

Production Transcript for **26INTCUTCH- JAMES HARDIE PFHFI - MASTER**

[00:00:38.490]>>3rd event of the year for the PGA TOUR Champions. It's the James Hardie Pro Football Hall of Fame Invitational old course at Broken Sound. 19 years, the PGA TOUR Champions has been coming to Boca Raton, Florida. Take a look at the PGA TOUR Champions leaderboard. Ricardo Gonzalez started his day.

[00:00:59.669]>>On the back nine, the easier of the two nines, 5 under. Stewart Cink, his second start of the year, won the Mitsubishi Electric championship at Hualalai. Ben Crane celebrated his 50th birthday in style, a 3 under par 69.

[00:01:15.760]>>And we got 26 Pro Football Hall of Famers. Defending champ, Tim Brown, the Raider great, wide receiver, he is at even par. Randall McDaniel also at even par. Jimbo Cover, Drew Brees, newly elected, Dwight Freeney, Warren Sapp, all in at one over par.

[00:01:39.959]>>Take you over to the 12th, and Tim Brown on the tee. Tim.

[00:01:44.739]>>A winner last year shot 14 under and came away with a 4-shot win.

[00:01:52.620]>>Flails that out to the right.

[00:01:55.559]>>Take you over to the 11th and.

[00:01:58.760]>>Stewart Cink getting set to play his 2nd shot. Stewart.

[00:02:03.730]>>Got a chance to take a little time off after winning the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualālai, the season opening event, shot 23 under, beat Ángel Cabrera by 3 shots.

[00:02:15.809]>>Yeah, that'd be 2 wins in a row dating back to last year's.

[00:02:20.110]>>The good course for Stuart. The report is the greens are hard as a rock.

[00:02:25.339]>>And he hits it higher than everybody else, so.

[00:02:28.669]>>That's a huge advantage when the greens are rock hard, you know, there's, there's trajectories designed for cement greens, and then there's plenty that aren't. Look at how high that's going.

[00:02:39.880]>>Yeah, the course was opened back up to play back in October, underwent.

[00:02:44.889]>>A regrassing of the greens, and they are much firmer than they were a year ago. And now's Zach Johnson making his PGA TOUR Champions debut. Turned 50 back in February.

[00:02:56.729]>>12-time winner on the PGA TOUR, two majors on his resume, and excited about the opportunity to play on the PGA TOUR Champions. He was excited a couple of years ago when we ran into him at the American Family.

[00:03:12.089]>>Insurance championship, Madison, Wisconsin. He, he, he started counting his age in half year increments.

[00:03:19.919]>>Like 4715, 4815.

[00:03:25.750]>>When I think of Zach, all I think about is, uh, well, I say all, but one of the things I think about is what a great wedge player he is.

[00:03:35.440]>>He's won the Masters famously, strategically laying up on all the par-fives and just clipping wedge after wedge in there. And there's a wedge.

[00:03:45.940]>>The first wedge we get to see out here on a champion tour level and another dart right at it, but that's gonna be.

[00:03:53.279]>>I'll be lucky if it doesn't keep going. Oh.

[00:03:57.279]>>Take you over to 13 and.

[00:04:01.339]>>David Toms ready to play, 13, playing 407 yards today.

[00:04:08.270]>>Big win for David in Naples. We didn't know it until after the round, but his back went out during the round and he survived. He hit it terrible on Sunday, but scratched it around, you know, blue collared it.

[00:04:21.579]>>Cabrera, he doesn't swing like he's ever hurt. Watch this thing.

[00:04:30.170]>>That is something to, that, that's just swinging it as hard as you can, isn't it? Give it the twirl after the fact.

[00:04:37.279]>>He's the defending champion. He got his first win on the PGA TOUR Champions here last year.

[00:04:43.220]>>Stewart Cink

[00:04:45.660]>>Reaches the 100 ft level for height here if we got this on tracer or not. I don't know.

[00:04:56.540]>>No.

[00:04:58.269]>>Sorry about that digital world.

[00:05:00.950]>>Sweden

[00:05:06.230]>>Pretty good shot, I'd say. Send our best out to the Jacobsson family absolutely.

[00:05:13.160]>>Now Justin Leonard's tee shot at 12.

[00:05:16.350]>>Well, he told us a couple of weeks ago, you're working on a setup, trying to make it dead square.

[00:05:23.309]>>And a lot of.

[00:05:24.850]>>Tee shots wind up there. Alex Cejka was tied for 5th at the Chubb Classic. T12 at hualālai to start his year off.

[00:05:40.320]>>Padraig Harrington, a Hall of Fame career in his own right, Harrington won on this property, zinger back in 2023. He shot 16 under.

[00:05:50.000]>>Here at the old course of Broken Sound.

[00:05:57.750]>>Uh, Steve Allan.

[00:06:00.000]>>Just off the green and.

[00:06:03.029]>>That dries up quickly.

[00:06:06.329]>>Take you out to 13. Zach Johnson getting set to play his 2nd.

[00:06:13.179]>>Zach, a twelve-time winner on the PGA TOUR, has won a pair of major championships.

[00:06:20.429]>>These greens have been resurfaced since last year's tournament, so they are much firmer. The ball flight of Stewart Cink.

[00:06:32.059]>>He hits it high, zinger, and that should help him. I think it's gonna help him a great deal come the end of the week. That shot won't help him. He's probably gonna putt that one.

[00:06:42.739]>>Now, Zach Johnson for birdie here at 13.

[00:06:52.769]>>So Zach Johnson, nice clean scorecard, he's gotten it to 3 under par.

[00:07:02.799]>>Boo Weekley playing his 3rd at 13.

[00:07:06.670]>>No reason not to put it.

[00:07:08.929]>>Oh, yeah, that way, boo rattled it right off the flag, caddie gives it a little in.

[00:07:16.420]>>That's a good feeling. How about the sustainability of this man, Jay Haas.

[00:07:21.980]>>Gunning for his age again, trying to shoot his age again.

[00:07:28.549]>>That gets him to one over.

[00:07:31.290]>>He's 72 now. I know he's got the record. All right, Zacharoo, he's gonna hit one of those patented. I'll never hit a hook again in my life, but it'll be a draw.

[00:07:45.019]>>He hits the most beautiful, tight draw. A lot of strong, most strong grip players hit a fade or pretty straight.

[00:07:55.000]>>But one thing for sure is that swing's not gonna ever go left.

[00:08:02.809]>>Oh yeah.

[00:08:07.459]>>You know, Stewart Cink which is tied with Koepka for driving distance on the regular tour and ranked thirty-seventh. He's way the longest hitter out here. And really, Zach against,

[00:08:18.880]>>Uh, Stewart Cink is really power against accuracy, Stewart.

[00:08:23.910]>>You know, he finished last Fairways hit and win a tournament out here.

[00:08:29.329]>>This is a tough shot. I think he's got to have it roll over that hill. I don't think he can fly it that far.

[00:08:37.210]>>He's taking a, like a big cut at it though. It's practice swing.

[00:08:43.669]>>No, definitely trying to run it. Gravity, baby. We need gravity. And he's not gonna get it stopped right on the precipice.

[00:08:56.169]>>Over to 17, David Toms for birdie. Jeff, you played a lot of Champions Tour events in your career, and you know that.

[00:09:03.580]>>You know, on the opening round, you know, you gotta shoot like 4 under. We only have 24 players at this point, even under par as Tom's knocks that in. Just how hard is it out there putt.

[00:09:15.260]>>It is so difficult. Uh, Harrington and Cabrera are, you know, world-class players.

[00:09:23.190]>>Steve Allan for birdie at 16.

[00:09:28.340]>>Why not?

[00:09:31.460]>>That one wasn't gonna be short. Nope.

[00:09:34.349]>>What a

[00:09:37.119]>>There have only been 3 birdies. Ben Crane has one of them, he turned 50 today. Steve Flesch.

[00:09:45.239]>>With a birdie here at 18.

[00:09:49.929]>>And David Toms that made it look easy there, Paul. Yeah, well, he can do that. He does hit lasers.

[00:10:01.559]>>Gonzalez for his par at the 9th to shoot 6 under 66 all around good putt, they say, and.

[00:10:15.849]>>Now Zach trying to

[00:10:18.150]>>Finished strong right here on this strong par 4 15 ft should move slightly to his right when it slows down. He's been aggressive all day.

[00:10:28.770]>>And I one day, when you get a hands-on hips, that means I hit a great putt. I can't believe it didn't break. And that's just what that was.

[00:10:42.229]>>That's a good start, I would say for Zach Johnson. Well, Stewart Cink has this putt for birdie, and this would give him a share of the lead at 6-under.

[00:10:53.450]>>Yeah, he's had a couple of other opportunities that kind of flew by him, but this is a really good 16 ft down the hill.

[00:11:02.640]>>Just stayed out there or I think it missed high.

[00:11:06.929]>>Yeah, he left a couple out there.

[00:11:11.530]>>1 bogey on the card that came at the 9th.

[00:11:15.580]>>Take a solid iron shot right to the middle of the green.

[00:11:19.479]>>Kind of been a no mistake guy. There you go.

[00:11:25.460]>>There you go, baby. I love it. A little smile, little kiss to somebody over there.

[00:11:32.799]>>And that'd be a good way to finish the day. Ricardo Gonzalez got off to a blistering start, gave one back on his 17th hole, but has the lead after the opening round at 6 underers. Stewart Cink found a win in his 2nd start of the year. How about George McNeill, what a day for him.

[00:11:55.859]>>PGA TOUR Champions in Boca Raton, Florida, 19th year. This is the James Hardie Pro Football Hall of Fame Invitational, the 3rd of 28 on the PGA TOUR champion schedule, old course at Broken Sound.

[00:12:10.890]>>Zach Johnson played earlier today, a bogey-free, 6 under 66 in his Champions Tour debut. He is at 8 under par. Stewart Cink.

[00:12:21.940]>>Just a couple back. Take a look at the leaderboard for the Pro Football Hall of Famers that wrap it up today. Jimbo Covert is at even par, Dwight Freeney at even par. Lawrence Taylor has posted one over for the week. Drew Brees still out on the golf course, newly minted Pro Football Hall of Famer. Bob Poppa, Paul Azinger, so glad you can join us. John Cook and Jeff Sluman.

[00:12:46.710]>>On the ground at the old course at Broken Sound. Ben Crane for birdie, John Cook is at the 9th.

[00:12:54.010]>>Good to be with you guys. Birthday boy yesterday, Ben Crane, coming off a 3 Putt back there at the 8th. Couple over par on his outgoing 9 hole. That was a good opportunity missed there for Ben. You know, he turned 50 yesterday.

[00:13:06.940]>>And I never thought to ask this till right now, but I was wondering, and he must have been born in the morning. If he was born at night, would he have been able to tee off? Yes, your birth date, not your birth date. I'm telling you, you could put the man, well, you don't want to put him on the clock too often, but maybe in that regard.

[00:13:23.429]>>He still plays pretty slow. This group is way behind, but an excellent start for Ben Crane.

[00:13:32.460]>>Look at Lee Jansen trying to clip one out of the low area. What a shot. Oh.

[00:13:39.280]>>On a couple of majors with that short game and a players' championship.

[00:13:45.059]>>The menace for birdie.

[00:13:47.909]>>They had it in that right bunker.

[00:13:50.219]>>A really difficult long bunker shot and it just didn't get up that little ridge. Now he's putting up that ridge, moving to his left.

[00:14:00.250]>>And after that tee shot there, Paul, disappointing par here for Miguel. Yeah, for sure.

[00:14:08.260]>>You gotta hit the fairways on these par-fives to have any chance.

[00:14:20.750]>>Uh, you talk about a fisherman. I think one of the best fly fishermen.

[00:14:25.659]>>Golf's ever seen this guy, come on, Aaron, you can do it, yeah.

[00:14:30.900]>>He flies to Sarasota, Braden an area to try to catch a permit on a fly, actually, in my neck of the woods.

[00:14:38.020]>>You know what I've noticed is on these new greens, they don't break as much. This is a week that you see the best players in the world miss it on the high side versus the low side more often.

[00:14:53.619]>>Nothing wrong with that.

[00:14:55.950]>>Good little park. Only 5 birdies at 12 all day.

[00:15:02.919]>>Yeah.

[00:15:06.690]>>Zach Johnson, a lot of the guys at the top of the leaderboard done for the day. I mean, these guys know that what they have to do coming in if they're going to give themselves a chance tomorrow. No question the afternoon morning wave with a slight advantage.

[00:15:23.150]>>He's a good putt. Uh, he's famous for the way he putts. You know, he won 5 times on the PGA TOUR.

[00:15:31.250]>> Miguel Angel Jiménez for birdie.

[00:15:34.469]>>Right at hole high, good opportunity here for Jiménez, Birding a bogey on his card so far.

[00:15:51.320]>>The guys with the best scores are playing in the last groups, but a little different this week with the Hall of Famer. So, everybody that's on the course right now, they know about what they have to get to to have a chance tomorrow.

[00:16:04.340]>>Yeah, no doubt about it. And, you know, they're still in grind mode. I mean, 7 under par leading, it's, it's, it's very doable. This, this whole group, they know they're still in it.

[00:16:15.469]>>Get through this, you know, tough stretch of 12, 13, 14, 15, then you've got a couple of birdie opportunities at 16, 17.

[00:16:23.070]>>You know, make sure you're on the right side of par going in tomorrow.

[00:16:30.039]>>Ben Crane here, the youngest rookie on this tour, birthday yesterday, his 50th, drove it way to the right, hit a nice shot down to the front left of the green, putt to here, needs this one and gets it. That's a strong putt, man. This guy is gonna grind on this tour. He's loving being out here. Look at the smile.

[00:16:52.080]>>Jeff Maggert for Eagle at 16.

[00:16:57.000]>>Well, I bet it goes in, and it does. And it went in with authority for Maggert. Golly, he hit more shots at the flag. Him and David Toms together, probably any guys I've ever seen.

[00:17:09.869]>>Well, we're gonna watch Ben Crane all year. You know, he's kind of famous for playing slow out there on the regular tour. I think he's tried to pick up the pace and, uh, does not want to be a pain in the Putt out here. I know. So he's conscious always of those things.

[00:17:25.188]>>Yeah, you don't want to get labeled out here. It's there's a small fraternity down that slope, and the boy narrowly misses on that right edge. Oh, it looked like a volcano. That's what he'll claim. That was a volcano, but he'll smile.

[00:17:42.140]>>Gave it the big wow. I know, man, we've watched it worm cam that one for you, Ben. You got robbed.

[00:17:49.150]>>Steven Ames for Eagle at 16. Yeah, coming off that bogey at 15. This is a big breaker from right to left at the start.

[00:17:59.469]>>Gotta get it way out there, just get it on the green, let that slope take it to the hole.

[00:18:05.780]>>Really tough to play that high enough.

[00:18:11.420]>>Good little two-putt birdie though. Yup, coming off the collar, you know, that Bermuda is so unpredictable, the ball weaves off of that stuff.

[00:18:20.880]>>Over to 15, Ken Duke for his birdie.

[00:18:26.489]>>Kind of his stomping grounds around here. There's a good putt. Works with Bob Toski.

[00:18:33.699]>>Mhm.

[00:18:35.030]>>Not a very big space back there to keep this golf ball on the green, so great look for Birdie. Give him about 14 ft. Gotta keep the pace up.

[00:18:46.359]>>Yeah.

[00:18:48.650]>>I'm talking about Impressive birdie for Ames, back-to-back birdies for Steven.

[00:18:56.719]>>Big par putt for Steve Flesch, and he buries it. So, Flesch could at least make par on the last hole, he'll be in the 2nd to last group.

[00:19:08.609]>>Yep.

[00:19:13.180]>>Meeth finishes up his par, 2/74, with a 17-time winner on the PGA TOUR Champions.

[00:19:23.380]>>Tommy Gainey for birdie at 17.

[00:19:30.609]>>Tommy Mund qualified last year, got a win, fully exempt status on the PGA TOUR Champions and making the most of it. Flesch, big par putt here at the 9th, his final hole.

[00:19:44.310]>>And Flesch puts it in and he shoots a 4 under 68.

[00:19:52.290]>>He doubled 18.

[00:19:55.469]>>Go up to the green at 17. Ken Duke.

[00:19:59.650]>>Similar pot that.

[00:20:03.469]>>Steven Ames had, but Ken Duke figures it out. 3 in a row for Ken Duke.

[00:20:23.479]>> Søren Kjeldsen with a birdie.

[00:20:36.030]>>Zach Johnson in his PGA TOUR Champions debut, one of only 2 bogey-free rounds on the second round Saturday. He shoots a 6 under 66. He'll carry a 1-shot lead into the final round over George McNeill, Steve Allan, with Steve Flesch, two backs, Stewart Cink, Boo Weekley, 3 off the pace.

[00:21:07.060]>>It's the 3rd event of the year for the PGA TOUR Champions. Old Course at Broken Sound in Boca Raton, Florida. The James Hardie Pro Football Hall of Fame Invitational. Zach Johnson went into this final round with a 1-shot lead over George McNeill. It remains that. Both players even on this final round. Zach Johnson making his PGA TOUR Champions debut this week, trying to win.

[00:21:34.560]>>His first event since turning 50.

[00:21:38.469]>>Steve Flesch is right in the mix, as is Stewart Cink. And speaking of Stewart Cink, he is on the tee at the 8th. Stewart started with 6 straight pars, Birdy the 7th, Jeff Sluman with the 2nd to last group.

[00:21:54.180]>>Yeah, Bob Stewart's backed off twice. The wind is all of a sudden, another 5, 10 miles an hour.

[00:22:04.030]>>Hit a nice looking solid shot, but he's hooked it a little too much in that left bunker, that's gonna be a challenging shot from there.

[00:22:13.209]>>Go over to the 7th, Zach Johnson for birdie. John Cook with this last group. Good to see you guys. Good to hear you. A nice little wedge shot in there for Zach. Got a little teach off of George McNeill.

[00:22:26.209]>>Took advantage of it

[00:22:29.079]>> Boo Weekley has.

[00:22:31.369]>>This putt for par, Flesch still has a birdie putt.

[00:22:36.560]>>Well, Slew, you know, the value of these early on, you know, uh, especially to start the day, but here we are as a critical time for Boo.

[00:22:46.579]>>Yeah, you know his game a little better than me, but he's got to make this putt, and this is the putt you really don't like to have. The wind's blowing pretty hard left to right, off his back.

[00:23:01.780]>>Beautiful putt by Boo there. You notice his speed is just perfect, dripping speed.

[00:23:09.290]>>Shane Birch, after the shank, has this for par.

[00:23:16.050]>>Oh, see, you know, the whole way, didn't it? And this is, oh, that ball deserves water, but I'll tell you what, these guys are resilient. They can make par from anywhere, even with a shank.

[00:23:30.109]>>Well, Steve Flesch.

[00:23:32.119]>>Has this short one for birdie. This would be back-to-back birdies for Flesch and get him a seven-under.

[00:23:39.140]>>Yeah, Paul, Billy is a longtime caddie walked by me and oh dear, said, what do you think of that 7 iron?

[00:23:47.369]>>Well,

[00:23:50.209]>>I tell you.

[00:23:52.819]>>He, he runs emotional, and that's one of those things, you know, you hit a shot like that, you got your caddie kind of saying, hey, man, what do you think of that? And then he misses a putt.

[00:24:02.160]>>So, uh, we know Fleshy can get emotional. He's got just dig deep again. Hit a good drive on the next hole.

[00:24:09.380]>>Absolutely

[00:24:12.010]>>Oh, a little iguana survived the frost, the freeze down here.

[00:24:19.540]>>Steve Allan, a 3-time winner last year, back-to-back birdies, this one at 8.

[00:24:24.510]>>Yeah, tee shot right over top of the flags, so he has to be careful with speed here.

[00:24:32.900]>>That's well judged.

[00:24:35.739]>>David Toms won the Chubb Classic in Naples a few weeks ago.

[00:24:41.810]>>And rolls that in for birdie.

[00:24:46.119]>>All right, now McNeil had to think about this for a while.

[00:24:49.969]>>Brave tee shot. Yeah, brave tee shot. Maybe you had to think about it a little bit too long. We missed it on the low side.

[00:24:59.109]>>Boy, for McNeil and Flesch, if, if they don't win, they're gonna look back at that, those putts on that green. Putting is just such a mystery sometimes, you know, you see the line some days, it's so easy, but come Sunday, that this is when you got to make the big putts. Zach's proven that he can do it.

[00:25:19.219]>>One of the steadiest, I, I don't even know if he's missed a putt inside 5 ft all week.

[00:25:26.390]>>I don't think he has. I don't, can't remember any of them. And like you said, he is so steady, you're gonna have to go get him. I don't think he's gonna make too many mistakes the way he hits the golf ball.

[00:25:37.510]>>Yeah, it's a very severe hill here that he's got to negotiate and then it kind of goes back downhill to the hole.

[00:25:47.219]>>It's nice and cozy. Stewart lingering. Yep, he's just lingering.

[00:25:55.119]>>One birdie, one bogey.

[00:26:00.640]>>In a leaf

[00:26:03.640]>>Well, wouldn't that be something? Take your stroke, have the leaf get between you and the ball.

[00:26:11.410]>>The old rules, if your ball hit a leaf, it was a must take over. Now

[00:26:16.069]>>Just play it as it is.

[00:26:19.589]>>You study that rule book, slew. Uh, no, I don't. I just happen to know 11 or two rules.

[00:26:35.310]>>Gene Birch curls that in, comeback kid.

[00:26:43.969]>>Now first, look at the par 4 11th.

[00:26:51.479]>>You know, Jamie Donaldson having another, having a good week. And, uh, you alluded to your sources as saying he's been playing quite well. He, he won the clinching point at the Ryder Cup in 2014. I didn't remember that until I started looking him up. I'm like, oh, yeah, I remember that moment.

[00:27:08.270]>>They all just flooded the green line. There's a good putt. Gogol, nice follow up. Beautiful eagle.

[00:27:15.369]>>He's gonna have to maybe slide it down, just get it on the green, let the slope take it from left to right.

[00:27:26.910]>>Keep going to the right. Don't cut a piece. Pretty good shot there. Well, he's a Bermuda specialist, Naples guy, loves the grass.

[00:27:36.410]>>This looks more overseed, but there's Bermuda in it. Padraig Harrington has this putt for eagle.

[00:27:43.030]>>At 16. Padraig after round one was 7 over par.

[00:27:48.569]>>He shot 79 in the opening round, and that's going to be.

[00:27:53.489]>>A tap in birdie for Harrington.

[00:27:56.609]>>What a comeback for incredible.

[00:27:59.819]>>That's crazy about that grass, that's actually celebration Bermuda.

[00:28:04.939]>> Anyway.

[00:28:07.410]>>That is really such a comeback. He did not look too bothered even by his 79, the first round.

[00:28:18.619]>>Counting yesterday and through 16 holes today.

[00:28:23.959]>>That'd be good enough to be leading the tournament.

[00:28:26.650]>>And he won on this property back in 2023 when he shot 16 under.

[00:28:35.920]>>On 3 shots back. That's crazy. All right, Zack up the hill, over the ridge. Pretty slow putt, but again, great speed.

[00:28:46.500]>>He looks comfortable to me. He looks the most comfortable, really. You know, there comes a point, you know, all the tension leaves your body on these final rounds. You know, you're a little tense when you start, you got to get the wiggles out.

[00:29:00.930]>>Totally get relaxed and uh that's the way he looks like now to me.

[00:29:08.630]>>Justin Hicks for birdie.

[00:29:16.280]>>Oh, all right moment. Stone Bridge Country Club in Boca.

[00:29:21.520]>>He's the head professional.

[00:29:24.699]>>Steve Allan, wow, good bar.

[00:29:28.500]>>I.

[00:29:29.959]>>Felt like a must putt for him probably, don't you think? Yeah, it kept him in shouting distance.

[00:29:34.959]>>Still within 3

[00:29:45.430]>>Not much here.

[00:29:47.859]>>Not much here, Paul, I think. Maybe just right at the center, but nice up-and-down, tough hole. Everybody getting through with pars.

[00:30:00.339]>>Donaldson's birdie putt at 11.

[00:30:03.760]>>Oh, that's so good.

[00:30:07.050]>>He's a big-time player.

[00:30:09.739]>>Yeah it really is. This is one of the few tournaments that, uh, you know, par is meaningful on a, on a hole by hole basis.

[00:30:18.270]>>But, uh, you know, the, I think the, the firmness of the greens.

[00:30:23.760]>>Um,

[00:30:26.189]>>The wind, the condition of uh the golf course has been problematic for the players.

[00:30:36.599]>>Sink for eagle.

[00:30:38.579]>>This could go a long way, should, shouldn't move much. Oh boy, wow.

[00:30:47.339]>>But just like that, Stewart Cink is within.

[00:30:51.949]>>2.

[00:31:00.000]>>Now Boo Weekley.

[00:31:09.420]>>Did he putt this or chip it, Louie, from back there?

[00:31:13.250]>>He chipped it to this point, kind of ran out on him a little more than he thought.

[00:31:18.800]>>But these are the ones that Boo, as we've seen, misses more often than not on.

[00:31:23.770]>>But he's, to win, he's got to start making these, especially on Sunday.

[00:31:33.489]>>00.

[00:31:36.489]>>Right on line, Boo. Wind there again. The wind is definitely a factor.

[00:31:42.599]>>But you can see his inconsistency. Yeah, inconsistency with speed there. The other one, he, he ripped about 3 ft by and that one he barely got it there.

[00:31:54.949]>>And this is a huge putt for flesh.

[00:32:15.819]>>It was bounce back 2 pt birdie for flesh. Yeah, bounce back birdie for Steve.

[00:32:24.599]>>David Toms coming off a win there a couple weeks ago.

[00:32:29.660]>>And he has been rolling the rock. wow.

[00:32:38.050]>>And get him to 4 under.

[00:32:46.410]>>Well, the determined, uh, Zach Johnson, really just grinding away here. This is gonna be a grinder's victory because of the nature of the course, the wind, the whole deal.

[00:32:58.119]>>And uh he's been so steely-eyed, Cookie, just expect him to bury this.

[00:33:06.079]>>He hasn't missed any really on our telecast yet of this length or under.

[00:33:13.020]>>Yeah, I think he knows how big this putt is. He has to feel it because there's not many scoreboards out here.

[00:33:19.790]>>There was one back there on the 9th. Oh boy.

[00:33:25.569]>>Oh, yeah, he knows he needed that, or he wanted it, I should say, would have been a nice little cushy three-shot lead.

[00:33:35.780]>>Can flesh get to within 2?

[00:33:41.300]>>He hit a beautiful shot in here.

[00:33:43.839]>>One hop and it stopped.

[00:33:47.469]>>Yes, he can. Steve Flesch back-to-back birdies.

[00:33:58.920]>>David Toms 3rd and 13. David Toms 4. Look at this shot. Oh wow.

[00:34:05.459]>>Oh, very nice. Nice run, David Toms, his 5th birdie.

[00:34:12.428]>>Chance for birdie. He has not missed many of these. Super steady. It's.

[00:34:18.678]>>One of the most reliable putters.

[00:34:24.270]>>I think too, Paul, on Sunday, it comes down to routine. How consistent is your routine, your timing, your pacing.

[00:34:33.620]>>Oh, catches that right edge. That's a big putt. Oh, is it ever that is the putt of a champion, you know, a guy knows how to win. He's won some massive events.

[00:34:43.479]>>So he remains

[00:34:45.340]>>Too clear

[00:34:48.128]>>Heading to the par 312 and trying to become the 22nd player in PGA TOUR Champions history to win in his debut, Zach Johnson with the lead at the James Hardie Pro Football Hall of Fame invitational.

[00:35:14.100]>>PGA TOUR Champions, 3rd event of the year, Boca Raton, Florida. The old course at Broken Sound for the James Hardie Pro Football Hall of Fame. Invitational. Zach Johnson making his PGA TOUR Champions debut, came into the final round with a 1-shot lead, rolls in this birdie at the 4th. It's a lengthy birdie putt, but this got him to 8 under par.

[00:35:38.989]>>And that was a heck of a bounce back after a bogey at the 3rd. Paul Azinger, Zach Johnson's putter has been huge. This was a par saving putt at the 5th. Well, bogey 3, we just saw the long putt go in on the previous hole. What a par save, and he made a beautiful putt on 6 as well.

[00:35:58.659]>>Then he would roll in this putt for birdie at the 7th. This would get him to 9-under and open up a 2-shot lead.

[00:36:07.149]>>Did not make birdie at the par 5 10th.

[00:36:11.620]>>But makes this huge clutch par putt at 11. Well, that putt, I'm sorry, Bob, that was 4 great putts in a row. And then this one, man, it looked like a possible two-shot swing.

[00:36:31.010]>>We welcome in John Cook.

[00:36:35.300]>>Thank you there, boys.

[00:36:37.830]>>Nice little testy breezy afternoon. George McNeill trying to get something going. Only a birdie and one bogey on his card today has not taken advantage of a couple of the par 5s, so.

[00:36:51.189]>>He had a nice shot in here, just a little bit long, and to the right. This will move gently to his left, has to worry a little bit about speed.

[00:37:04.750]>>Not a great putt. His putter's letting him down right now. He's gonna have to have a big moment on the green. I think he's hitting it so good, John. It's been pretty precision-like.

[00:37:15.379]>>You know, he's got some last group experience here. He's won a couple of times on the regular tour.

[00:37:20.820]>>George McNeill, a Floridian.

[00:37:23.520]>>He likes the grass in uh.

[00:37:26.580]>>Got Tom in form, a former player. So that, that's gonna be a tough duo, but he's got to overtake Zach Johnson and Brian Smith. That's a nice dynamic duo too, John Cook.

[00:37:39.290]>>Yeah, no doubt they've been together a long time and

[00:37:42.949]>>Brian, a good player in his own right.

[00:37:45.919]>>Been out here a long time, Zach, of course, you know, 2 major championship wins. He's not going anywhere, you're gonna have to come and get him and hit a beautiful little 6 iron in here, just underneath the hole, very little break, does not have to worry about anything.

[00:38:03.000]>>Right center, keep the speed up.

[00:38:07.050]>>This would go a long way.

[00:38:10.030]>>And he buries it

[00:38:12.330]>>Zach Johnson

[00:38:14.090]>>Gets to 10 under with a birdie at the 12th.

[00:38:24.969]>>Steven Allan, 3 wins last year. You know, John Cook's down there watching them, very impressed with Steven Allan's game from last year. And as he said earlier, Stephen Allen's no fluke.

[00:38:42.370]>>David Toms, who won the first Full-Field Event of the year at the Chubb Classic, coaxes that in for birdie.

[00:38:57.320]>>John, you had a chance to talk with Zach Johnson earlier this week and

[00:39:03.260]>>You know, turning 50, he realizes that you can't just lay the resume out there, and he's got an incredible resume in his career on the PGA TOUR. He's really embracing being a rookie again.

[00:39:14.919]>>That he is, and um he said something interesting. He says, I want to be a better version of myself. I just don't want to be out here like you said with, you know, living on my resume. He wants to get better. He wants to play well. He has that competitiveness in him. This is what we've done all of our lives is be competitive. He doesn't want to just, you know, farewell walk around golf courses. He wants to win. It's been a while since he's won. He's got a great chance out here, uh, to win golf tournaments and.

[00:39:42.959]>>You know, have that feeling again.

[00:39:46.760]>>Down the slope moving slightly to his right.

[00:39:50.479]>>Oh, right online.

[00:39:54.979]>>You know,

[00:39:56.379]>>There's, uh, Hale Irwin, and there's Bernhard Langer, and, uh, you know, a bunch of guys that have won a ton of tournaments. Those are the two biggest, pro most prolific winners in Champ's history.

[00:40:08.750]>>Stuart Sink's gotta start making some birdies, has one at 14. Yeah, I, I agree, Bob, I think if he's gonna have a chance, he's gotta make this putt. Mmm.

[00:40:37.489]>>So par for sink, and he remains 4 back.

[00:40:43.959]>>Let's go over to 16 and Steven Ames for Eagle.

[00:40:52.350]>>So Steven Ames.

[00:40:59.530]>>Well, George McNeil's left himself a little tester, one of these, you know, this is such an important tournament. Top 10 gets him in the next one, which is huge, but he's got designs on trying to win this golf tournament. He has had not a single exciting moment really on the greens yet.

[00:41:21.090]>>Now this would be a wonderful par save here for George at the right time.

[00:41:27.429]>>He's got 16 to play, which is downwind par 5. He'll hit a short iron in there and

[00:41:33.540]>>17, see how he wants to play 17, but there's a big putt for here for George.

[00:41:39.100]>>Let's see where his nerves are at this point in time.

[00:41:43.719]>>And, this is a guy still putts for cash too, you know, it's not just the, the trophy. He wants the trophy, but the dollar signs are a big difference for him too. Well, you see the name Jamie Donaldson, which is why that putt was important because McNeil and Donaldson are not in the Cologuard Classic. The highest finisher here of a non-exempt player gets a spot. Interesting.

[00:42:08.580]>>Well, we'll have a little drama there stand for those guys.

[00:42:14.000]>>Like a gimme for Zach. We'll watch it anyway. He's doing everything he needs to do. This is like the consummate veteran came in here on a mission. Big birdie putt here for Jamie Donaldson at 16. This would get him to 7 under.

[00:42:35.929]>>So Donaldson, 3 off the lead, who weakly lengthy birdie putt at 15.

[00:42:43.600]>>We've had it to 6 under.

[00:42:46.229]>>Only 2 shots back at one point.

[00:42:49.919]>>This looks good. Yes, there you go, boo.

[00:42:55.889]>>He's put it pretty well this week.

[00:42:59.179]>>Big 3rd shot for Jamie Donaldson at 17.

[00:43:09.310]>>Yeah, pretty good.

[00:43:12.360]>>Big par putt here for Jamie Donaldson to stay at 7 under.

[00:43:19.330]>>A heck of an up-and-down for Donaldson.

[00:43:25.179]>>Boy, it seems like a long time ago, he got the clinching point, winning point for Ryder Cup 2014. Zach Johnson, 10 under par, has a three-shot lead over Jamie Donaldson and George McNeill. There is some drama down the stretch.

[00:43:44.330]>>No, Stewart Cink for birdie.

[00:43:47.340]>>Yeah, any chance to win the tournament, this is a must make.

[00:43:53.469]>>He's missed a few of those like that today in the afternoon, Bob.

[00:43:59.040]>>Well, I mean, Jeff, you did this a long time. You're a major championship winner, as Azinger, and

[00:44:05.760]>>It's hard sometimes it just.

[00:44:08.050]>>Doesn't go the way you would have planned it.

[00:44:11.020]>>Yeah, it just doesn't happen, as Paul will tell you, it doesn't happen every time you're out here. And why you gotta use me for an example?

[00:44:20.659]>>Well, look at, look at Steve Flesch. I mean, look at his day today. Yeah, seesaw battle for him emotionally up-and-down.

[00:44:29.939]>>I mean, he had it in tight at 8 and wound up missing the birdie putt that would have gotten him to within 2 of the lead.

[00:44:38.020]>>Birdies at 10 and 11, bogey at 13, bogey at 15, birdie at 16.

[00:44:46.239]>>This is a good angle.

[00:44:50.000]>>Is to open up a 4-shot lead with 2 to go.

[00:45:08.699]>>Be a two hole coronation if he makes this one.

[00:45:15.030]>>There it is, birdie for Zach Johnson. He gets to 11 under and now leads by 4 with 2 to go.

[00:45:29.810]>>Stewart Cink at 17, Jeff Sluman.

[00:45:33.330]>>Yep, 3 wood left himself 90 yards.

[00:45:38.330]>>Been there, did a beautiful job with that 168 ft just past the hole.

[00:46:15.189]>>How?

[00:46:18.060]>>that

[00:46:22.280]>>So you're saying there's a chance, right? He's got a birdie 18, you never know.

[00:46:28.770]>>A sink at 7 under.

[00:46:35.370]>>Final group on the green at 17. Steve Allan has this putt for birdie.

[00:46:41.280]>>Move into a share of 2nd, and that just dries up.

[00:46:45.969]>>On him, he has had his share of chances today, no question.

[00:46:51.989]>>He takes it all with a grain of salt. Just thrilled to be here, Steven Allan, you know, 3 big wins last year came from kind of virtual obscurity, really.

[00:47:04.080]>>So now the game within the game, the tournament within the tournament. McNeil to stay at 7 under.

[00:47:12.429]>>And in a tie for 2nd.

[00:47:15.290]>>Yeah, one of the biggest putts he's faced in a long, long time right here. This will go a long way.

[00:47:21.449]>>Have to mistake off the tee missing the fairway with an iron.

[00:47:24.939]>>Misjudging his 2nd.

[00:47:27.699]>>Pretty good bunker shot to hear.

[00:47:30.760]>>Oh yeah, to make a putt. It was time to make a putt. Oh, I was waiting for a fist pump. It was half-hearted, but I'll take it. That was nice. What a save. And look at that scorecard. That's pretty clean, I would say.

[00:47:42.669]>>Nothing exciting has happened.

[00:47:45.389]>>Except for that moment

[00:47:51.330]>>Going for an exclamation point here for Zach if he can get this one.

[00:48:04.899]>>Well, it's all right. Get his exclamation point on the 18th green instead.

[00:48:11.580]>>He is definitely going to win this tournament. And, you know, he's thought about this for a long time. I think Zach started counting his age at 47.5 and half increments.

[00:48:23.060]>>Anticipating his arrival here, and he showed up very ready to go, Bob.

[00:48:30.129]>>This really shouldn't be any issue for Stuart.

[00:48:37.949]>>Great save for Stewart, hanging on to a share of 2nd. He shoots 70 today.

[00:48:47.429]>>And this is a huge putt for George McNeill. This would guarantee him.

[00:48:53.169]>>A tie for 2nd.

[00:49:02.310]>>As opposed to a six-way tie.

[00:49:05.580]>>For 4th, plus, it would earn him a spot in the Cologuard Classic. It's at least \$80,000 putt here for George McNeill and be there, and he's got it, man, you know, guts of a burglar to be able to make that putt, and that will get him in.

[00:49:23.419]>>So what a day, saved the best for last. Steve Allan to remain in that tie for 4th.

[00:49:30.429]>>As he shoots a 73 today and finishes at 6 under. Well, it was.

[00:49:38.280]>>10 years, 7 months ago that Zach Johnson won.

[00:49:41.729]>>His last PGA TOUR event, The Open Championship at Saint Andrews, in his PGA TOUR Champions debut.

[00:49:51.139]>>He's got

[00:49:53.229]>>This putt here to finish it off and become the 22nd winner.

[00:49:58.320]>>In the PGA TOUR champion's history of winning his debut, par for Johnson to finish it up.

[00:50:07.639]>>And in style, Zach Johnson.

[00:50:11.770]>>Has won the James Hardie Pro Football Hall of Fame invitational and wins his debut on the PGA TOUR Champions at 50 years, 12 days old. He becomes the 3rd youngest winner in PGA TOUR Champions history.

[00:50:29.699]>>Yep, he got his exclamation point on 18 green and, uh, the new chapter begins. That's a happy family. We take a look at the shots of the tournament presented by James Hardie and Paul Azinger, you know, after a birdie at 4, he has to make this Putt to save Park. Because remember, he had bogeyed 3, birdied 4, and this was huge for him. It sure was. It turns out really.

[00:50:56.360]>>The final Sunday here that Zach was the only guy that was really making putts, and then he didn't make birdie at the gettable 10th and has to make this par putt at 11th. Yeah, the par putts are huge for Zach. He only had two really dicey moments.

[00:51:11.949]>>And at the par 3 12th. Yeah, this was a tremendous birdie.

[00:51:17.870]>>But no one else really made the putts. This was Zach Johnson's day.

[00:51:23.689]>>Winning never gets old. He hasn't experienced it in a while, and, uh, he, well, he was ready to go this week.

[00:51:29.919]>>The 22nd player to win in his PGA TOUR Champions debut and the 24th player to win on the Korn Ferry Tour, the PGA TOUR, and now the PGA TOUR champion. So that means longevity.

[00:51:45.199]>>And a game that's been fine-tuned at a high level as he wins by 4 shots over Stewart Cink and George McNeill. Well, he finished 1st in greens in regulation. He finished 1st in scrambling, and he finished 1st in driving accuracy, all leading to a blowout.