdie at 14. Only 3 birdies at 14 today. The last Zach Johnson's.

[00:19:30.729]>>Add Quigley to the list, and Brett is 5-under today, bogey-free. He's a 10-under. Boo Weekley won the Insperity at the Woodlands a couple of weeks ago for his first PGA TOUR Champions win, has this putt for birdie at 18 to get to 9-under.

[00:19:49.109]>>Just catches the right edge.

[00:19:52.750]>>66 in round two, he's at 9 under through 36.

[00:19:58.439]>>Soren Kjeldsen shot a 63 in the final round last year to get into that playoff loss to Jiménez.

[00:20:04.989]>>And he pours that in for birdie. He certainly likes Wakanda Club. Yeah, 55 birdies today.

[00:20:15.400]>>How about that putter? That's a throwback model.

[00:20:28.010]>>He was bogey-free yesterday. He had one of the Eagles at 15.

[00:20:33.530]>>Will it keep turning?

[00:20:36.130]>>It's a good role, good read.

[00:20:40.020]>>Vaughn Taylor over at 13 for his birdie. It's.

[00:20:44.040]>>Vaughn Taylor, Tag Ridings and Jiménez. There you go. He missed a couple.

[00:20:49.579]>>When he made the turn, missed a couple of shorties.

[00:20:56.270]>>At 10 and 12, he gets one right there.

[00:21:00.180]>>Can you, can you kids just move to your left? Thank you, thanks. When you've got a pitch like this that you think you can make.

[00:21:08.349]>>And you get a little frisky with it, as John Cook was saying.

[00:21:12.670]>>And he put it about 8 ft by and missed the putt, so.

[00:21:17.260]>>You wanna pay attention to the line, but also make sure you get it up there close like that.

[00:21:25.709]>>Quigley, who's dealt with some injury this year.

[00:21:29.050]>>Right in the mix here in Des Moines, has 2 wins in his PGA TOUR Champions career, won the Morocco Champions in 2020.

[00:21:41.609]>>Soren Kjeldsen certainly loves the Wakanda Club.

[00:21:45.410]>>He has this for birdie at 16.

[00:21:50.359]>>He's now a 10-under and a shot off the lead.

[00:21:54.189]>>Quigley for his par.

[00:21:58.069]>>Mm.

[00:22:00.000]>>Don't see Brett Quigley miss many of those as good a putter as he is.

[00:22:05.219]>>So his first bogey of the day drops him to.

[00:22:10.810]>>Let's see if Soren Kjeldsen can.

[00:22:14.810]>>Knock in this birdie here at 18.

[00:22:19.430]>>Soren.

[00:22:22.670]>>Made a bogey yesterday.

[00:22:25.520]>>At the 2nd hole.

[00:22:29.280]>>And since then, Soren has played 11 under.

[00:22:36.869]>>I think he's

[00:22:38.619]>>Becoming one of the most consistent players.

[00:22:42.150]>>Out here on the Champions Tour, certainly with his performances last year and this year.

[00:22:48.290]>>He's always in it.

[00:22:53.290]>>Well, let's see if Brett Quigley.

[00:22:57.260]>>Can bounce back, birdied 14 and 15, and then.

[00:23:02.349]>>The bogey.

[00:23:04.229]>>At 16

[00:23:06.589]>>Yeah, watch how

[00:23:08.310]>>Silky smooth this stroke is.

[00:23:15.069]>>Yeah.

[00:23:16.660]>>Silked it right in the hole.

[00:23:20.349]>>David Bransdon just short of the green at 18.

[00:23:26.339]>>Again,

[00:23:27.500]>>Reachable

[00:23:29.810]>>He's got putter.

[00:23:31.410]>>Ernie Els has the only eagle of the day.

[00:23:37.130]>>At 18, how about another one?

[00:23:43.219]>>So David Bransdon gets to 11 under, 1 shot off the lead with an eagle at 18.

[00:23:51.189]>>That was in the hole way. Well, you take a look at the leaderboard right now, 12 under leads the way. It's a three-way tie with Zach Johnson shooting 63, Brett Quigley shooting 65, Scott Hend to 67. The goose was loose. Retief Goosen with a 64 today. He's a shot back with Soren Kjeldsen, who was in a playoff here last year. David Bransdon eagled 18 to get to 11 under.

[00:24:16.459]>>You gotta love Jose Maria Olazabal, the Hall of Famer, playing brilliant golf, the only player in the field so far this week who is bogey-free.

[00:24:36.349]>>PGA TOUR Champions in Des Moines, Iowa for the 25th consecutive year. It is the Principal Charity Classic.

[00:24:43.930]>>From Wakanda Club, going into today's final round, local heroes Zach Johnson, Brett Quigley, and Scott Hend shared the lead at 12 under par. Zach Johnson made a bogey at the first, but bounces back. Here's his second into the par 43 and has it dialed in perfectly. Johnson would go on to make that birdie, and that would get him back to 12 under par. Richard Green started the day 3 off the lead, birdies at 145.

[00:25:13.239]>>And then this long one at the par 3 9th, he'd make the turn in 32. Richard Green gets to 13 under par.

[00:25:23.349]>>Zach Johnson did not birdie the par 5 5th, did not hit a good second shot into the par 4 6th, barely stayed on the front edge of the green, but the putter erases everything. Rolls that in for birdie. Zach Johnson is now at 13.

[00:25:38.560]>>under and in a share of the lead, Zach Johnson, a rookie on the PGA TOUR Champions, played his collegiate golf right here in Iowa at Drake, and right now he's looking for his second win of the season.

[00:25:54.829]>>PGA TOUR Champions.

[00:25:57.890]>>Proudly present the season-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup. Today from Des Moines, Iowa. It's the final round coverage of the Principal Charity Classic.

[00:26:08.709]>>Des Moines, Iowa is the capital city of Iowa located three hours north of Kansas City. The US gained control of this region with the Louisiana Purchase in 1803 for the 13th consecutive year. Wakanda Club playing host.

[00:26:24.640]>>To the Principal Charity Classic, Miguel Angel Jiménez, the defending champ, but a local favorite, Zach Johnson, sits atop the leaderboard in a share of the lead. Bob Papa, Peter Jacobson, so glad you can join us. John Cook on the grounds in Des Moines.

[00:26:44.250]>>Take you over to the 11th and Richard Green playing his 3rd shot.

[00:26:49.910]>>From the middle of the fairway.

[00:26:52.189]>>Peter, he laid the sod over it and came up well short and hits a beautiful pitch there, so he'll have a chance to save par and remain at 13 under.

[00:27:06.060]>>Zach Johnson, who won his PGA TOUR Champions debut in Boca at the James Hardy Pro Football Hall of Fame invitational and his 7 previous starts, his worst finish.

[00:27:43.500]>>Tied for 8th at the senior PGA and he pushed that right.

[00:27:49.770]>>Yeah, we talked about the fact that he played here in college, but with the redo here a couple of years ago by Tyler Ray.

[00:27:59.140]>>The greens are different. The routing is the same and as Zach said in his interview with John a couple days ago, the sight lines are the same, but the green services are different. They're similar but they are different, so.

[00:28:14.520]>>Zach probably is just not used to the little undulations and breaks that he's been used to over the years.

[00:28:24.449]>>Soren Kjeldsen

[00:28:26.209]>>Has a putt for eagle. Kelson's coming off a birdie at 7. Soren.

[00:28:31.489]>>Had a blistering bogey-free 63 here last year in the final round to get into a playoff with Miguel Angel Jiménez and Cameron Percy. Jiménez won with a birdie on the first extra hole, but Kjeldsen certainly has good vibes here at Wakanda Club.

[00:28:49.839]>>About it

[00:28:52.880]>>We've had no Eagles today at 8. He's had a good season so far. 4 top 10s.

[00:28:59.780]>>Gates, 14th in the Schwab Cup standings, finished solo 4th at the region's tradition, tied for 5th last week.

[00:29:08.900]>>He's got the perfect kind of game out here.

[00:29:12.750]>>Zach Johnson now to join Richard Green at 14 under.

[00:29:19.390]>>This spot's got a little bit of left or right movement to it.

[00:29:27.989]>>Missed a short one at 7.

[00:29:30.800]>>Makes the one at 8

[00:29:36.619]>>Maybe that bogey on one woke him up a little bit. You never know. You know he's nervous. Zach Johnson.

[00:29:43.819]>>From right here in Iowa. Well, he played TPC Deer Run and Illinois went into a playoff with Troy Madison in 2012. Now they both made doubles on the first playoff hole.

[00:29:56.229]>>And then on the 2nd playoff hole, Zach Johnson says, let's end this thing, as he hits his 2nd shot to a couple of inches.

[00:30:04.609]>>And he would tap in for birdie and win the tournament at 20 under. By the way, he doesn't age. That's 14 years ago. He looks exactly the same. He's kind of like, uh, Langer. One of 12 wins for Zach Johnson on the PGA TOUR in his career, and he's excited to be playing.

[00:30:26.630]>>At the John Deere this year, of course, won The Open Championship and of course, the 2007 Masters.

[00:30:34.469]>>And was the 22nd debut winner on the PGA TOUR Champions when he won earlier this year.

[00:30:46.890]>>John, what about the wind here at 9? We just saw a Goosen hit it to about 6 ft right of the hole, hole high, missed the birdie putt, but.

[00:30:56.699]>>What about the wind?

[00:30:58.869]>>The wind has freshened. There's no question about that. It's coming from a slightly different direction. Earlier this week, this hole's been playing downwind. Now it's

slightly out of the left and helping. Front left pin, get it 6 ft. That's a heck of a golf shot. I can tell you that right now.

[00:31:17.869]>>Zach going to the right side of the tee. He's got 9 iron.

[00:31:21.959]>>147 yards, slightly downhill. The ball has to be to the right of the pen. Anything left, that's short side and downwind, Peter, that's no good left.

[00:31:34.650]>>Yeah, there's the flag right there, and you do not want to mess with that left bunker.

[00:31:40.410]>>At all

[00:31:51.270]>>Uh, it's going a little left of the flag.

[00:31:54.939]>>Yeah, that was a good strike. That's a, that's an aggressive play right there. That is.

[00:32:01.920]>>Over at 17, Scott Parel, coming off a bogey at 16, has this putt for birdie. In 2019, Scott held the 36 hole lead by 5 shots here at the Principal Charity Classic.

[00:32:15.770]>>And he makes that. Kevin Sutherland shot a final round 62 to force a playoff.

[00:32:25.310]>>Over 13, Darren Fichardt for Eagle. Darren Fichardt played in the last group in Morocco and made an eagle at the 8th as he rolls that in to get to 10 under and then had a nightmare at the par 3 9th. Scott Hend wound up winning. He hit his tee shot in the water.

[00:32:44.489]>>Well, Zach Johnson had a look at 11.

[00:32:48.709]>>Couldn't cash in.

[00:32:51.760]>>Can he make this

[00:32:54.310]>>Had a good look at 9, didn't make that one.

[00:32:59.750]>>Now has a bird birdie putt at 12 to tie for the lead.

[00:33:04.699]>>And another nice look here too, it does go downhill and has some extreme speed, but it could be slowed up a little bit by the wind. Not much to this, might wanna try to peel to the right slightly, but no.

[00:33:20.910]>>John, whenever I played speed, whenever I played in big wind like this, I always had a tendency to peek a little bit to see if the putt got online, so.

[00:33:31.069]>>All I did was focus on making sure the 1st 8 inches of my putt, I pick a line and I make sure I started on that line because once that putter's, once the ball's off the putter.

[00:33:42.619]>>It's at the mercy of the green and the wind, but I wanted to give it a chance and simply start it on the proper line.

[00:33:51.359]>>Well, that's correct, and you have to steady your body too. I always took maybe a slightly wider stance, even maybe went down on the club just a little bit to make it a little more stable, because you get wind like this, this definitely has an effect when it's going 15 to 25. Definitely an effect.

[00:34:11.418]>>He stands pretty straight up and lets his arms hang.

[00:34:15.030]>>Eyes are inside the ball.

[00:34:22.820]>>Wow. Oh, he gave an early fit he did. He was a.

[00:34:27.120]>>6 inches in the hole, yes sir.

[00:34:31.979]>>I

[00:34:33.110]>> Soren Kjeldsen, he's having a good year. He's 14th in the Schwab Cup standings. His birdie putt at 13 to get to 12-under.

[00:34:41.620]>>Yeah, how about it?

[00:34:45.520]>>The Dane

[00:34:47.209]>>Seems to always be on.

[00:34:50.080]>>The front first page of the leaderboard.

[00:34:59.020]>>Now Bransdon.

[00:35:02.500]>>For his birdie.

[00:35:05.659]>> David Bransdon is 80th in the Schwab Cup standings, so.

[00:35:11.949]>>He keeps climbing up the leaderboard and picking up valuable dollars.

[00:35:19.610]>>Zach Johnson, the hometown hero, leads by one in the final round of the Principal Charity Classic.

[00:35:33.379]>>Back at the Principal Charity Classic, Retief Goosen 2 off the lead, his tee shot at 14.

[00:35:47.310]>>Someone likes it. Everybody likes it.

[00:35:55.209]>>Over at 14, Soren Kjeldsen.

[00:35:58.199]>>Playing his 2nd shot just short of the green.

[00:36:04.060]>>Oh, well, that one goes in.

[00:36:07.659]>>I guarantee you Richard Green would trade him right now for this.

[00:36:18.459]>>Zach Johnson played a wonderful 3rd shot.

[00:36:21.610]>>Into 13. Cookie, what about this pot that he has? I would assume it's got some break to it.

[00:36:29.790]>>It definitely does. Breaking left to right pretty significantly from, I'll give him about 6 ft.

[00:36:37.649]>>Has to get it outside the hole here, Peter, and just let it catch that left edge. Very similar to the putt he made at 12, obviously about half the distance, but he's got that idea of left to right, and yes.

[00:36:54.459]>>That was a huge putt.

[00:36:56.770]>>Now it's 16 under 2 clear of Richard Green who has this but for par.

[00:37:06.899]>>back-to-back bogeys for Richard Green at 16.

[00:37:11.679]>>And 17, meanwhile, at the same time, Zach Johnson's making back-to-back birdies.

[00:37:18.280]>>And Green now falls to 13 under and now 3 off the lead.

[00:37:24.620]>>Delicate par putt here for Zach Johnson, Cookie.

[00:37:28.679]>>Oh, you've got that right, Bob. This is, it's got speed. It's got a little movement from right to left.

[00:37:35.139]>>Another one kind of like the opposite of what he had on the last hole. This is outside the right, a little dripping speed.

[00:37:43.570]>>We saw Goosen bury this pot for birdie in the group ahead.

[00:37:48.439]>>I think, John, he, he's better from left to right because he'll hang on to the grip and let it fall to the right.

[00:37:58.389]>>Than he is on right to lefters.

[00:38:01.469]>>We

[00:38:03.370]>>Now Zach Johnson for his bogey at 14.

[00:38:12.590]>>2nd bogey of the day for Zach Johnson. His lead is now 1.

[00:38:23.169]>>David Bransdon.

[00:38:25.389]>>Gets to 114 under and within a shot of the lead as the plot thickens. Zach Johnson started the day with a share of the lead, and he could go a long way in trying to ice this thing with this eagle putt here at 15. Just off the back of the green in the fringe cut, but only about 15 ft from the hole. It'll go left off the initial strike and then straighten out, but this has some speed. He's got to be careful with the pace.

[00:39:01.679]>>Boy, it went completely in the opposite direction he thought it would, John.

[00:39:08.020]>>It didn't take that initial left handbrake and then it just straightened out.

[00:39:17.830]>>And he will go through his full routine right here. He doesn't take anything for granted.

[00:39:24.929]>>Not much to this, just, just trying to close out a win.

[00:39:34.139]>>Two-puttt birdie for Zach Johnson at 15, bounces back from the bogey at 14.

[00:39:41.290]>>And now he's got a 2-shot lead with 3 holes to play.

[00:39:47.969]>>Goosen missed a short par putt at 16.

[00:39:55.649]>>He's missed a couple of short birdie putts as well. Can he make this long one?

[00:40:01.040]>>To erase some of that

[00:40:06.560]>>His stroke from long range is different.

[00:40:11.189]>>Than short range, it's much more patient, long and flowing.

[00:40:20.699]>>It was a good effort, but now he's gonna have that length.

[00:40:25.270]>>The one that we all hate.

[00:40:29.649]>>Well, Retief Goosen.

[00:40:32.370]>>About 4 ft left for his par.

[00:40:36.020]>>Here at 17, you mentioned Quigley, 77th in the Schwab Cup standings.

[00:40:45.060]>>Same rhythm as he just hit that 30 footer just back and through.

[00:40:50.459]>>No hurried motion.

[00:40:58.060]>>Makes that one, so he'll head.

[00:41:01.709]>>To his final hole.

[00:41:05.189]>>3 shots back. That's his longtime caddie and good friend Jeff Johnson. Been on.

[00:41:10.929]>>Retief's bag for years.

[00:41:16.860]>>Well, Cookie, Zach Johnson won 12 times in the PGA TOUR, 2 majors.

[00:41:23.570]>>Won once here on the PGA TOUR Champions in his first year, and he is certainly meticulous when it comes to his pre-shot routine.

[00:41:33.010]>>Yeah, he never changes. He never changes his routine, and that's, you know, he didn't win all those events on sheer power and strength. It was routine. It was efficiency. It was good short game. It was being very smart, very high IQ, golf IQ.

[00:41:54.689]>>And he just doesn't, he doesn't change rhythm, doesn't change sequence. His whole routine is so consistent.

[00:42:04.340]>>You wanna win on Sundays, it has to stay that way and what a great up-and-down that was from almost disaster.

[00:42:12.020]>>Remember, he started out bogey, double bogey, his first two holes of the week. So if you take those off and give him pars, he's actually 19 under since then.

[00:42:25.389]>>It's pretty stout

[00:42:27.649]>>David Bransdon makes his par over at 17.

[00:42:33.560]>>He's got 7 iron right at the camera tower, 186 playing down 15 went out of the right.

[00:42:39.500]>>Slight bit of hurt.

[00:42:42.330]>>Center of the green.

[00:42:48.719]>>Well, he's got it going right of the flag. That's, that's, I promise you if you ask him right now, that's about 15 ft right of where he's trying to hit it, but he'll take it.

[00:43:01.239]>> Retief Goosen on the tee at 18.

[00:43:05.129]>>He certainly had his chances this week and.

[00:43:09.820]>>That is not what he was looking for. Goosen's tough angle that back left.

[00:43:15.679]>>Hole location he's gonna have to bring it over that bunker. Goosen flew it on the green yesterday for a two-pott birdie.

[00:43:26.689]>>If Goosen can at least make birdie, we'd give him a solo 2nd. Quickly on the tee at 17.

[00:43:33.879]>>Trying to hit a high cut and hit kind of a low pull hook on the left side of the green. Popular spot. Where do you see this putt? Yeah, where do you see this putt?

[00:43:46.959]>>Zach Johnson playing here in Des Moines for the 1st time on the PGA TOUR Champions with a 3-shot lead, trying to win for the 2nd time this year.

[00:43:59.949]>>Well, can Retief Goosen hole his 2nd here at 18 and post 15 under? He trails Zach Johnson by 3. Johnson on the green at 17. That would be a spectacular.

[00:44:14.399]>>Play

[00:44:16.719]>>That was difficult. He was going for the home run. He was just carry it over the bunker and let it kick down.

[00:44:25.370]>>Well, Goosen dumped his 2nd in the bunker. This is his 3rd. He can make this if he holds this.

[00:44:33.459]>>Oh, just caught the right edge of the hole. That was for solo 2nd.

[00:44:41.750]>>Well, Zach Johnson started the day in a share of the lead with Scott Hend and Brett Quigley, bogeyed the first, but then,

[00:44:49.699]>>Strung together a bunch of birdies, had a misstep at 14 with the bogey, then birdied 15, great par save at 16.

[00:44:58.129]>>Can he add another birdie here at 17 and add to that 515 drive challenge.

[00:45:05.939]>>Well, you couldn't put it in a better spot short of the hole and a little bit right, so this, this will have a little movement to the left if it loses speed.

[00:45:16.729]>>Doesn't have to worry about speed though, it's uphill.

[00:45:21.179]>>Oh.

[00:45:23.889]>>Where he thought about halfway there that that was good. He did that on 11 just earlier today.

[00:45:30.479]>>Hit a putt that

[00:45:33.129]>>Just went right around the lip of the cup.

[00:45:41.929]>>Well, Quigley has certainly been on a grind all day.

[00:45:46.209]>>Cookie and he's got this for his par.

[00:45:52.800]>>Yeah, he needs this and maybe a birdie or eagle 18.

[00:45:57.899]>>Again, we talked about the cause. Yeah, well, we talked about where he, you know, he was the 3rd alternate last Friday.

[00:46:05.250]>>Um, and he's way down in the Schwab Cup standings, so.

[00:46:10.330]>>If he can make this in birdie or eagle 18, he moves into a tie for 4th.

[00:46:20.290]>>Yeah, he's got the power to reach 18 easily.

[00:46:26.689]>>Goosen tapped in for his par, so Bransdon has this putt for birdie.

[00:46:34.030]>>To get a share of 2nd.

[00:46:45.840]>>Oh

[00:46:52.889]>>You know, when you get down to the end here and the lead is what it is, you start looking at season-long race with Charles Schwab Cup, guys that are exempt, not exempt, that have to,

[00:47:05.159]>>Get in on sponsors' exemptions or as alternates or so all these putts matter. Zach Johnson now on the tee at 18 and Cookie, he's got a 3-shot lead. No funny business. No funny business is right.

[00:47:21.340]>>Anything but to the right. I think you're uh you're OK. Well, you don't want to hit like a low sniper over there in the bad stuff, but he's got plenty of firepower to get it there. We saw it yesterday, 295 front, 320 all the way to the hole, but if it gets anywhere near that front of the green with his ball flight.

[00:47:39.399]>>Which is lower with less spin, it'll get all the way back there.

[00:47:44.820]>>I mean, there's only been 7 bogeys at 18 all week.

[00:47:51.139]>>And that's gonna kick into that bunker.

[00:47:54.649]>>So, you know, there's been 3, there's been 3 eagles, 98 birdies, 120 pars, and 7 bogeys, no others, so.

[00:48:07.429]>>With a three-shot lead, this is the hole you want to play.

[00:48:16.000]>>Yeah, that front left bunker's fine, there's plenty of room.

[00:48:20.300]>>And if you catch it a little skinny, you got that backstop back there, so he's all right. He can make double, still win.

[00:48:29.290]>>Come on now.

[00:48:35.500]>>Well, let's see if Quigley can make eagle and jump a bunch of people and get a piece of that 2nd-place money.

[00:48:44.300]>>Well, he can hit it, we know that. He hits it. He can hit it straight up in the air like that.

[00:48:49.800]>>Uh, but that's way out to the right, anywhere but there, Brett, anywhere.

[00:48:57.750]>>And now we're gonna get all kinds of rulings, drops.

[00:49:04.229]>>Quigley playing a 2nd here at 18.

[00:49:07.899]>>If he makes Brett drop from the stands, so yeah, 55 yards, trying to get it all the way, run it back there. That's a nice shot. Wow. Brett Quigley, if he makes that, he'll split the 4th place money with David Branston, and both guys could use it in the Schwab Cup standings. Now Zach Johnson with a 3-shot lead, his 2nd from that green side bunker.

[00:49:29.909]>>Yeah, about a 30 yard bunker shot.

[00:49:34.800]>>You can do chunk and run. You can take out less loft, make a good swing, open it up, or just beat Zach Johnson. Yeah, yeah, just.

[00:49:46.260]>>He's so comfortable here.

[00:49:48.459]>>This is the one event that he's circled on his calendar as wanting to win, and he's gonna do it.

[00:49:58.340]>>Wait a second.

[00:50:01.580]>>It doesn't matter.

[00:50:05.939]>>Are you surprised he's going here?

[00:50:08.389]>>Yeah, a little bit. I, I am. I'm not sure Quigley would be actually standing in Zach's way that whether it would make any difference or not, because you could tap down everything you can, you know. So plus if I'm Zach, I'm go, look, Quiggs, you need the, you need this birdie. You can do a tap dance in my line.

[00:50:28.370]>>I couldn't agree with you anymore there, Peter. I'd certainly like Brett Quigley go ahead and putt, but.

[00:50:38.409]>>Not much to this straight in.

[00:50:42.909]>>He finishes with a birdie, and the Iowa native playing at the Principal Charity Classic for the first time.

[00:50:50.780]>>Zach Johnson is your 2026 champion. His second win.

[00:50:56.860]>>In his rookie season on the PGA TOUR Champions.

[00:51:01.050]>>Now he's got to make these people settle.

[00:51:04.669]>>For, for Brett Quigley, it's a big putt for Brett. They'll listen to Zach. He's a hometown guy. He's a hometown guy plus.

[00:51:13.610]>>This putt is worth \$34,000 for Brett Quigley.

[00:51:17.979]>>Going from where he stands right now to a tie for 4th.

[00:51:25.899]>>Just inside the left.

[00:51:28.870]>>Anyway

[00:51:30.550]>>Glad he got that in, so is Zach.

[00:51:36.989]>>Zach Johnson won his debut on the PGA TOUR Champions, only the 22nd player to ever do that. His worst finish has been a tie for 8th, and now he's added a 2nd win.

[00:51:53.870]>>And doing it

[00:51:55.459]>>In his home state of Iowa.

[00:52:00.129]>>Congratulations to Zach Johnson. Start of the day in a three-way tie.
Shoots 5 under 67.

[00:52:07.979]>>Including a birdie at the last for a four-shot win over Retief Goosen and
Richard Green.