

## 2025 PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS LEARNING CENTER SHOW GLFCICT25001ZH TRANSCRIPT

VO> PGA Tour Champions Learning Center. Some 2000 miles from the U.S. mainland. The PGA tour champion season got underway, and for the 18th time, it was contested at Hualalai golf course. It's the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. Hello, everyone, and welcome to our first PGA Tour Champions Learning Center. Coming to you from the spectacular big island of Hawaii, I'm Vince Cellini. For nearly three decades, this limited field event has signaled the start of the over 50 tour. So who took the big first step? Came away with a win and one of the coolest trophies in all of golf. With more on the postscript in Paradise, our man who called the action Bob Papa.

VO> Thanks, Vince. The PGA Tour Champions begins their season at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at home alive. Bob Papa, Lanny Watkins, Paul Azinger and we were given a treat in the final round. Three-time champion Miguel Angel Jimenez and said, hey, I haven't won in two years, but I want to win now. And he rolls in this birdie putt at nine.

VO> Yeah, he was off to a good start for the day, and this capped his first nine holes. Just a great birdie there at the ninth.

VO> Bernhard Langer another three-time winner started the day a couple off the lead. His tee shot at 12.

VO> This was kind of tucked this hole location if you missed right. Short sighted. No good little miss left lava no good.

VO> Then at the par five 14th Els makes this putt for birdie. That gets him to 16 under par. And as we've seen so many times Lanny Langer says not so fast.

VO> Yeah Langer was over the green put a nice pitch down to here. And both guys got it up and down for birdie for us there at 14. And then Jimenez is finishing up. Had this 20 footer at the last hole to get to 16 and hoping for the best.

VO> Yeah, we missed a couple of the putts he missed actually. Or he could have posted in and gone on to victory. But Ernie this was the putt that took the lead Lanny.

VO> Yeah it was good putt. He got his second shot in here hole high. Really well done. He drove it really nice and good putts there and there. The putter really taking hosing. Great putt here for the par save at 16.

VO> And that was a two putt save for par with Langer lurking right over his shoulder watching him. And then he just wanted to cozy this one Lanny.

VO> Yeah just hit it down the slope is his quick just so it doesn't get away from it. Let it fall on the edge. Yes. No problem. Ernie Els wins by two.

VO> Ernie Els picks up his first win here at Hualalai, his seventh win on the PGA Tour Champions and his fourth win inside of a calendar year. Langer, Jimenez and Cejka share second. Schwab Cup champion Steven Alker with a great final round as Ernie Els wins the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai.

OC/VO> I'm just so pleased to come out. Yeah, so pleased to be out. Yeah, this most beautiful place on the planet. I've loved playing in Hawaii my whole career. And it's just it's just so special. Yeah. I can't tell you. And you know what I'm talking about. It's just everybody looks after us and. Yeah, felt physically well. And, you know, just keep working and and see if we can stay ahead of Bernhard Langer.

VO> Thank you champ. With the victory, Els claims career wins on three Hawaiian Islands Maui, Oahu and now the Big Island. Langer, Jimenez and Cejka all share second place, with Kelly and defending cup champ Alker T5. And by the way, the last two winners of the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, went on to win the Charles Schwab Cup later that year. Steve Stricker in 23, Steven Alker last year. Golf is just one of many entertainment vehicles available to players and their families during their time on the Hawaiian Islands. Whether it's exploring the natural beauty everywhere or taking part in island recreation, there's really never a dull moment. So when not playing, our guys were playing. For Stewart Cink and wife Lisa, this meant taking in the show performed by the Giants of the sea. The Cinks went whale watching and were not disappointed, and they were able to observe humpback whales and spinner dolphins as well. Seeing these beautiful creatures above the surface here is something Stewart will not forget.

VO/OC> Coming out to a place like Hawaii, the big Island, any of the islands is just. We usually try to take at least one wildlife excursion, and yesterday we did a whale watch out in the ocean just by, Kailua-Kona down there. And the whales are here for, a few months here in the wintertime. They come from Alaska, and it's like a you don't get skunked. This these things are incredible. You know, when you get, to see them up there just relaxing and doing their thing, a lot of them are like, I think they've given birth to young ones and it's just so cool to experience so different.

VO> Stephen Ames has really been soaking in the island lifestyle with wife Kelly the last couple of weeks. Of course, Ames will tell you this was serious preparation work leading to the opener. And while Stephen enjoys his leisure time and relaxing, there certainly is room for the training element when not with friends and family. And reaping the rewards of a playoff victory as newcomer to the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, Tim O'Neal. The first-time winner in 2024, open the season with daughter Jaden and son Jordan soaking up all the big Island has to offer. It's not only O'Neill's first time in the event, but first time in Hawaii, all via Richmond, Virginia.

OC/VO> A lot of hard work went into it and an hour my spot and I'm here. And this this place is unbelievable. First time in Hawaii and from what I've seen on TV, it's even better. And when you're here in person for sure.

OC/VO> It's amazing. I mean, you can't really. You can't really see anything better than this. I mean, out of all of the trips I've been on, all of the tournaments, it's definitely like the best view. I don't think you can see anything better, to be honest.

OC> It means a lot, honestly, because just being there the whole entire time throughout his career and just seeing how hard that he's worked, and for him to just have a big win like that, it really means a lot.

VO> When Learning Center returns the magic of the South Pacific on full display as Doug Barron goes National Geographic and leads us on manner every week under par meets under the sea. On the Monday before the event, a group of teenagers from across Hawaii participated in a pro-am along with PGA Tour Champions players benefiting the Hawaii State Junior Golf Association, a nonprofit that introduces the game of golf and its traditions to local youth. The youngsters rubbed elbows with the pros to gain knowledge and experience while nurturing their love for the game.

OC> I'm Scott McCarron.

OC> Oh, it's a pleasure to meet you.

OC> What's your name?

OC> I'm Olivia Schmidt.

OC> Olivia Schmidt. Nice to meet you.

OC/VO> Playing here in (INAUDIBLE), being here with professionals. It's an incredible experience. It's a once in a lifetime experience. And honestly, today is probably a day that I'm never going to forget. And I think I'm so fortunate to be getting advice to be interacting with these professionals. It's it's literally a dream come true. I mean, this is incredible.

OC> Hawaii, of course, is a chain of islands. And as such, it's surrounded by amazing marine life. And being able to observe this creates great experiences and memories that last a lifetime. For example, imagine being out on the ocean, snorkeling and being able to watch manta rays as they feed just below the surface at night. Well, that was the case for Doug and Leslie Barron, because we figured who better to observe manta rays in their natural habitat than a guy from Memphis, Tennessee? In any event, Doug and Leslie dove right in.

VO/OC> We are going to see manta rays.

OC> I'm excited. I really love the water and I love the idea of getting in.

OC> I'm terrified.

OC> I made sure Doug was okay with this.

OC> My biggest fear is getting killed by a shark.

OC> We're going to be going to a spot right around the corner to go do some snorkeling and scuba diving, and then after that, we're going to head to our South Manta site.

VO> This is great for me today. I cannot wait.

OC> Oh he is adorable.

OC> I feel good about it.

OC> Oh this is so nice. Beautiful day to be out here.

VO/OC> The water. So clear. It's unbelievable. What's up? Leslie, you about ready? Some food. All right. We're going to have a little little food. Before we go see some manta rays.

OC> There we are. We got chips and Danny's famous salsa right there. All right, dig in, my friends. Oh, sweet spotted an eagle ray. That's awesome. That's super cool. Those thing's actually jump out of the water pretty often too.

OC> I'm putting it on right aren't I? Alright. I'm ready. Ready, ready, ready.

OC> So excited. Let's go.

OC> I know.

OC> This going to be fun. I want that giant manta going right underneath me.

OC> Hello.

OC> Oh my gosh, what are you doing? We're getting ready to jump in.

OC> We're going to get in the water today guys, put our mask on our face, noodle underneath the arms. Sit and sit and slide. Okay? Ask you not to disrupt these beautiful rays of that.

OC> How is that?

OC> Yeah, they should be tied up by now feels tight.

OC> Yeah, it looks good. You're champ. Let's get it.

OC> So this is under the arm. This in the mouth.

OC> Very nice. Can put both hands right there on the board. Take a couple nice deep breaths. Your legs will float up naturally.

OC> Right here, right there.

OC> That was amazing experience of a lifetime, for sure.

OC> Hey, now you're on dry land.

VO/OC> I saw 3 to 5 different man was down there, so it was amazing. It was truly was. I mean, it was they were, I don't know, they were majestic. I don't know, they were pretty awesome. I really, really enjoyed it. I would do it again tomorrow.

OC> Joe Terry is one of the good guys in the game. A tour rules official for 30 years in 2025, he's slowly going to step away from the game and we are going to miss you, Joe. Big time.

OC> Thank you.

OC> What will you miss about being out?

OC/VO> The camaraderie. This, particularly the Champions Tour, is like a very large family. And you, the group of guys that I work with, can't find a better group of guys anywhere in the world. All dedicated to the same cause. The same purpose. Teamwork is unbelievable. The camaraderie will be the biggest thing.

OC> You know, Joe, I think we talked about officiating in other sports. There's a penal aspect to it here in golf. You're trying to have these guys avoid penalties. You're really working with guys?

VO/OC> Well, yeah, I like to look at it as preventive officiating. And of course, you know, rules of golf, for every time that you have a rule, there is a penalty clause that's in the rule. But understanding the rule can help you avoid the penalties that go with that clause. And rules sometimes have options. And a lot of the players aren't aware of all of the options. And I think that's our job is to without coaching a player how to proceed, but to make sure they understand all the options that are available under particular rule can lessen the damage that they could incur.

OC> What's the craziest ruling you've been a part of? You have a couple or one?

OC> I've got one in particular. And I've told this story several times, but it has to do with Simon Hobday, bless his heart. He's up in Heaven watching us. But really funny, funny ruling. It was in Charlotte, North Carolina, at the TPC. And on a Sunday afternoon I got a call for ruling on the 16th hole. And nobody answered the call. So, I said, okay, guys, I'll take it. I went to the 16th hole, and I couldn't find any more, and I'm driving in the fairway and I heard this. Hey, up here. I looked up on the side of the mountain and there's probably 40 or 50 spectators and Leonard Thompson and Simon Hobday and so I got up to there and climbed in there, bushes and briers and Simon says, Simon, you know, of course, with South Africa, I'm in rather colorful language. And says, my boss here, and there's been an animal scurrying around and created animal damage, and I need relief from the damage. And I looked in there, and his ball was sitting in the roots of a tree, a small tree. And it was. You couldn't have gotten in there with a sledgehammer. And I looked at it and I said, Simon, I don't believe that the animal damage is your problem here. So no, no free relief. And he looked at me and he says, if I called you a blank, blank would I get fined? Yeah. Simon. Pretty good. Fine, thanks. Well, I think you're a blank blank.

OC> But the ruling was correct, right?

OC> The ruling was correct.

OC> Joe, before we let you go, when they talk about you and they say, oh, Joe. Terry, you know, he worked with them. What would you like to what would you like to have going to say about you, you and the work that you've done?

OC> Well, I've been out here for a long, long time, and my whole philosophy for working with the rules of golf was, let's be fair, let's be fair, everyone, and be fair to you as a player. But I've also got to be fair to all the fellow competitors. So, we're sure that everybody plays by the same rules every day. And I, I really feel comfortable in that. I've been able to accomplish that.

OC> Well I don't think there's any question about that. Joe, it's been a pleasure. Thank you. Stay in touch. We're going to miss you.

OC> Thank you. I appreciate that very much.

VO> When learning center returns, learn from one of the best ever with the blade. Ben Crenshaw is celebrating an anniversary and breaks out a classic piece of equipment. Still getting the job done. Tips on rolling your ball. Don't miss it. Back in 2021, Darren Clarke won his debut on the Big Island. He closed with the back 930 in his final round, including a 50ft birdie putt on the 17th. Posted a 64 and 21 under total to win the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, one of four career wins on this tour. Well,

Darren is trying to get back to his winning ways and during the off season he worked to alter his swing. Here's Darren with more.

OC> There's so many geniuses out there and all I'm trying to do is just share with people what I'm actually trying to do. As I got older to get a little bit, a little bit stronger, but also a little bit wider because I've got a tendency of picking it up steep, but, you know, got all these people jumping on there saying, oh, you shouldn't do this, you shouldn't do that. All I'm trying to do is just get a little bit more work on my flexibility and get a little bit stronger. So, all I'm trying to do is, as opposed to picking the club up this way, is to get a drift a little bit more. That way not. I'm never going to get it as high as I got it in the gym, because that's just not going to happen. But I've just got to push to the to my limits in the gym so that sometimes whenever I start hitting some, it comes back into a little bit more of a normal position. But you know, some of those people that are watching it, they're obviously won about 20 majors. But anyway, so it's supposed to be a little bit more for looking like this. All. If I can actually do. Bit more that way. So, the club is not quite as steep and a little bit more that way.

VO/OC> He is one of the beloved figures in the game. Ben Daniel Crenshaw authored 19 wins on the PGA tour and earned a pair of green jackets as Masters champion in 1984 and 1995. This year marks the 30th anniversary of that second victory at Augusta. Ben has long been considered one of the great putters in the history of golf, and happy to share that knowledge on the Big Island at spectacular Carnegie. 2025 marks 30 years since the great Ben Crenshaw won his second green jacket. And Ben that particular week interesting four rounds. You did not three putt once in that event. And that's saying something.

OC/VO> At Augusta. It really does. There are some of the most challenging greens that we play. And requires a lifetime of study. So much undulation. And I think it really puts pressure on, you know, if you're 35ft out on a certain putt, you have to really execute, a touch to get the ball up close. And you've got a lot of time. You got to play wide breaks, but to go around there the whole week without a three putt was it helped. It helped your score, for all golfers three putting is just the death. I mean it just debilitates you and you know you used you love to play around where you can your approach putts get up there close and tap it in. That's what you'd love to do. But it's just amazing. This game. You look at every competition around the world. After 72 holes, you'll find the first dozen players that will have putted and chipped well on and around the greens. That's where you save strokes. If you can get the putts down when you think that they're makeable, it gives you such confidence. It's unbelievable. It's just like a continuum of the round. It knits your scores together every day. But it's incredible. In this day of power hitting, everybody is hitting the ball nine miles now. But if you break it down numerically on and around the greens is where it really counts.

OC> Well, that's why we're here. And that's why we're talking to you. Because you've been a putting guru for a long time, and we have a special guest in hand. Right. Little Ben, from the 84 Masters. So, you've had this for a long, long time, right?

OC> I, I bought this putter, when I was 15 years old, at our municipal course at Austin. And, Vince, I've got. I probably have 15 or 20 Wilson, 88 0 twos, and. But it's not like this one. This guy is, as you can see, it's it's got battle scars on it.

OC> Special it tells a story that is for sure.

OC> That's it's, it's that's kind of my, that's kind of my life is just right there.

OC> Well let's, let's see with a little Ben.

OC> Rusty.

OC> So, so generally when players come to you for putting advice, what what do you say as probably a starter?

OC> Generally, generally I think that it should be your own. There's no right or wrong way to putt. I have always thought that I wanted I wanted to have a sensitive grip, meaning I don't want to strangle the grip. I don't want to be tight up here. What I want to do is have a grip pressure enough to make this clubhead feel heavy, so it will swing. I like to have the putter swing a little bit, and the more you tighten up here, the less that this clubhead will swing. So, I'm very, very and after every putt, every putt I try to gauge the speed of the putt. The speed of the putt is so much of putting, you know, you can't go racing past the hole or you can't be short, but I like to have the ball just just get there and just let it fall in. As my old teacher, Harvey Penick said, give luck a chance so that it just falls in. So, you got to read a putt. This is going downhill a little bit. I'm going a little bit with the grain. So, I got to be careful with this. But I want to just stroke it just enough to where I can to where I can get that ball to the hole.

OC> Yes, Ben and little Ben still got it.

OC> Thank you.

OC> Thank you so much for your time. Great to see you.

VO> Thank you, gentlemen, for all of that great information. And of course, your time. And with that, we bid you farewell from one of the most beautiful places on the planet. So long, Hawaii and hello, PGA tour champion season promising lots of excitement, drama, and surprises. I'm Vince Cellini, we thank you for watching. Aloha.