

Production Transcript for **26INTCUTCH- HOAG CLASSIC - MASTER**

[00:00:39.970]>>PGA TOUR Champions in Newport Beach, California.

[00:00:44.860]>>5th of 28 on the PGA TOUR Champions for 3 decades, the PGA TOUR Champions has been coming to Newport Beach.

[00:00:53.889]>>And the Newport Beach Country Club playing host. Paul Goydos off to a fast start, 7-under through his opening 14 holes. Charlie Wi, 6-under through 12. Charles Schwab Cup leader, Stewart Cink at 5-under through 8. John Daly has an eagle on the scorecard today. He's on the first page of the leaderboard. Bob Papa, Paul Azinger, so glad you can join us. John Cook on the grounds in Newport Beach, California.

[00:01:26.080]>>We take you out to the green at the 9th. Bernhard Langer for his birdie.

[00:01:33.360]>>Perfect golf again this week to start for Langer. Last week, he went the 1st 36, I think he went 41 straight holes before he made his first bogey.

[00:01:44.790]>>And then another bogey free start here as uh Langer 4 under after 9 holes.

[00:01:54.160]>>Padraig Harrington has a birdie putt over at the 7th.

[00:01:58.269]>>Padraig won this event in 2024, a one-shot win over Tongchai Jaidee.

[00:02:06.510]>>Final round 69 and he had a wild finish. He birdied 15, then he doubled the par 4 16th, and then birdied the difficult par 3 17th and birdied the par 5 18th for the win.

[00:02:24.300]>>You either have the best memory of anyone alive or you wrote that down somewhere on that, oh, the sweet note card. That is and perfect penmanship to boot.

[00:02:34.850]>>It's like international players love this golf course. Hermenez, Harrington, Els, Goosen, Ells.

[00:02:42.039]>>Singh.

[00:02:44.830]>>OK, so this truly was a moment ago, Zach Johnson's tee shot.

[00:02:49.389]>>On the 17th at the 8th.

[00:02:52.220]>>Down, down.

[00:02:55.460]>>He asked it to get down and it did exactly where he wanted it to.

[00:03:01.889]>>Thank you.

[00:03:05.250]>>Nice par save at number 7, then a birdie at the tough par 3 8th. Perfect tee shot here for Steven and another quality golf shot.

[00:03:15.259]>>Oh

[00:03:17.389]>>It's like it was on a string.

[00:03:22.050]>>We saw the tee shot of Zach Johnson.

[00:03:25.490]>>So he is in good position here for birdie at the 8th.

[00:03:30.800]>>Zack off to a blistering start in his PGA TOUR Champions career and not a surprise.

[00:03:41.770]>>From Johnson to Jason, Birdie at 17.

[00:03:47.880]>>Oh, Jonzon.

[00:03:52.119]>>Michael Jonzon.

[00:03:54.309]>>Gets to 3 under.

[00:03:56.279]>>Steven Alker, he, he's not slowing down at all from last week.

[00:04:29.399]>>A putter can make life real easy on a golfer. And I'll tell you, you make putts like that, you feel like you're hitting it, like Nicholas dreams about.

[00:04:41.339]>>Well, after a three-putt bogey at the last, let's see if Ernie Els can bounce back with a birdie. He missed his putt.

[00:04:49.940]>>For birdie on the 9th, caught the right edge of the hole, and then his comebacker for par caught the right edge the other way.

[00:05:01.649]>>He got a great read off of the first two putts, so he knows exactly what it does, goes uphill and moves slightly from right to left. There you go. OK, nice little bounce back.

[00:05:16.750]>>David Duval off to a nice start. He is currently at 4-under playing his second.

[00:05:23.369]>>At the 6th, yeah, really set it up there nice at the top of his backswing. He had it laid off for so long. Did he wrap it up in the flag? Did he make it? Yes, he did. Oh, ball, yeah.

[00:05:41.380]>>Double D siding here.

[00:05:45.700]>>Some round for Goydos, Bob.

[00:05:48.869]>>Just missed one at 17, makes it at 18, a 9 under 62 here in this par 71 layout. El's for birdie.

[00:06:00.339]>>That's great.

[00:06:02.779]>>Uh, I'm kind of the same way, Paul. It gets a little thin up there, but Ernie from the front of the green, uphill, moving right to left. Gotta keep the speed up, and he does.

[00:06:13.359]>>That looks so good. We had worm cam on that one, John. That looked really good.

[00:06:20.359]>>That was a hug rugging Jesse. That's what we call that at home. That's a hugrigger.

[00:06:25.820]>>Rug hugger, that's what I mean, rug hugger, rug hugger.

[00:06:30.769]>>Never bounced it. It was like glued to the surface.

[00:06:35.730]>>Boy, Alker just stones another one, John, one after another. Yeah, yeah. Beautiful golf swing. It really doesn't curve the ball a whole lot. He can kind of play any type of shot. Now, this is a tricky little putt. It's fast, doesn't break to the right as much as you think, but poured it right in the middle. He looks so confident and just so calm, cool, collected. Look at all those birdies. Go a month and not make that many birdies.

[00:07:05.309]>>Let's go over to 15 and Langer for his birdie. Big, beautiful practice swing. Langer was 4 under through his 1st 7, all par since.

[00:07:20.140]>>Kind of saw that last week too with he had a lot of looks for birdie.

[00:07:26.480]>>John, we've had 5 eagles here at 15 today. Good look for Cink to make it 6.

[00:07:40.559]>>Mm

[00:07:42.200]>>Yeah, no more than 5 ft here. That brilliant 9 iron from 164. Now this does have a little bit of break and it is super quick.

[00:07:53.029]>>Stewart Cink.

[00:07:55.190]>>Gets to within 3 of the lead.

[00:07:57.809]>>Oh, that was a tough little 3 footer for a guy, you know.

[00:08:03.299]>>And his 2nd eagle of the day, eagle the 3rd.

[00:08:08.489]>>Now Alker for his birdie to get to within one of the lead.

[00:08:19.160]>>Same putt that Ernie just had, really.

[00:08:22.010]>>We'll move slightly to his right.

[00:08:25.350]>>Yeah brilliant pitch shot.

[00:08:28.269]>>Got a little bit fortunate hitting the flagstick.

[00:08:31.739]>>Great up-and-down, what a hole. This is fun to watch these guys, they have made some birdies and Stewart Cink's made a couple of eagles. Last year's co-runner up, Freddie Jacobson for birdie to post 7 under.

[00:08:45.919]>>So Freddie Jacobson.

[00:08:51.950]>>Harrington.

[00:08:57.330]>>It.

[00:09:00.979]>>Look at this thing go. It looked like it was short and it just kept going and going and a good birdie.

[00:09:13.369]>>Lengthy birdie putt for Steven Alker here at 16 at the Hoag Classic to share the lead right now.

[00:09:22.679]>>Does move pretty good from left to right and didn't judge the speed too well there for Steven.

[00:09:30.309]>>Zach Johnson for his birdie at 15.

[00:09:37.590]>>So Zach gets to 6 under and 3 off the lead.

[00:09:45.099]>>Relief there

[00:09:48.650]>>And he won here in 2022, it was by 4 shots. He shot a final round 63.

[00:09:57.679]>>How do you like that?

[00:10:00.500]>>We saw the 2nd of Cameron Percy into 18. This is a consummate journeyman.

[00:10:07.780]>>Not a lot of people know the name, but this is a great opportunity and a new career for the over 50 set.

[00:10:24.849]>>Harrington 2nd at 15. Such a good strong left arm, shoulders high at a dress. He looks ready to just smoke that shot, and he did a good shot. Chance for eagle.

[00:10:40.039]>>Back over to 15, Bob, where Goosen has a chance for a 3.

[00:10:44.419]>>On this par 5.

[00:10:48.260]>>So one arm up that shows a Cink.

[00:10:54.239]>>Harrington for his eagle and.

[00:10:57.409]>>Birdie eagle stretch for Harrington.

[00:11:03.650]>>So Zach Johnson's saying he's got a hair outside the right.

[00:11:10.549]>>Just to get to 7 under.

[00:11:13.700]>>These are the putts. He knows where the leader is.

[00:11:17.849]>>He knows he's Zach Johnson, and Zach Johnson is confident out here.
What a putt. See, he's really just nose to the grindstone on that.

[00:11:38.580]>>Retief Goosen.

[00:11:41.280]>>One of those mid-range bombs.

[00:11:50.989]>>Now Els

[00:11:52.859]>>For birdie to get to 5 under.

[00:11:57.039]>>Made the turn in even par, so a really good incoming 9 holes here for Ernie.

[00:12:05.030]>>Two-time champion of the Hoag Classic has himself set up for the weekend after that 5 under 66.

[00:12:15.010]>>Now, pretty tough putt. You wouldn't expect him to make this 20 ft or so.

[00:12:21.630]>>I think the TOUR players are.

[00:12:23.979]>>Maybe 2 out of 10, 2.5 out of 10 from this length, not very good.

[00:12:36.419]>>Oh, beat the odds every time. Beat the odds. Shut up, baby.

[00:12:46.059]>>Brian Gay ended his 1st 9 with an eagle at 18, trying to end his 2nd 9 with a birdie at the 9th, and he does a bogey-free 8 under 63, and he has just one off the lead.

[00:13:02.960]>>David Toms has this putt for par here at 18 to join a very crowded group at 5-under. Paul Goydos shot a 9-under 62 today, but you take a look at that group of guys at 5 under par. How about this? There are 6 major Champions in that group, Mike Weir, Ernie Els, Stewart Cink, Pdraig Harrington, Retief Goosen, David Toms.

[00:13:34.440]>>PGA TOUR Champions in Newport Beach, California. The weather is absolutely perfect.

[00:13:41.679]>>The playing of the Hoag Classic. The Hoag Classic, the 5th of 28 on the PGA TOUR champion schedule, a star-studded leaderboard. Steven Alker, who won last week in Tucson, has a two-shot lead over Stewart Cink, who leads in the Schwab Cup standings. Last year's co-runner-up, Freddie Jacobson is just 2 shots back. Bob Papa along with Paul Azinger, John Cook is on the grounds out in Newport Beach.

[00:14:10.489]>>Take you over to the 11th. Stewart Cink dialed in John Cook playing his 2nd.

[00:14:15.700]>>Thank you guys. Beautiful day here in Newport Beach. Stewart Cink 4 birdies on his round today. 105 looks a little deep.

[00:14:26.909]>>Trying to pull it back. There's a little, that's a low area.

[00:14:31.650]>>Alker's 2nd and par 3 8th. Now, these are hard shots, and he made it look pretty easy. Fall below his feet, so you know you're not gonna get spin on it.

[00:14:43.390]>>Now at 11, Cinks drive for birdie.

[00:14:49.210]>>4 birdies on his card today. This goes straight downhill, and he's walking them in the last 3 holes.

[00:14:56.270]>>How do you like that run here for Stewart Cink? No doubt. How do you like that speed? That is what it's all about perfect speed.

[00:15:05.250]>>Freddie, I always love the way he putts. Oh, that's pretty good.

[00:15:13.099]>>Our first look at the green at the par 3 17th. KJ Choi for birdie. Yeah, well, we might see a few putts from behind this flag today.

[00:15:24.770]>>You see where the players are walking, that's where everyone's gonna have to putt through.

[00:15:32.909]>>Yeah, we wish our best to him.

[00:15:35.919]>>Freddie Jacobson.

[00:15:38.669]>>Frederick, Sweden is on its feet.

[00:15:47.580]>>Charlie Wi with the putt for birdie at the 11th to get to 8 under. Left-hand load, cross whippings, claw something or another, works like a charm.

[00:16:00.000]>>Good clean card for Charlie Wi.

[00:16:06.210]>>Let's see what Brian Gay can do here at 9. He really has this reputation as being a great putter, and there he goes, right on schedule.

[00:16:18.780]>>Tim Petrovic for his birdie at the 12th.

[00:16:23.320]>>Hasn't won on the PGA TOUR Champions, had one win.

[00:16:27.409]>>On the regular tour.

[00:16:30.260]>>So that gets him to 10 under, just a shot off the lead.

[00:16:35.469]>>Cameron Percy.

[00:16:37.559]>>Over at the par 3 playing his 2nd.

[00:16:42.419]>>Isn't that something?

[00:16:55.940]>>Last year, Stewart Cink and Freddie Jacobson.

[00:17:00.000]>>Wound up coming a shot short of Miguel Angel Jiménez.

[00:17:05.760]>>Yeah, a chance for revenge for Stewart.

[00:17:10.140]>>Uh, this is one of those, you really, the speed does matter. He drilled that actually. That was beautifully done.

[00:17:17.599]>>Yeah, Cink shot a 65 in the final round last year, but bogeyed the 13th hole, which wound up costing him.

[00:17:26.448]>>Ernie Els beat Fred Couples and Robert Carlson by 2 shots in 2020.

[00:17:32.270]>>Beat Steve Stricker and Mark.

[00:17:35.160]>>And Doug Barron

[00:17:37.500]>>By a shot in 2023.

[00:17:45.770]>>I like this camera angle. You get to see how the shaft lines up perfectly with his arms. You know, if, if you're a more upright putter, you want the same thing that he has, and we'll see how he read this.

[00:18:00.859]>>Oh my, it, I, it looked like it's missing right the whole time, didn't it?

[00:18:06.599]>>Great putt.

[00:18:09.510]>>This time of day, those 3 footers become very difficult. Now Ernie after that beautiful approach, straight up the hill, nothing to it.

[00:18:17.609]>>And this is to get to within one of the lead because we know Cink is given one back here.

[00:18:28.930]>>No mistake for Ernie.

[00:18:34.709]>>Plenty of power to reach this green in 2, let's see if he can sync it up and time it right.

[00:18:40.189]>>No pun intended. Great swing. He loves it.

[00:18:46.560]>>Well, why wouldn't you?

[00:18:51.359]>>Stewart Cink was in the mix here last year, Miguel Angel Jiménez eventually prevailed.

[00:18:58.150]>>Let's go up to the green, we saw the gorgeous pitch by David Toms. He was a little long and left in 2. This for Birdie.

[00:19:07.939]>>To shoot a 5 under 66 and David Toms, who won the Chubb Classic earlier this year, back-to-back 66s, he's in a 10-under and right in the mix.

[00:19:20.520]>>Tim Petrovic for birdie at 16, still looking for that first win on the PGA TOUR Champions. That's how you get it done, make some of those. He's got 11 second-place finishes in his career, so he gets to 10 under.

[00:19:36.219]>>333 yards. What a tee shot. And that's uphill. Yep.

[00:19:43.800]>>It's been 1 eagle today at 18, Vaughn Taylor.

[00:19:48.959]>>Has the eagle. There was one yesterday.

[00:19:54.459]>>203 hole slightly uphill wind out of the right.

[00:19:58.449]>>Brian Gay had the eagle yesterday here at 18.

[00:20:03.530]>>Absolute moon ball on a nice line, if it's the right club, this should be good.
Oh wow. Oh, come on, it's in.

[00:20:12.890]>>A 2 for Stewart Cink at the par 5 18th.

[00:20:17.770]>>The 2nd double eagle in Hoag Classic history.

[00:20:31.900]>>The last thing the caddie said was one last swing. He meant it.

[00:20:43.050]>>Oh.

[00:20:46.800]>>Tough act to follow after Stewart Cink's double eagle, 3rd for Els at the par 5 18th.

[00:20:55.290]>>Yeah, pretty horrible pitch shot right here on the upslope.

[00:21:00.630]>>Pretty cool scene. Ernie Els for birdie, and the two-time champion is right in the mix.

[00:21:07.689]>>He gets to 11 under after a 6 under 65 today. You know, Ernie's great at revering other people's games, and he knows what he's up against tomorrow, and he's up against that guy, Freddie Jacobson for Eagle at 15, to get to 13 under.

[00:21:26.510]>>This is his strength. That runs out of gas, Freddie. That's all right.

[00:21:32.010]>>He's setting himself up for a chance and that's really all you want to do.

[00:21:36.959]>>You know these guys have a couple of par-fives remaining, actually only one now. It's a good birdie.

[00:21:46.430]>>Cameron Percy for birdie at 18.

[00:21:50.920]>>Get 10 under.

[00:21:58.369]>>Percy playing well.

[00:22:11.069]>>Little slider right there for Steven Alker, he needed that.

[00:22:15.880]>>Just to stay in contact.

[00:22:23.280]>>Now, the silky stroke of Petrovic, Big putt here for him. Now, yes, sir.

[00:22:32.939]>>So a 6 under 65 for Tim leaves him at 11 under, 3 off the lead of Cink.

[00:22:38.989]>>David Duval.

[00:22:42.260]>>One under on his round today. Yesterday he made a pair of eagles, and he pours that one in to shoot a 2 under 69 today, leaving him at 8 under.

[00:22:54.040]>>Now Alker.

[00:22:57.380]>>He can do whatever he wants with this, Paul.

[00:23:00.000]>>Yeah, he gets his hands nice and low, he puts that little squat right at the.

[00:23:05.459]>>Beginning of the shot. Oh, that's beautiful, gets the club to go right by the ball and almost hold it.

[00:23:13.449]>>Solid though, solid birdie.

[00:23:18.150]>>Unless Jacobson was to three-putt it.

[00:23:22.359]>>I don't see that happening.

[00:23:25.640]>>Well, we got a couple of real bullies in the last group tomorrow. Look at that leaderboard. These are great players trying to win a great event. Ernie Els has an opportunity to become the first ever three-time winner.

[00:23:46.680]>>PGA TOUR Champions in Newport Beach, California. Final round of the Hoag Classic underway from spectacular Newport Beach Country Club, par 71 layout. Stewart Cink started the day with a two-shot lead after shooting a bogey-free.

[00:24:02.630]>>62 yesterday highlighted by a 2 at the par 5 18th. Last year's co-runner-up, Freddie Jacobson. In fact, Cink and Jacobson were runners-up last year to Miguel Angel Jiménez, now battling for the title. Bob Papa, Paul Azinger.

[00:24:19.599]>>John Cook out on the golf course.

[00:24:27.069]>>Well, Bernhard Langer, for the 41st time yesterday, shot his age or better, 68 years of age, and Langer has gone 28 holes without a bogey.

[00:24:44.209]>>Goosen for birdie. Retief won here in 2022.

[00:24:53.250]>>It's a lot of energy spent coaxing that ball. He thought it was short.

[00:25:04.099]>>Let's go over to 12, Bernhard Langer.

[00:25:08.839]>>Playing his 2nd.

[00:25:14.750]>>Pretty good shot, I would say, right over the flag again for Langer. Well, Stewart Cink on the tee.

[00:25:22.329]>>And look at this, you know, two of the best in the PGA TOUR Champions when Cink and Alker have been paired together.

[00:25:30.810]>>Cink has beaten Alker 8 out of 9 times, the only time that Alker beat him was in the opening round here at the Hoag Classic this year.

[00:25:41.209]>>Is that a trend? Is that, you call that a trend in the business?

[00:25:46.489]>>Something I would that's shocking.

[00:25:49.550]>>It is, it's dominance, really.

[00:25:52.739]>>I'm sure they both know it. Maybe not the exact scoring average, but.

[00:25:58.119]>>You know, Cookie, I don't know. I, I felt sometimes I paired with some players and I was always played well in front of them. I was confident in their confidence in me, almost.

[00:26:09.640]>>Yeah, exactly. I, I had some pairings I really, really enjoyed. Bruce Litzky was one. Tom Watson was another. You, I've, I've always played good around you.

[00:26:19.099]>>You know, there's some pairings you go, oh no.

[00:26:23.739]>>Zach Johnson turned 50 back in February, won his PGA TOUR Champions debut at the James Hardy Pro Football Hall of Fame invitational.

[00:26:32.989]>>Finished tied for 6 last week, rolls in a birdie putt at 11, that gets him to 12 under. Well, it just kind of seemed like he was out of it, and now it seems like he's not out of it.

[00:26:43.140]>>John, I want to ask you about Stewart Cink because we saw Steve Stricker turn 50 and we saw him get his first win at the Cologuard Classic, but he was also in contention other times and didn't close it. Picked up a win here, picked up a win there, and then Stricker for about a 3-year stretch became a force. It feels like Stewart Cink is in that same zone right now.

[00:27:07.719]>>That's a great observation. That's from 103 yards for Stewart, and you know, Steve Stricker, while he, you know, won golf tournaments on the PGA TOUR, had not won in quite some time. So when he turned 50, he had not won in a while. Kind of had to get back used to being uncomfortable in those, you know, being comfortable in uncomfortable situations is exactly what Stewart, uh, was going through. Now he did win later, you know, close to turning 50.

[00:27:36.599]>>But if you're like on or near the league a lot out here, at some point, once you get that taste, it just kind of becomes, you know, a little bit easier and a little bit easier.

[00:27:54.599]>>Now, Cink.

[00:27:56.969]>>For his birdie and.

[00:27:59.229]>>Cookie, did he learn something off of Jacobson?

[00:28:03.000]>>Oh, no doubt about it, Bob, exactly. Uh, he was keeping a keen eye on that as it.

[00:28:08.410]>>Freddie's ball got on the green. What did it do? It kind of slowed up a little bit, which, you know, 17 greens behind him, so, or to the right of him.

[00:28:18.890]>>So not as fast as it looks, we'll move slightly to the left and boy, how about this change of events on 8 and 9.

[00:28:30.380]>>Now over 13, Langer for his birdie. This would move him into outright 2.

[00:28:39.359]>>Oh, it looks good. Not another one. Not another one. How many edges? So many edges.

[00:28:47.209]>>A little bit of frustration.

[00:28:50.510]>>Well, I don't blame you.

[00:28:56.560]>>It's just some things you can't control, and that's part of it, the roll of the ball, the bounce of the ball.

[00:29:10.290]>>At 14, the 3rd for David Duval. Oh, come on, David, come on.

[00:29:15.109]>>What a shot.

[00:29:16.699]>>Oh

[00:29:23.010]>>Retief Goosen

[00:29:25.000]>>Birdie Putt coming up at 14. Goosen 13th in the Schwab Cup standings coming in.

[00:29:32.349]>>For this week.

[00:29:34.130]>>Best finish a solo 3rd at Hualalai.

[00:29:41.010]>>So now Ernie, one of 4 two-time Champions of this event at the 12th.

[00:29:48.150]>>Mm.

[00:29:49.939]>>Almost, Ernie, almost.

[00:29:54.160]>>Retief Goosen won here in 2022. Is this for birdie to get.

[00:30:01.000]>>The 12 under, the, the winners on this property.

[00:30:05.859]>>have been

[00:30:07.420]>>Some of the best ever to play the game.

[00:30:12.319]>>Well, Olazábal banked his tee shot at 17 off the grandstands. It kicked down onto the green and of course looked like a birdie the whole way for the Hall of Famer, of course.

[00:30:25.119]>>Ah

[00:30:29.979]>>He's head shaking. I'm sorry. I apologize.

[00:30:33.719]>>Bernhard Langer for birdie at the par 5 15th to get the 13 under.

[00:30:39.680]>>Langer hadn't made a bogey since the 17th hole of round one.

[00:30:45.849]>>And bounces right back. You know, when he won here in '08.

[00:30:52.449]>>Now over at 17, Mike Weir for birdie. So Olazábal in the group in front banks it off the grandstand and makes birdie. Weir makes his birdie, so it's a good hole for past Masters Champions. Go over to 15, Charlie Wi playing his 2nd at the reachable par 5.

[00:31:14.170]>>A sign of things to come maybe first look at 15 today, man.

[00:31:22.160]>>Boy, he could make a 3 that would get him to within 1 shot.

[00:31:34.329]>>Cink's tee shot.

[00:31:37.599]>>Yeah, important tee shot here for Stewart coming off that bogey. How do you handle stress? Most important tee shots of the day are after birdies and after bogeys.

[00:31:48.050]>>Uh, this looks pretty good.

[00:31:52.180]>>Yeah.

[00:31:54.469]>>That's what he needed to do. The par threes are the scarier holes.

[00:31:59.380]>>You know, Charlie Wi's got a putt for eagle that could get him to within one here in the final round of the Hoag Classic.

[00:32:21.949]>>Charlie Wi has this pot for eagle to get to within 2.

[00:32:29.089]>>Oh, catches the left edge and spits out.

[00:32:36.160]>>Oh, well, what a shame.

[00:32:40.680]>>All right, we saw Olazábal make birdie. Then we saw Weir make birdie. Can another Masters champion make birdie at 17? Here's Langer's lengthy putt.

[00:33:00.000]>>Well, you had a lot of good putts today.

[00:33:05.239]>>Well, it might have been for Langer.

[00:33:07.479]>>You know, this golf course had some changes, the 13th and 15th greens.

[00:33:14.140]>>Were changed as Langer will make par.

[00:33:17.239]>>Probably a very good change there at 17. That was a little too tough.

[00:33:21.989]>>Brian Gay pours that one in at 15, so he's within 3 of the lead.

[00:33:30.520]>>Well, here comes Charlie Wi. This birdie putt at 16 to get to within 1.

[00:33:38.109]>>And that misses on the left side. You know, I don't think anybody saw Charlie Wi with the best chance to win starting the day. That's for sure.

[00:33:48.140]>>Alker for birdie at 14.

[00:33:51.790]>>Yeah, just off the putting surface, choosing putter. Gotta be a little bit careful, if it starts going by the hole, it can pick up some speed.

[00:34:02.770]>>Not a gimme.

[00:34:06.069]>>Retief Goosen playing his 3rd at 18.

[00:34:11.100]>>Yeah, goose.

[00:34:15.250]>>Past champion, Hall of Famer.

[00:34:18.580]>>Well, I've talked about experience all over the board, but there's a lot of talent on that board.

[00:34:24.840]>>Coupled with experience, those kinds of shots.

[00:34:28.739]>>They're really not flukes, you know, they.

[00:34:31.320]>>They just hit so many. There's no lie that can fool Goosen at this point, you wouldn't think.

[00:34:37.280]>>Now Jacobson.

[00:34:39.459]>>Has this for par. I give him 20 ft, this would be an incredible par. He saw, he saw the 11th hole a couple of times.

[00:34:50.178]>>That reminds me of the great quote. I can't remember the Caddie, but he says, Freddie Jacobson looks like, it's like caddying for a twelve-handicapper that's having the best day of his life every day.

[00:35:02.439]>>That's one of the great quotes ever.

[00:35:06.540]>>That is a great line, Charlie Wi.

[00:35:11.030]>>Missed the birdie at 16. His tee shot at 17, and he's gonna have a good look at birdie. He can hit it stiff at 17 today. That was important. It could happen. Alker for his par. Remember, he missed a short par putt at 8.

[00:35:28.090]>>He misses a short par putt.

[00:35:30.969]>>At 14, yeah.

[00:35:34.810]>>Well, Stewart Cink's gonna beat Alker again. It's gonna be 9 out of 10 times those two have been paired where Stewart Cink beat Alker. L's for eagle at 15. Can he put a jolt in himself here? No. They would have gotten to within 1, at least for the time being, but Cink is in close for birdie at 14.

[00:35:58.270]>>Yeah, Cink is effectively 17 under because he did hit it about 1 ft.

[00:36:05.399]>>And

[00:36:07.080]>>It's just another good week for Ernie Els. Now, Stewart Cink for his tap for birdie.

[00:36:22.409]>>Cink back to 17 under, and the lead is 3.

[00:36:27.560]>>David Duval for birdie to get to 10 under. Aggressive.

[00:36:35.320]>>2 under 69 for David.

[00:36:43.550]>>Well, it's kind of up the right side, might need one little kick left. That big leap of the left leg is a big part of the reason Stewart Cink has virtually eliminated left and created more power for himself. Charlie Wi for birdie at 17 to get to within 2.

[00:37:03.719]>>Oh, robbed, truly, truly back-to-back putts.

[00:37:08.800]>>Pretty good putts too on both of them. The eagle chance.

[00:37:13.399]>>And this one, so close.

[00:37:17.139]>>It's a game of degrees and inches.

[00:37:20.840]>>Zach Johnson for birdie at 17.

[00:37:30.129]>>At 15. What's he got left, John?

[00:37:34.870]>>Only 190 yards after a beautiful tee shot.

[00:37:38.739]>>Pinning that back right doesn't want to mess with the righthand side. So this is going up the left center of the green. It's enough. Wow, what a shot by Stewart Cink. That's the most anti-hook rip seven iron you're gonna see, John. Beautiful fade.

[00:37:55.129]>>Bernhard Langer for birdie at 18. Another great tournament as he continues to defy time.

[00:38:07.040]>>And Langer.

[00:38:09.239]>>5-under on his round and then for the 42nd time in his career, he will shoot his age or better for the 68-year-old. The record is held by Jay Haas, who's in the field here this week.

[00:38:22.639]>>Here it's 16, 16 and 22.

[00:38:26.810]>>That is correct.

[00:38:38.070]>>116 and 22. So this is a 138 yard, probably a 9 iron of some kind. The pin is up in that back left side of the green.

[00:38:50.850]>>This is a scoring club for Ernie.

[00:38:58.850]>>Right at it. Oh, just a little harder. You could tell he had more power in that swing if he wanted it.

[00:39:06.120]>>Players love it here in Newport Beach.

[00:39:09.770]>>Stewart Cink eagle putt just missed to the right.

[00:39:15.469]>>And he'll have a tap in birdie to get to 18 under. He's tossing daggers, throwing darts, tossing daggers, whatever it is. He's kind of like been a no mistake guy, although the one bogey, but Stewart Cink is, uh, in command now, John Cook.

[00:39:33.620]>>Steven Alker for birdie, and, you know, Steven clearly hasn't had his aim, A game today, but.

[00:39:40.639]>>You know, we should also talk a little bit about the fact that he won in a playoff last week.

[00:39:46.120]>>Against Pdraig Harrington where he had to come from behind. It's not easy winning in back-to-back weeks, is it, John?

[00:39:53.850]>>Oh no, not at all. And he alluded to the fact that he just tries to stick to his blueprint, but at some point in time you kind of go mentally. It's not physically. You're, you're mentally, you've been in the game, you know, for, you know, 6 straight rounds now on or near the lead, and that can be mentally taxing. Paul, you've done it. I've done it. It, it's not easy going back-to-back and.

[00:40:17.000]>>You know, you got to give him credit for getting into this last group and kind of grinding to the end right there, making that little putt. He's missed some shorties, that I think that's more mental than it is physical.

[00:40:28.060]>>Yeah, it is exhausting to be in contention like that.

[00:40:32.010]>>And, uh,

[00:40:33.669]>>But Alker's running into Stewart Cink now, and that's that's got to have a little bit of impact on your emotions and how you feel you have to play to beat them.

[00:40:43.699]>>Yeah, that's like running into Jonathan Ogden. You're just not gonna make any headway at all.

[00:40:51.780]>>Jonathan Ogden, the Pro Bowl left tackle for the, I knew you'd know that Ravens, yeah.

[00:40:58.320]>>Don't run into that guy.

[00:41:00.689]>>Defending champ Miguel Angel Jiménez trying to finish up with a birdie. He battled back.

[00:41:06.699]>>After the first round, he was 9 shots off the lead, finishes the week at 12-under after a 4 under 67 today.

[00:41:19.770]>>All right, can Ernie keep it interesting? His birdie putt at 16, got it. Yes, sir, that's what, uh, he had to have. I don't know if it'll be enough.

[00:41:31.159]>>But it sure helps, huh? Better than nothing. What a good scorecard.

[00:41:38.500]>>Zach Johnson playing here for the first time, loved the area, love the golf course. His 2nd into 18. Well, that stayed here a long time, big hit for Zach.

[00:41:52.129]>>Good start to his Champions Tour career. You know, Zach Johnson, in his 3rd start of the PGA TOUR Champions, already has a win and pours in the eagle.

[00:42:04.889]>>At 18, so he shoots a 6 under 65.

[00:42:09.800]>>And Zach is in at 15 under. Over at 18, Charlie Wi for his par, currently in a tie for 4th.

[00:42:19.250]>>Uh, Charlie Wi.

[00:42:21.129]>>Shoots a 5 under 66 today. Yeah, good round, good tournament.

[00:42:27.419]>>Well, Stewart Cink with a little mistake at 16.

[00:42:32.439]>>Zach Johnson in at 15 under. Ells has a birdie opportunity at 17.

[00:42:50.219]>>Back at 16, the 3rd for Stewart Cink.

[00:42:54.199]>>A decent lie just has to land it just short of the green, let it trickle on.

[00:42:58.929]>>Stay up. Not a very good aim's not bad at all. The aim was off. The speed was good.

[00:43:05.879]>>All right, let's go over to 17. Ernie Els thinking make here from behind the green.

[00:43:12.719]>>He gave it his all. Beautiful effort, just too much speed. That was right on the line.

[00:43:20.649]>>Steven Alker for birdie at 16.

[00:43:24.419]>>Not much to this, just uphill.

[00:43:27.899]>>Geese, low flying geese, watch out.

[00:43:30.879]>>Man, a friend of mine got hit right in the head by one of those low flying, not the geese, but one of those domestic ducks, the Muscovie duck. Weighed about 12 pounds, knocked him out cold. But those geese that just whizzed by, they fly head high.

[00:43:45.919]>>Ernie Els for his par at 17 and he pulled it.

[00:43:58.129]>>Cink for his par to stay at 18 under.

[00:44:02.729]>>Yeah, tricky little one right here because 17 green is to the right. Yeah, but the ocean pole and the jetty to the left should go slightly to his right, and what an up-and-down after what looked to be a, a mistake, a little mental error back there on his approach, but nice up-and-down.

[00:44:20.330]>>Go up to 18 and a really good week for Brian Gay. He has this putt for eagle. Tied for 2nd, if he makes it, that would make a huge difference for him.

[00:44:31.870]>>The tie for 3rd's not bad if that holds.

[00:44:49.239]>>Like those shoes, don't you?

[00:44:51.290]>>Very stylish arbiter of style. Brian Gay. I like it. 4 under 67 as he finishes the week at 14 under.

[00:45:00.429]>>Don, do you think, uh, Alker's affected by Stewart Cink at this point?

[00:45:06.209]>>Oh, maybe a little bit. Uh, he just kind of like he said yesterday that he's just sticking to the blueprint, but I think at some point in time, if you want to be the guy, and he has been pretty much the guy, but there's a new guy.

[00:45:21.739]>>And he doesn't want to give this up lightly. I, I, I know how competitive Steven Alker is. David Toms, who won a moment ago, uh, earlier this year at the Chubb Classic, this was a moment ago. His birdie putt at 18. Lots of putts going in at 18. A lot of guys finishing off the tournament right.

[00:45:41.760]>>2 under 69 for David who continues his good play. Ernie El is a two-time champion here at the Hoag Classic, trying to finish up with a birdie and.

[00:45:52.780]>>Finish up in a tie for 2nd with Zach Johnson.

[00:45:57.540]>>Always a fan favorite. Got his first PGA TOUR Champions win here at the Hoag Classic in 2020. Final round 4 under 67 today. Confidence builder for Ernie.

[00:46:13.760]>>Well, Stewart Cink gets ready to play his 2nd and takes us back to yesterday for a shot of the tournament presented by Hoag Hospital. Stewart Cink was just cruising along and.

[00:46:27.479]>>He only had 205 yards in with a second here at 18, had a 6 iron in hand, had the line set and takes that nice soft bounce and then bowling speed for a 2, an albatross.

[00:46:41.590]>>Only the 2nd in Hoag Classic history, a boogey-free 62. Yeah, flex Stewart, that is the shot of the tournament presented by Hoag. What a flex it was, right? And you're 100% right. It turned the tournament around because that gave him a two-shot lead going into the final round, you know, he goes on and, you know, let's say he makes eagle, but

[00:47:09.419]>>You know, that's the difference in this tournament. It was gonna be a nail-biter, really. And now it's not a coronation for Stewart. Amazing shot. We went crazy because you don't see him very often. And, uh, Cookie, what's he got?

[00:47:24.669]>>245 all in here for Stuart from left side of the fairway, back left pen, a little uphill into the wind.

[00:47:32.310]>>It's got a little 4 hybrid, I believe.

[00:47:37.030]>>Really can hit it anywhere up there at this point in time, just don't bury it in a bunker or do something stupid, but you wanna just take it to the center of the green, drawing towards the flag. Can you hear what he just said? It can't get any better than this.

[00:47:52.139]>>He is in a zone. He's been in the zone all day long.

[00:47:57.389]>>And uh.

[00:47:58.840]>>I'll go for eagle here, Cookie.

[00:48:01.510]>>Yeah, hit two good ones. Alker, who won last week in Tucson at the Cologuard Classic, just didn't, it was able to really put any pressure on Stewart Cink, and we saw him 3 putt and miss par putts of about 2 ft.

[00:48:18.159]>>That we've never seen. Alker won't do that again for 3 months.

[00:48:22.709]>>Twice in a round. Great fan support, 30 years coming to Newport Beach, California, and the membership and the staff at Newport Beach Country Club, everybody involved with this event, it's a first-class event.

[00:48:39.199]>>It's one of the premier stops. You got 7 World Golf Hall of Famers in the field here this week, which speaks a lot to this golf course and the respect that the players have for it. Now, Cink for Eagle to tie the 54 hole scoring record set by Duffy Waldorf in 2015, and he's gonna come up a shot short. Duffy shot 20 under that year. Cink will have that for birdie to finish off at 19-under.

[00:49:09.580]>>Well, it's been a grind here over the last two weeks with Alker having to come from behind and beat Pdraig Harrington in a playoff at the Cologuard Classic in Tucson, was in the mix this week, finishes with a birdie.

[00:49:23.610]>>And guess what? Another top 10. In his career on the PGA TOUR Champions, Alker has been in the top 10 in 101 starts, 80% of the time. Now, Stewart Cink.

[00:49:37.750]>>For his 3rd win in his last 5 starts, his 2nd win this season, the Schwab Cup leader, and there's the birdie at 18, and Stewart Cink has captured the 2026 Hoag Classic.

[00:49:59.340]>>Stewart Cink was at full power this week.

[00:50:02.489]>>Nobody could catch him.

[00:50:05.639]>>He dictated what everybody else had to do, and that shot yesterday.

[00:50:12.989]>>Well, long live. That was one of the most memorable things I've ever seen calling golf on TV was watching him make the double eagles go on to victory, Stewart, by the way. And with the win, Stewart Cink remains atop the leaderboard in the season-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup.

[00:50:31.129]>>And Stewart Cink.

[00:50:33.389]>>Up to a little over \$900,000 in his four starts. Zach Johnson sits in the second spot. David Toms remains in third. Alker in fourth. Padraig Harrington sits in that fifth spot. Ernie Els has moved up to the 6th spot as we send it down to John Cook.

[00:50:53.199]>>I'd like to remind myself how blessed I am to be able to do this, and uh it just having that kind of heart puts me in a good place to perform well and you know the scores add up. It's great having you out here. You're a great addition and a and a great support to this uh PGA TOUR Champions. Congratulations, we'll keep it going. I appreciate it. That means a lot coming from you, Cookie. You got it. Thanks, Bob.

[00:51:14.459]>>Well, wife Lisa on hand, Stewart Cink picks up yet another victory, his 3rd in his last 5 starts dating back to last year. So they're getting the cart ready, uh, for Stewart Cink to take that victory lap and really cool, uh, as the champion gets to ride the Aston Martin. Now I'm gonna use a Southern.

[00:51:38.489]>>Saying here in order to get Stewart Cink in that car, you're gonna have to roll him around in bacon grease and get the shoehorn out because that is, he's a big man and that's a small car. Stewart Cink wins for the second time this year. He shoots 19 under for the week, highlighted by that albatross to cap off that round two bogey-free 62.