

Production transcript for **26INTCUTCH - PURE INSURANCE - MASTER**

[00:00:40.940]>>Just a gorgeous Friday afternoon along the Monterey Peninsula. Where else would you rather be than hanging with us for the next few hours?

[00:00:50.530]>>First round coverage of the PURE Insurance Championship impacting First Tee coming your way from famed Pebble Beach Golf Links.

[00:01:06.860]>>PGA TOUR Champions proudly present the year-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup.

[00:01:15.790]>>And today from Pebble Beach, California, it's first round coverage of the PURE Insurance Championship.

[00:01:21.840]>>The 23rd year of this truly special event that has carved out a unique identity on the PGA TOUR Champions landscape unlike any other tournament. 80 professionals here this week alongside 80 remarkable boys and girls representing 50.

[00:01:37.650]>>Two First Tee chapters around the country showcasing their considerable golf skills, yes, but also their even more impressive character traits. Really fun 3 days in store for you here with a unique format, the competition.

[00:01:53.910]>>Here's how it works. We will lay it out for you here to start our first round coverage. They'll play Pebble Beach and Spyglass each of the 1st 2 days. The 80 pros from the Champions Tour along with the First Tee kids and 82 player amateur teams competing as well. Low 50 professionals and ties will make the cut and return to Pebble Beach on Sunday, along with 24 pro junior teams and 2 or 10 rather, two-player amateur teams.

[00:02:24.120]>>Good to have your company. I'm John Swantek. Great to be alongside Paul Ezinger, the PGA TOUR Champions here at Pebble Pack in '91.

[00:02:32.440]>>John Cook and Jeff Sluman collected 5 professional victories on these hallowed grounds and we'll throw in the 75 California State amateur for Cookie as well.

[00:02:42.350]>>Ernie Els with a hot start to his round, looking for a 2 at 7.

[00:02:49.250]>>Great day for scoring. The sun is out. You could have a rock skipping competition on the Pacific Ocean right behind you.

[00:02:59.010]>>Mr. Kelly, looking to pop this one in for birdie.

[00:03:02.360]>>That's his caddie Eric, and, you know.

[00:03:04.770]>>The wind is picking up a little bit, it looks like.

[00:03:08.000]>>A good solid stroke for Jerry Kelly. He won a couple of weeks back.

[00:03:13.380]>>Think pretty straight, left center if anything.

[00:03:16.690]>>First birdie of the round for Jerry.

[00:03:19.970]>>Update you on some scores here as we just unfold our first round coverage. What a day it was for Y.E. Yang, a little 64 at Pebble Beach.

[00:03:30.800]>>Quick start for Ernie, who birdied 5 of his opening 6 today.

[00:03:35.450]>>Steven Alker won the Rogers Charity Classic in Calgary, then he won the Allied Challenge in Michigan, then went down to New Zealand in his homeland and won. So he's scorching hot coming into the week.

[00:03:49.000]>>Let's go to the 8th. Freddy Couples trying to salvage par here.

[00:03:54.610]>>Right

[00:03:56.170]>>That's salvage an attitude as well as a par. Go away from the water to 7. Birdies for Preston Flores and Jerry Kelly.

[00:04:12.750]>>Here comes a birdie putt for Ernie Els at the 8th.

[00:04:21.140]>>Che

[00:04:22.720]>>Didn't hit it, he said.

[00:04:24.650]>>It was gonna be on the high side anyway, but what a good easy par for Ernie.

[00:04:32.010]>>4 quick birdies right out of the blocks for Ernie today and added another at the 6th. Well, the 1st 7 holes at Pebble Beach are considered pretty easy, and then from 8.

[00:04:42.570]>>Through about, well, not until really the 15th hole do you have any kind of breather.

[00:04:51.650]>>Let's, uh, duck back into the 10th here. Couples for birdie.

[00:05:02.630]>>Are you surprised singer Fred Couples never won at Pebble Beach on his PGA TOUR career or since turning 50? Well, a little bit, but they were 6-hour rounds, so he might have not been all that patient about that. That's fair. That's fair. Yeah, I'm, I'm surprised Freddie didn't win 100 times. I mean, just one of the greatest ball strikers. Didn't always, you know, hit it perfectly straight, but he never missed the sweet spots like Tom Watson.

[00:05:27.550]>>All right, Cookie, back on the tee with Zach Johnson, 2 under par round working.

[00:05:31.830]>>Straight downwind today, which is very unusual, usually in out of the right. I would maybe venture to guess this would be less than driver for Zach.

[00:05:42.920]>>Get it past the bunker on the left and it's about 265 and it will take off and there it goes.

[00:05:54.090]>>Kelly's par put up ahead here on the green.

[00:05:58.630]>>In she goes for the

[00:06:00.780]>>Senior British Open champion at Gleneagles back in July.

[00:06:09.100]>>Ernie coming out of the bunker at 10, Jeff.

[00:06:14.370]>>151 yards, good looking shot.

[00:06:18.430]>>show.

[00:06:21.940]>>That's an adequate shot there.

[00:06:26.180]>>Birdie putt on its way for Ells at 10.

[00:06:32.020]>>And we slow down.

[00:06:34.810]>>Got away from Ernie here at 10 a little bit.

[00:06:40.360]>>Up 1 to the 11th, 1 Hall of Famer to another.

[00:06:47.170]>>Yeah

[00:06:48.260]>>Oh, the left to right king, Fred Couples. He makes a lot of left to right putts.

[00:06:54.500]>>Zach, pretty much a lock for Rookie of the Year. I'm gonna go out on a limb and say that.

[00:07:02.280]>>Winningest rookies in Champions Tour history, by the way. 3 guys have won 7 times. Bruce Fleischer, Bruce Crampton, Lee Trevino. So Zach would need to nab a couple more to join that group.

[00:07:15.440]>>Well, that's a nice little nugget. I, I didn't know that 7 was the most in a single season on this tour for a rookie, yeah, for a, for a rookie. Yeah, Flesch. I just loved when he came out. He's dearly departed, the late great, good solid putt there for Zach.

[00:07:32.270]>>And a good solid 9 holes right out of the gate.

[00:07:36.920]>>Up at 12.

[00:07:40.740]>>There's another par save for couples to keep it in the red.

[00:07:44.490]>>Oh Freddie, rolling the rock today.

[00:07:50.640]>>Here's Steve for Birdie at 17.

[00:07:56.640]>>Come on.

[00:07:58.580]>>Oh no, it looks so good the whole way.

[00:08:04.300]>>His partner Will Ketterer said he gave him a putting tip, but he didn't reveal what it was, sadly for all of us.

[00:08:10.940]>>Back down to 17 with Ben Crane, birdied the final hole on Sunday last week. Zach Johnson followed him in with another to win.

[00:08:20.520]>>Yeah, a nice bit of drama. Real good chance for Ben Crane to get back in the mix, you know, and get a feel for what it takes to win. And, uh, his good buddy Zach picked his pocket with that putt there to close him out. Rookie season out here for Ben.

[00:08:37.820]>>And what we saw last week, Singer among many things, he is long, this guy.

[00:08:46.650]>>Freddie up at 14 for Birdie.

[00:08:50.220]>>Immelman, Fergus Dale.

[00:08:52.190]>>Mhm

[00:08:55.100]>>You called him the left to right king earlier. Zingy. I almost slid another one in there. Yep, that was one of his specialties there. lobbed it down perfect speed.

[00:09:14.540]>>Zach Johnson looked like he's gonna pick one up here at 14. It sure does. Another terrific wedge shot for Zach and he just finishes it off. No problem.

[00:09:26.650]>>Ko birdie holes left for him.

[00:09:30.030]>>Sacked to 3 under, good for a share of 5th right now.

[00:09:34.900]>>We're back at 15 here and Jerry Kelly looking to dip in the red numbers.

[00:09:41.640]>>That is just classic Jerry Kelly. He nearly beat that ball to the hole. Oh, he knew it was missing. Now he's gonna high tail it to the next team. I like a 50 shot just because of the lie and all in downhill lie. I like a shot. OK, I like that. I think a 50 shot does not go past the hole. 50. I love it.

[00:10:06.890]>>Well, I like this too.

[00:10:08.860]>>145 hole wind is in a little brisk out here. Ball not gonna go very far. He's gonna try to cut up a little 8 iron. I love this play. Anything up against that right bunker should kick left.

[00:10:24.400]>>Something just like that that is so well drawn up and such a beautifully executed shot held right up against that slope. Is he gonna hit a little thing he's got, is he gonna blade? Yeah, he's got like, yeah, 3 or 4 options, but I think he's taking that 60 degree out and he's gonna blade it. The belly. He's gonna try it. He could use a hybrid. He could do anything he wants here.

[00:10:49.320]>>Well, he's one of the best, so.

[00:10:53.010]>>Uh, I don't know yet. And he, he must feel pretty good about it because he's got Rich taking the flag stick out.

[00:11:10.540]>>OK

[00:11:13.000]>>You know, that shot was kind of invented while Slew and I were on tour. Somebody along the way figured out how to belly a sand wedge.

[00:11:22.880]>>And we all learned how to do it. It was kind of like somebody learned how to putt with their 5 wood. All right, Zach, looking to get it to 4 under here.

[00:11:32.630]>>He'd rather have a 6 footer from the other side.

[00:11:36.950]>>But a 6 footer that's makeable, super quick with some big break from right to left. Have to mash the line and the speed, get it to its apex, let it catch the hole.

[00:11:53.830]>>Oh

[00:11:56.370]>>It's a gift really, you know, it's hard to lay a putt that short, that far outside the hole and just wait for it to turn, wait, wait, wait, and yeah, just the left rip is fine, yeah.

[00:12:08.710]>>To the corner of the house, the right corner of the house, yeah, that drip right there, OK, a lot of right to left, a lot of right to left, yeah.

[00:12:16.540]>>Ko

[00:12:17.790]>>No, I

[00:12:21.700]>>Zach Johnson just snatched the 3 wood from the bag here at 16.

[00:12:27.380]>>Yeah, definitely less than driver here for, uh, for Zac. 265 to the right bunker.

[00:12:35.250]>>This hole looks so different with that one tree gone.

[00:12:39.520]>>It sure does, even from the tee box back here.

[00:12:43.070]>>You want ideally you want to hug that left hand side now with that tree gone.

[00:12:50.540]>>Because then you can hold it up against the slope of the green that tilts from right to left.

[00:12:59.100]>>Get it, get out.

[00:13:01.440]>>Yeah, it's fine. Yeah, it needs to hit soft right there.

[00:13:04.850]>>With that tree gone, that's OK.

[00:13:13.500]>>Round of 64 for Y.E. Yang today, 67 for Ryan Armour.

[00:13:20.470]>>Ernie's got the 18th ahead of him, Zach Johnson.

[00:13:24.490]>>Making a late charge up the leaderboard has birdied the last couple of holes to get to -4, coming off victory 5 of the season just a week ago.

[00:13:35.810]>>In this 23rd edition of the PURE Insurance Championship benefiting First Tee here at Pebble Beach.

[00:13:44.040]>>There's Stewart Cink, also a 5-time winner, shot 71 today over at Spyglass. So we'll see Stuart at Pebble tomorrow. Yeah, we will, and it's nice to see these two competing against each other this week.

[00:14:07.570]>>Another picture perfect postcard Pebble Beach day. We have reached the weekend here in Northern California and moments away from starting our second round coverage, the 22nd event of the Champions Tour season, the 23rd edition of the PURE Insurance Championship, impacting First Tee from Pebble Beach.

[00:14:33.880]>>PGA TOUR Champions proudly present.

[00:14:37.780]>>A year-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup.

[00:14:42.430]>>And today from Pebble Beach, California, it's 2nd round coverage of the PURE Insurance Championship.

[00:14:49.460]>>The unparalleled beauty of the Monterey Peninsula and famed Pebble Beach Golf Links. For 23 years it has been the dramatic and distinctive backdrop for this

one-of a-kind event on the PGA TOUR Champions calendar, showcasing legends of the game and future stars of the game as well, representing 52 First Tee chapters around the United States. A look at the famed finishing hole here at Pebble Beach where we will crown.

[00:15:18.160]>>A few Champions come Sunday.

[00:15:22.980]>>Really unique format that's uh being employed here this week as uh everyone competes at Pebble Beach and Spyglass before heading back to Pebble exclusively for the final round. It's cut day. We will slice it to the low 50 pros and ties and 24 pro junior teams, 12 boys, 12 girls, along with 10 two-player amateur teams that will make the cut.

[00:15:47.110]>>And get to the final round. Busy day down there at Carmel Beach. Beautiful weather to start the weekend here. Great to have your company. I'm John Swantek. Always fun to be hanging with Paul Lazinger, John Cook, and Jeff Slewman on the ground.

[00:16:02.320]>>George is a very long hitter, so he's gonna take something less than driver. I, I, I, I gave it a moment's thought, but I do not. I do not.

[00:16:15.100]>>Sure has had a very good.

[00:16:17.760]>>A couple of months breaking into the PGA TOUR Champions.

[00:16:27.680]>>Absolutely perfect for George O'Neill.

[00:16:31.060]>>Yeah, the most consistent player this year, Swany, without a win. He's 7th in the Charles Schwab Cup standings.

[00:16:41.920]>>Up 1 to the 7th, Steven Alker won his last 2 Champions Tour events we saw him in.

[00:16:50.040]>>Look out. He's something else, you know, he's like, where did he come from? He's been here a while on this tour now, but man, he hits shots like that a lot. Alker, the winner in Calgary, and then it's, uh, Warwick Hills in Michigan as well. Then he went down to his homeland and won in New Zealand. So red hot form for Alker.

[00:17:18.230]>>Birdie at the 6th for Stewart Cink pushes him to -4. Nice start for the Schwab Cup points later through the opening 3rd of the round.

[00:17:29.430]>>Just a short one for the Alker birdie at 7.

[00:17:34.700]>>Yeah, here he comes.

[00:17:38.150]>>Look at that clean car. Now the course starts to get pretty difficult though, John. It's, uh, you know, 89, 10.

[00:17:45.320]>>That is really the meat of this golf course.

[00:17:56.380]>>He just keeps hitting good shot after good shot, controls his distance as well as anyone out here.

[00:18:08.580]>>It's been a winner everywhere, singer of the European Challenge Tour when he first

[00:18:13.340]>>Cut his teeth in the professional game, Southern Africa Tour, 14 wins on the DP World Tour, 6 on the PGA TOUR, including the players in the Open at Troon in that epic battle with Mickelson 2016.

[00:18:28.460]>>Well, there were some standout ball strikers in my broadcasting career through the years and playing career. This is one of the all-time standouts, you know, if you're on the range, you can hear him over there hitting iron shots.

[00:18:50.490]>>Stewart Cink trying to have an impact on this tournament. That'll help birdie at 13. Yeah, he could use that, especially after the double at 12. 12's 1 of the dangerous holes that you have to get by.

[00:19:03.520]>>Kirk Triplett looking to birdie for the final 5 here today.

[00:19:10.600]>>Why not, Kirk? Why not? What a round. 67 for Kirk Triplett, 3 times a champion here at Pebble Beach. Every putt we've seen from here has missed a little bit left, every single one.

[00:19:29.510]>>Not that one. No, that's great.

[00:19:34.660]>>Absolutely great. That's the only one really that's gone in that we've seen anyway.

[00:19:39.720]>>And now just one shot off the lead, one of the scariest players in the field, probably.

[00:19:47.880]>>When you won here in '91, it was a four-shot win, so you didn't have too much stress coming down 18. Well, I laid up, I birdied 17, laid up on 18, and just kind of, you're right, enjoyed the walk.

[00:20:01.460]>>Justin Leonard pops that one in.

[00:20:04.090]>>69 in the second round. That's what the Texan will sign for.

[00:20:11.620]>>Up the slope for a birdie at 15 to get sunk to 2 under. He's gonna really have to run the tables to have a chance to win now, and that's not running the tables.

[00:20:22.820]>>Not often, this man has not been a, a factor in the outcome or at least been in the hunt this season, and he's well off the pace. Birdie putt for Alker 16.

[00:20:34.050]>>He's got to play this way to the right. If you miss this left, it, it doesn't stop.

[00:20:41.210]>>Looks like a nice casual 4 for Steven Alker there.

[00:20:46.710]>>Just 1 bogey odd of the day for Alker and it came back at 15 and he stands just 1 off the lead.

[00:20:56.080]>>Well, it's gonna have Henrik crack at it here, yeah, he is. He's got that, that 3 wood that he can just absolutely.

[00:21:03.870]>>Paced 253 front, 270 to the hole.

[00:21:13.350]>>I'm trying to keep it up the right side if you can.

[00:21:18.820]>>Cover the

[00:21:20.930]>>Excellent shot. Boy, Slew said it at the start of the show. Maybe one of the greatest 3 wood players of all time, certainly.

[00:21:32.000]>>Not this time though. Solid par for Alker keeps him at 7 under.

[00:21:39.150]>>Par 5 18th to come.

[00:21:43.450]>>Final few groups up on the golf course here at Pebble Beach. Steven Alker is back on the tee. Henrik Stenson is ready to play his 3rd at 18.

[00:21:54.210]>>Just missed threading the needle and getting it on the green. Uphill lie, good lie has to send it well out, well out to the right. Oh, beautiful, beautiful. Yeah, those are hard shots, Cookie, you know that. That's gonna be a possible birdie there to tie the lead for Henrik Stenson, 3rd or 4th event back here on the champs Tour. Back on the tee with Aler.

[00:22:18.680]>>Yeah, aggressive play with the driver maybe because it's into the wind and a lot colder but it looks perfect again.

[00:22:27.750]>>Yes, it is.

[00:22:31.660]>>Stenson looking to Birdie the last for a 500 par out of 67 and grab a share of the lead.

[00:22:41.590]>>You've got to be a little careful with this one. It does go towards the water, so it's got some speed.

[00:22:47.130]>>Get it outside that right edge and just kind of let that right lip catch the ball. Yeah, it's such a short little putt. You, you don't think much of it, but man, when you're over it, especially here.

[00:23:00.690]>>OK, beautiful round from Stenson. Maybe the best he's played since joining the Champions Tour. Yep, that's the Terminator there now here at a big time championship golf course. He would love to win at Pebble Beach tomorrow.

[00:23:16.340]>>On the last hole I felt like that. Well, we know it's an 8 iron at hand. We're just not sure what kind of 8 iron shot we're gonna hit here. He's probably got a variety of speeds he can apply to this shot, you know, that 8 iron probably covers 25 yards for Stewart Cink. Every club in his back.

[00:23:35.490]>>I want you to be committed to it before you hit it down this.

[00:23:39.640]>>I don't think this goes more than 67. Stop. OK, just hit it right at it.

[00:23:45.850]>>Good, good.

[00:23:47.610]>>You know, a few of these top players really do rely on their caddies. And, you know, Zach and Brian Smith, they take their time before they hit and a lot of conversation.

[00:23:57.720]>>And Stuart

[00:23:59.170]>>His caddie are the exact same way.

[00:24:06.260]>>Definitely a team game if you try to take down some of these players.

[00:24:12.450]>>Some of these caddies, I mean they all listen to their caddies, but

[00:24:16.280]>>Some of these guys really have to put in the work.

[00:24:26.730]>>Well, yeah, good shot, Stuart.

[00:24:30.320]>>You know, measured it out, dialed it in.

[00:24:33.760]>>Up to 18 and Alker needs to shoot this one low, Jeff.

[00:24:37.830]>>Yeah, it looks like he's set up for a low punch cut.

[00:24:42.930]>>And he's executed it perfectly.

[00:24:50.990]>>Well, this guy's really turned it on here lately.

[00:24:55.120]>>That's for sure.

[00:24:57.800]>>And this week, no different. Swanny, we have Birdie at the 5th there, 2nd of the day, 3 wins in a row.

[00:25:07.490]>>A win in New Zealand and we were kind of wondering like when is Alker gonna heat up? Is there something going on? And uh well we got our answer. This was the beautiful tee shot down the hill at 7. Yeah, this was really close. Had a chance to go in right online, you know, he said in Michigan a few weeks back, uh, going for a 2nd straight win that he found something in the swing the week before and you know, when a player says that I usually believe him.

[00:25:36.410]>>And uh then he's backing it up. Great shot there at 11, you know, he's just pin high master all week long.

[00:25:46.150]>>32 on the front side and

[00:25:49.480]>>Third shot coming up at 18 for Alker. No one has touched 9 under. Stenson birdied the last for 67, so.

[00:25:57.860]>>Al Kirk, if he can make 4, would join the three others on that mark. Kirk Triplett with a 67, and he's very much in the picture here trying to win this event for the 4th time.

[00:26:22.540]>>It has been another simply amazing week at Pebble Beach featuring the legends of the Champions Tour and future stars of the game, the boys and girls from First Tee chapters all around the country, and we have reached championship Sunday. Final round coverage here on Golf Channel coming up next.

[00:26:46.620]>>PGA TOUR Champions.

[00:26:49.310]>>Proudly present the year-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup.

[00:26:55.440]>>And today from Pebble Beach, California, it's live final round coverage of the PURE Insurance Championship.

[00:27:03.510]>>23rd edition of this event, 51 professionals have made it to the final day along with 24 pretty remarkable boys and girls from 52 First Tee chapters around the country. So much to play for later today. We will crown 3 Champions later on this evening.

[00:27:24.210]>>Another really nice weather day. Mother Nature has been highly cooperative all week long here along the Monterey Peninsula, and we've got some really compelling storylines bubbling right now, including Zach Johnson's bid to win for a 2nd straight week and for the 6th time in this monster rookie season, Henrik.

[00:27:42.970]>>Stenson, Rory Sabbatini, Ryan Armour, all at 10 under. They're trying to push through and win for the very first time on the Champions Tour.

[00:27:53.340]>>So good to have your company. I'm John Swantek. It's been really fun hanging with Paul Lazinger, John Cook, and Jeff Sluman this week. Three guys who understand what it feels like to win at Pebble Beach. 7 combined victories for Paul and Cookie and Slew here on these hallowed grounds through the years.

[00:28:11.160]>>Well, thanks for mentioning me first, and I only got one of them.

[00:28:15.310]>>They've got the rest.

[00:28:18.100]>>Steven Alker 8 under, 2 off the lead. He's at the 9th.

[00:28:27.120]>>Yes sir.

[00:28:31.630]>>I don't think I can leave this short. Do you agree? No, I think it's just gonna sprinkle on and

[00:28:39.910]>>Great microphone work.

[00:28:42.550]>>He just said, I don't think I can leave it short.

[00:28:46.990]>>You could if you if you didn't get it out of that little tall grass there, you could do it, but

[00:28:52.800]>>Just has to creep it through that. It will get there. There it goes.

[00:28:58.120]>>Pretty good. It was really delicate.

[00:29:01.620]>>Rory Sabbatini has found it very much to his liking. Best round of the day, 7 under through 13. No kidding, that is some good scoring here, really tiny greens here, probably the smallest of, you know, really any professional site.

[00:29:19.470]>>So it's Sabbatini looking to get it to 11 and grab the lead here.

[00:29:27.730]>>Sabo can really putt when he gets hot.

[00:29:33.940]>>He's one of those guys. He's one of those guys.

[00:29:36.160]>>He definitely sees everything, you know, you don't want to be bothering him when he's on a roll.

[00:29:43.850]>>A couple of 3rd place finishes in his rookie season, including the senior players at Firestone. He's 28th in the Schwabb Cup points race.

[00:29:54.180]>>Oh, here he goes. Look at this round of golf. He has a chance to post way out ahead of the leaders.

[00:30:05.940]>>After the bogey back at 7, Zach Johnson just gonna take care of this one.

[00:30:14.040]>>Yeah, to avoid two bogeys in a row, but this is just a couple of feet, but he will go through his whole routine very consistent with that way.

[00:30:25.660]>>If he lands it in the middle, it's going over.

[00:30:34.440]>>Because they have it on a really nice line right of the flag.

[00:30:42.030]>>First ball I've seen stay on, so good shot by Armor.

[00:30:47.070]>>Chicago

[00:30:50.800]>>Beware, Steven Alker. He's always hanging around. He's won his last two Champions Tour events that he's played in.

[00:31:00.080]>>That one slides by at the 9th.

[00:31:04.100]>>Well, I'll tell you what, it's pretty bold going at this flag from this lye on this angle.

[00:31:09.590]>>He's gonna have to fly at 180 to clear that bunker. It is downhill quite a, quite a bit.

[00:31:16.600]>>He's gonna have to smash it.

[00:31:22.190]>>Oh, he does. What a shot. Are you kidding me?

[00:31:28.830]>>That's so good. That's pretty great. I'd have shot that out to the right 100 times in a row, Paul. He can take dead aim here, and I'm sure he will. John, yesterday, he's the only one that looked purposely aimed at left of the green and had and played the kick right.

[00:31:45.140]>>Uh, he tried it again, but he didn't get enough of it.

[00:31:51.940]>>Does have a piece of the green, it's gonna be a very complicated putt, however. Here's the leader, Sabbatini, he's up at 15.

[00:32:01.680]>>He's got a chem trail behind him. He's off like a rocket ship.

[00:32:06.260]>>Crazy score today. Look at this guy's control from the rough.

[00:32:11.250]>>I've always admired his ability around the greens.

[00:32:28.430]>>Kind of saw that coming, didn't we? I think uh.

[00:32:32.740]>>He knew it. Up at 1517 for Birdie number 9 of the round.

[00:32:40.100]>>Very streaky player. He can go on some torrid runs and evidence of it today.

[00:32:46.030]>>Just a par there.

[00:32:48.190]>>To remain at 11 under.

[00:32:56.900]>>2nd into the 10 for Alker.

[00:33:03.950]>>Oh, Alker

[00:33:07.830]>>That front pin's a little trickier here at 10.

[00:33:26.520]>>Zack with a good opportunity here, hit a beautiful shot out of that left rough. Really quick though.

[00:33:33.610]>>For a share of the lead at 11 under.

[00:33:37.460]>>Bingo. Johnson out in 32.

[00:33:42.070]>>So impressive.

[00:33:46.200]>>Hold on. 65 is his lowest round on the Champions Tour in his rookie season out here.

[00:33:51.730]>>This is a guy who shot 62 on the PGA TOUR a handful of times.

[00:33:57.740]>>Well, he's making sure that everybody is dead, stopped.

[00:34:02.360]>>And this is his big chance trying to get his first win is to get the 9 under on the day.

[00:34:09.020]>>I come back

[00:34:13.680]>>And Sabbatini buries another one.

[00:34:17.530]>>9th birdie of the round, he's at 12 under with the par 3, 17th to come, and he's got the lead.

[00:34:24.090]>>2nd on the way for Svensson.

[00:34:28.640]>>Beautiful tee shot, 96 front, 110 to the hole. It's on a nice line.

[00:34:35.490]>>Oh boy, was it ever?

[00:34:38.450]>>That's one of those we like those. That's, I'll finish. Let me get out of the way. That's gonna get Stinson to 10 under. Alker is 4 off the lead at the 11th.

[00:34:48.730]>>Yeah

[00:34:52.420]>>Well, he takes dead aim, doesn't he? Every single time he's gonna have to go on a mad rush now if he wants to win.

[00:34:59.250]>>Johnson looking to follow Stenson in here at 10.

[00:35:02.710]>>From 2 yards closer from the same line 108.

[00:35:07.240]>>Good line, but it might need to get down a little.

[00:35:13.090]>>Birdie putt for Zach Johnson to join the lead.

[00:35:17.660]>>Well, normally this would go towards the water, but there's just enough pitch on the right side of this green that'll keep it straight.

[00:35:25.220]>>He looked completely flummoxed by that one.

[00:35:37.480]>>So a par at the 10th for Zach Johnson stays 1 off the lead.

[00:35:43.020]>>Closing in on the winningest rookies in Champions Tour history, The Flash in '99. Lee Buck back in 1990 and Bruce Crampton in 1986 all won seven times in their freshman season.

[00:36:02.720]>>You gotta pick out a spot up there because you cannot see the fairway. You can go a little more left than you than you think. It also opens up the green if you go kind of hug the left-hand side, but the tee points you straight to the right.

[00:36:19.560]>>That's up the left hand side and perfect. Yeah, the typical architectural trick where they aim the tee one way and set the fairway off to the side a little bit. Good chance for Alker here at 11 to get one closer to the lead. This is just one of those tricky ones. Oh yes, see how soft that went in. That's the only way to hit it.

[00:36:45.780]>>Driver out for Zach Johnson here.

[00:36:50.680]>>You're trying to press it up as close to the green as you can, but make sure you can put it in the fairway. Your miss here is to the left.

[00:36:59.090]>>Penge is in the front left.

[00:37:05.340]>>I

[00:37:08.150]>>That's fine. Yeah.

[00:37:14.450]>>All right, saying here's the leader at 17 playing 185 today.

[00:37:28.800]>>He's a player who sees and hears a lot out there. Things are very tense right now, late in the day.

[00:37:48.750]>>Oh, turn and go, turn and go.

[00:37:52.130]>>Ah

[00:37:54.100]>>Guarantee you Zach knows that little false front's there.

[00:38:00.630]>>Yeah, he knows he's got to go in there low, kind of skip it up there from 108.

[00:38:07.080]>>Just relentless with that wedge. It is just something to behold now it's becoming iconic.

[00:38:16.030]>>Alker trying to save his par 12.

[00:38:21.030]>>And does you have Marvel that has 54 hole mentality, Zinger as you call it. He's so patient.

[00:38:29.460]>>He'll go back right back into his routine too, Paul. He, he will not just get up and quick hit this. He'll go right into his routine.

[00:38:37.800]>>Couple of little practice strokes.

[00:38:48.260]>>Just be a heck of a birdie.

[00:38:55.880]>>He had a pretty good opportunity back there at 10 after birdie in 9 and the man who wedged his way to the green jacket back in '07. He's back at 12 under. Sabbatini did make a short putt for par at 17 a little bit earlier.

[00:39:12.670]>>And here's armor for Birdie back at the 10th.

[00:39:18.210]>>Ryan Armour drops one in. He's a 10 under back within 2.

[00:39:24.080]>>This is a big one at the 12, 208 today. 208 into the breeze, does play downhill 8 yards. This is a 5 iron well struck just right of the hole.

[00:39:36.780]>>Oh, that's just blistered right on the button.

[00:39:41.220]>>Man, what a good feeling to put it on the 12th green.

[00:39:45.050]>>Up to 18, 3rd shot for the co-leader.

[00:39:48.660]>>Yeah, straight into the wind, 100 yards. He's got to fly it just past the hole. He should be able to spin it back if it's executed correctly.

[00:39:57.850]>>All right, this is to get to 13 under.

[00:40:01.290]>>He's got to be careful with this. This has got some.

[00:40:03.690]>>Good right to left brake and it goes towards the water, so it's a little quicker than you think.

[00:40:22.360]>>Jeez

[00:40:25.350]>>Yeah, didn't play enough break is what you may have heard him say. That was never high enough.

[00:40:31.580]>>Well, regardless of whether this goes in or not, it will be the career low round on the Champions Tour for Rory Sabbatini. Will it be a 62, this to post 13 under?

[00:40:44.450]>>I don't think we should be surprised if he does make this though.

[00:40:49.050]>>Got a good little teach off of the other.

[00:40:52.470]>>Two players before him.

[00:41:01.490]>>Oh

[00:41:05.060]>>Oh, too hard, Jeff.

[00:41:08.640]>>He's got a little work coming back when we return to 18. Here's Armor back at 11 for his birdie.

[00:41:15.460]>>That's the same thing as Svensson right in the chops.

[00:41:23.030]>>As Cookie said earlier, maybe the slowest putt on the entire golf course.

[00:41:31.020]>>Here's Alker trying to get it to 10 under at the 13th.

[00:41:38.350]>>Why not? Always a factor, always a force. Third birdie of the round for Alker, the two-time Charles Schwab Cup champion. Comebacker here's Inger for Sabbatini

at 18. Takes care of that one. Beautiful round, not a drop shot on the card, 9 under par, 63. He's never gone lower in his rookie season out here. Will 12 under hold up?

[00:42:04.970]>>Michael Wright is at 14. Little slider down the hill. Could do it. Yes. All right, the Aussie shakes one in there, so he's at 8 under.

[00:42:17.090]>>4 to play. Sabbatini in at 12 under after the low round of the week, 63 on the final day, but Zach Johnson still has 6 holes ahead of him.

[00:42:37.970]>>All right, back with Zach Johnson.

[00:42:41.830]>>Up the slope into the grain might move a little left at the end. How about that? That is a little exclamation point.

[00:42:53.240]>>By Zac, just saying, hey, I'm, I'm gonna birdie 9 and I'm gonna birdie 13.

[00:43:00.380]>>Yes

[00:43:01.480]>>Alker is ahead of Zach Johnson and Stenson here at 14, looking to move it to 11 under.

[00:43:09.770]>>Good stroke. Ball left right on his path.

[00:43:13.150]>>And, oh my goodness, Steven, so close.

[00:43:18.790]>>Feeling flat doesn't really have to worry about speed, you know, John, I just, you know, the feeling he had coming off that last green making that great putt. He must feel, can't imagine he feels anything but great over this.

[00:43:33.600]>>Oh, not gonna happen.

[00:43:39.230]>>So a momentary reprieve for the Chasers, just par for Johnson here at the par 5.

[00:43:46.940]>>Elkert back at 16, probably needs to run the tables from here to the house. Yeah, he definitely needs to do that, I would think.

[00:44:02.140]>>There's one.

[00:44:07.760]>>180 shot. Love it. OK.

[00:44:15.960]>>Some real confirmation before Zach hits this important shot, John.

[00:44:20.790]>>Absolutely, and the 185 is the number they think it's playing downhill a couple of yards. Wind is out of the right.

[00:44:29.800]>>It's an actual 171 clears the bunker, but they're playing it as 168, which I agree with. This is a 6 iron. Does not need to move this from right to left. Going to try to hold it up a little bit. Good strike, slightly left of the flag, but on the green, that is really well done. Simon Le Pure is what you call that one.

[00:44:56.750]>>And there's that little glitch move in and out, just something.

[00:45:02.670]>>Something he's got to get it all just right.

[00:45:07.670]>>Takes great concentration.

[00:45:14.780]>>Just remembers all his keys. That one bounced right off the putter.

[00:45:22.790]>>Little shake of the head from, uh, Zach Johnson took a very safe line with that one, understandably so.

[00:45:30.380]>>Back to 16, armor for Birdie.

[00:45:33.930]>>Yeah, this is a really fast putt right to left. He's got to hit it perfect to have any chance of making it.

[00:45:41.040]>>What a great putt. Yeah, nice bounce bounce back.

[00:45:55.470]>>Really productive week for Henrik, not gonna leave town with the title, but, uh, serving notice that he's gonna be a force out here, just kind of getting his feet under him in his early starts since turning 50.

[00:46:06.950]>>He is totally committed to this.

[00:46:12.560]>>Awesome.

[00:46:14.280]>>Well, it's left of those trees. Oh man, what a, now you talk about a pretty aggressive, but oh.

[00:46:23.020]>>That was the decision and that was the execution of a guy who was trailing by one, not the leader.

[00:46:30.670]>>Alker makes birdie at 18.

[00:46:34.080]>>Fabulous form that Steven's been in. Not gonna be a third straight victory though, but a 67 to cap the week. Well, I'll tell you what, we're giving it to Zach.

[00:46:43.920]>>You know, and Zach's out there grinding in his brain like crazy trying to get to the house. We feel like.

[00:46:51.510]>>He can't lose it, but he's got to get it done still. 2 more good shots.

[00:46:57.430]>>Maybe just one big full shot for Zac after that tee shot, he might be able to reach.

[00:47:03.950]>>Correct.

[00:47:04.980]>>Pedal to the floor down the 18th for Zach Johnson. What do you like? I like this.

[00:47:11.330]>>I like just hitting your shot. You can start it at the pure. I like just hitting your shot. I like hitting your shot. I like it, OK.

[00:47:19.950]>>Boy, he's locked in.

[00:47:23.780]>>225 hole playing into the wind.

[00:47:27.590]>>Slightly out of the right.

[00:47:30.710]>>This

[00:47:36.010]>>The only thing he doesn't want to do is miss a left, but this is left, but not that far left. Oh, what a shot.

[00:47:44.780]>>No, he's been the coolest under pressure all day, I think. Well, I mean they're clapping, so I'm guessing it is all day and all season. I was looking forward to land just short.

[00:47:55.200]>>He took the lead early in the day, got a taste of it, and once he got out front.

[00:48:01.910]>>He just hasn't made a single mistake. Had a bogey early in his round. I think it's on the camera tower.

[00:48:10.030]>>The victory last week in Sioux Falls. Stewart was a million dollars ahead of him. Zach cut into that.

[00:48:16.330]>>And he's about to do the same here.

[00:48:22.420]>>Big breaker from left to right, and once it starts going to the right, it'll pick up a little bit of speed.

[00:48:31.100]>>You really want to leave this.

[00:48:34.130]>>Underneath the hole into the we'll be putting back up the hill.

[00:48:47.510]>>Should move to the right a little bit more. It needs to go a little.

[00:48:53.360]>>Pamplung

[00:48:54.740]>>I'm sure he's glad he had 3 putts because this, this is a little tickler right here. Better believe it is. This is, yes it is.

[00:49:07.990]>>You know, Jack, Zach came up big today when he needed to. And a couple of those, certainly every tee shot today was just incredible.

[00:49:17.430]>>It's been a while, I would think, Zinger, that Henrik Stenson has been

[00:49:20.580]>>Under the pump in the heat of trying to win a big event on a Sunday, right? Well, we sure haven't seen it in a long time, have we? He's been gone a while.

[00:49:29.160]>>And now he is back and showing us what kind of what we expect out of the Stenson style golf.

[00:49:38.520]>>Good taste of the lead today. Good taste, you know, leading, coming to the final round.

[00:49:45.490]>>Birdie at the last for Stenson.

[00:49:49.480]>>He's won a lot of golf tournaments, a lot of big ones. So great players don't forget how to play golf. They forget how to win sometimes, but the more you're in that hunt, more comfortable he'll get, and that could be a problem.

[00:50:08.140]>>And Zach Johnson just getting ready to put the finishing touches.

[00:50:15.610]>>On what has been another pure performance this week.

[00:50:36.350]>>There it is, win number 6 of the season.

[00:50:41.340]>>And it comes at Pebble Beach. Zach Johnson takes down the title at the PURE Insurance Championship.

[00:50:49.990]>>That was impressive. I have to say, very composed.

[00:50:54.940]>>And then a gutsy play up the 18th hole just

[00:50:58.980]>>Really giving himself a no doubt win. 6 wins in 15 starts for Zac.

[00:51:07.600]>>There we go.

[00:51:11.450]>>So many of the winners have come out of the final group this season, more than 80% of them, in fact, on the Champions Tour on Sunday. So this guy beat the odds in that sense. Yeah, he did. Interesting. 81% of the players in the last group have gone on to win this season on Champs Tour, and the five guys that have.

[00:51:30.690]>>That 1 from out of the pack were 3 Zack and 2 Stuart Sikk.

[00:51:37.140]>>And to think, uh, that man was offered one college golf scholarship to Drake University. He's got a green jacket, claret jug, 12 victories, headed for the World Golf Hall of Fame someday, and

[00:51:48.360]>>Not many have been better in their rookie season ever in the history of the Stewart. Well, not a lot of college coaches are great judges of talent. Maybe they missed on Zach Johnson, but, uh, Zach Johnson, uh, what a record now. What a player he is. And, uh,

he is a major force trying to run down Stewart Cink for the Charles Schwab Cup. Didn't think that was possible a few weeks ago, but now it is closing in on him. That's for sure.