

A1 – COLD OPEN ROAD TO PHOENIX

ERNIE ELS: My road to Phoenix has been a long one and a winding one.

ANNC: Ernie Els has won the season opener.

MIGUEL ANGEL JIMÉNEZ: It's very intense, solid and very enjoyable when you win tournaments.

ANNC: And he's done it! His fourth win of the year.

STEVEN ALKER: It's been a long one. To be here is always good. And to have the chance to win the Cup, that's kind of like the goal.

ANNC: The reigning Schwab Cup champion has done it again.

ANNC: Steve Allan, his first win on the PGA TOUR Champions comes at Mission Hills.

STEVEN ALLAN: My road to Phoenix was a good road this year. I had a win early in the season, so I was pretty much locked in to come to Phoenix.

STEWART CINK: It's been a bumpy road at times, but in a good way.

ANNC: Stewart Cink wins for the second time this year.

CINK: If you put yourself in contention a whole lot, you're just naturally going to win some and lose some.

A2 -- TITLES

WELCOME TO THE PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS 2025 YEAR IN REVIEW.

A3 – FIRST-TIMER WINNERS

THIS SEASON ON THE PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS, SIX FIRST-TIME WINNERS ROSE TO THE OCCASION, REPRESENTING FOUR DIFFERENT COUNTRIES AND PROVING THAT GREATNESS KNOWS NO BORDERS.

THOMAS BJORN REPRESENTING DENMARK ...

ANNC: Thomas Bjorn puts the pedal down and drops the hammer!

AND ARGENTINA'S ÁNGEL CABRERA.

ANNC: The two-time major champion taps in for the win in Boca Raton. His first win on the PGA TOUR Champions under his belt.

PLUS, TWO AMERICANS ... AND A COUPLE OF AUSSIES.

A5 – RISE OF AUSTRALIANS

ANNC: It's a very tight-knit Australian bunch out here.

STUART APPLEBY: All of the Aussies have a great story, and a lot of Americans probably don't know a lot about a lot of them.

ANNC: Steve Allan in just his second year out here on the Champions Tour.

WHILE HE WAS A DOMINATING COMPETITOR THIS SEASON, STEVE ALLAN'S CAREER AHEAD OF THEN WAS ANYTHING BUT. HE SUSTAINED A CAREER OF SUCCESS AND LONGEVITY OVERSEAS, BUT STRUGGLED FINDING FOOTING ON THE PGA TOUR.

ALLAN: Got close to winning on the PGA TOUR. Didn't quite get over that hump. Lost my card in '09 and sadly never got it back. From my early-to-mid-40s, I guess I was really just hanging in there to have a chance to play in the Champions Tour.

ALLAN TURNED TO MINI TOUR EVENTS AND TEACHING AT ARIZONA COUNTRY CLUB TO MAKE ENDS MEET.

ALLAN: The lead-up was a bit of pressure. The bank balance had got pretty low after not being on the TOUR for a while. You have to question yourself what you're doing. If you're still going to be able to be good enough to do it. It's hard.

AS HE TURNED 50, ALLAN WAS ONE OF FOUR AUSTRALIANS TO EARN PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS STATUS VIA Q-SCHOOL FOR THE 2024 SEASON.

ALLAN: I played those mini tours and things, but it was always with an eye to doing this. And looking back on some of the places, the little tournaments and things that I went to and played, it makes you smile because it was all worth it.

ANNC: Allan is a winner for the third time this season! He takes the title at the Boeing Classic!

RICHARD GREEN: I'm so happy for him, so happy for that family that he's able to continue on and continue doing this game at a level that he loves.

FELLOW AUSTRALIAN RICHARD GREEN FINISHED FIRST AT Q-SCHOOL IN 2022 TO EARN HIS CARD, BUT SIX RUNNER-UP FINISHES IN 70 STARTS ON THE CHAMPIONS TOUR WORE HEAVY ON HIM.

GREEN: A lot of my competitors would always say, you know, "You're good enough; you're going to get there." So, I felt a fair bit of pressure from that. It was hard work getting across the line, and like, "Is this ever going to happen?"

ANNC: In his 71st start, the man from down under is finally on top!

GREEN: I could draw a line through just about everything else through the year to get that win, and hold that trophy and have that feeling of satisfaction and relief that I've got myself across the line is everything.

AUSTRALIANS BROUGHT HOME FOUR TITLES ON THE CHAMPIONS TOUR IN 2025, WITH FOUR RUNNER-UP FINISHES.

ANNC: Can we talk about how good the Australians are playing? The Australians own this Tour.

WITH 10 CAREER CHAMPIONS TOUR WINS, NEW ZEALAND'S STEVEN ALKER IS NO STRANGER TO THE TALENT OF HIS NEIGHBORS FROM DOWN UNDER.

ALKER: I grew up with all the Australians. Even back to amateur days. I knew how good Richard was. Steven Allan. I knew they were going to be competitive.

STUART APPLEBY: I was just so proud of all the boys. They didn't have the luxury that I had on TOUR of having a place to play.

ANNC: He's done it!

APPLEBY: They had to really work for that now. I'm very impressed.

WITH 40 ALL-TIME WINS FOR AUSTRALIANS ON PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS, THE CONTINUED SUCCESS SEEMS EVIDENT FOR YEARS TO COME.

RICHARD GREEN: I think the world probably underestimates, a little bit, Australian golfers. We've been in and around TOUR golf for a long time. I could say that there's probably another handful of guys back in Australia knocking on the door wanting to get over here and play that are just as good that aren't 50 yet.

BI – MIGUEL ANGEL JIMÉNEZ

MIGUEL ANGEL JIMÉNEZ REMINDED THE GOLF WORLD OF ANOTHER REASON WHY HE'S KNOWN AS 'THE MOST INTERESTING MAN IN GOLF.'

AT 61, THE SPANISH LEGEND DELIVERED ONE OF THE FINEST SEASONS OF HIS CAREER ON THE PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS.

JOSÉ MARÍA OLAZÁBAL: This year, from the very beginning, I mean, he was on.

ANNC: He ends the drought of 2.5 years without a victory.

CINK: His knack for just winning tournaments when he gets in the hunt has been very impressive.

ANNC: Miguel Angel Jiménez has won Trophy Hassan II, the Hoag Classic, Principal Charity Classic, the Kaulig Companies Championship. His fourth win of the year.

JIMÉNEZ: Four victories. Many times top 10s. Playing very solid golf all year. What a surprise, not having a victory the last two years.

HIS FOUR WINS LED THE CHAMPIONS TOUR THIS YEAR AND ARE THE MOST HE'S HAD IN A SINGLE SEASON. JIMENEZ LED THE CHARLES SCHWAB CUP STANDINGS FOR 23 OF THE 28 WEEKS.

DAVID TOMS: He's impressive. He just seems to be having fun. Just embracing the moment. Walks out with confidence every single day.

ANNC: Golf shot right there, Jamie.

DARREN CLARKE: Miguel would give the illusion that he's very chilled and stuff, but he's a fierce competitor underneath it all.

ANNC: That's on a great line, and that's going to roll onto the green and he's going to have about 10 feet for eagle.

CLARKE: Miguel's Miguel. There is only one Miguel.

ANNC: And he pours it in.

ELS: He's 61 years of age. You just got to look at on Instagram to know that he's the most interesting golfer in the world. You know, he's, I love playing with him.

ANNC: He's got the crowd behind him, Miguel. He's the crowd favorite.

CINK; I'm 52. And when I think of guys like him being in their 60s, that gives me a lot of hope and excitement for the future, that maybe I can still be doing that.

THOMAS BJØRN: It's all about hitting the right shots, shaping the ball the right way. I've played this game for a long time. I still watch him. For every time I play with him, I feel I learn something new. He's a remarkable player.

ANNC: Look at this! Here it is. It got past that bunker. Judged it perfectly and he kept it on that side of the hole, too.

OLAZÁBAL: We try to fade away once you get older, but in his case, he's in good shape. He's very healthy.

TOMS: When a lot of other guys are slowing down, it seems like he's a guy that's really grinding still.

JIMÉNEZ: I'm still hitting the ball good. I'm still playing well, moving the ball. I'm still enjoying myself. It's no surprise to have victories.

B2 – JUSTIN LEONARD

WHILE JIMENEZ SECURED WIN NUMBER 17 ON THE CHAMPIONS TOUR, JUSTIN LEONARD SOUGHT HIS FIRST VICTORY ON ANY MAJOR CIRCUIT IN NEARLY 17 YEARS.

ANNC: Justin Leonard's last win came at the FedEx St. Jude in 2008.

BEFORE TURNING 50, LEONARD SHIFTED HIS FOCUS FROM PROFESSIONAL GOLF TO A CAREER IN BROADCASTING.

ANNC: Justin, you know how the other half lives, now you join us, very big welcome. Yeah, well, thank you very much, little peek behind the curtain to see what goes on on the other side.

JUSTIN LEONARD: I was working for NBC and Golf Channel, doing a little bit of studio work and a lot of live golf. I enjoyed it. It was fun.

ANNC GANNON: Explain this, as a player, right, how you can make the cut one out of eight times, you come in, you somehow find something here, and you're leading.

ANNC LEONARD: Golf is a four-letter word.

LEONARD: And then as I turned 50, I said, "OK, I'm going to go play a few times and see where my game is, see how much I enjoy it." And I probably enjoyed it more than I thought I would.

AFTER PLAYING FOUR EVENTS IN HIS 2022 DEBUT SEASON, LEONARD HUNG UP THE HEADSET AND COMMITTED TO PLAYING FULL-TIME IN 2023.

LEONARD: I guess I kind of bet on myself. Not that I played that good my first few tournaments.

ANNC: Justin definitely took a little time away from competitive golf. It takes a little while to get going again.

STEVE FLESCH KNOWS WHAT IT TAKES TO RETURN TO GOLF AFTER HIS OWN CAREER IN BROADCASTING.

STEVE FLESCH: You get so much tunnel vision when you're playing because you're immersed in your own game. You don't realize that everybody's making mistakes, you've got to have a process to get everything done correctly.

ANNC: Still waiting for Justin to get that first win on the PGA TOUR Champions. He's been working so hard at it.

FLESCH: It's no shock to anyone that he's continued to play as well as he has.

IN THREE FULL SEASONS, LEONARD'S GAME TURNED A CORNER, EARNING NINE TOP-10 FINISHES UNTIL HIS BREAKTHROUGH WIN IN NAPLES.

ANNC: Justin Leonard is the Chubb Classic champion!

ANNC: It's funny how all the memories flood back to a guy like Leonard who just pulls from his victories from the past.

LEONARD: The feelings on the golf course were familiar. It wasn't so foreign. And it has been a while.

ANNC: He did it! What a putt! Right in the middle! Justin Leonard!

LEONARD: I get emotional with the wins because I never knew if it was going to happen again. That's why I think it almost means more now.

CI – FIRST IMPRESSIONS VS. REALITY

PLAYERS WERE ASKED WHAT THEY THOUGHT LIFE ON THE PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS WOULD BE LIKE AND HOW REALITY STACKED UP ONCE THEY GOT INSIDE THE ROPES.

ALKER: You know, I turned 50, and I want to try and get out there and play. Just try and qualify for some events, and then, boom, you know, all these top 10s coming on. I won on like my ninth event.

ANNC: A first-time winner on the PGA TOUR Champions.

ALKER: To this day, we're sitting here four years later, and I'm still excited about coming out and playing.

ANNC: Dominating in Little Rock. Playing the best golf of his life.

ALKER: And seeing my mates, and the atmosphere and the fans.

FLESCHE: I knew you had to play good golf. Nobody just forgets how to play good golf just because you turn 50. I did not expect how many guys were still playing that good.

ANNC: Ernie Els, make a great putt. How clutch? Today, when he needs to, he's just buried putt after putt.

ELS: I worked hard on my overall game this year. Felt like I was consistent a little bit more on the greens this year.

HARRINGTON: It's very quick. Really quick. 54 holes. You've got to go low. First nine holes, you need to be shooting birdies, getting under par.

ANNC: Padraig's gotten right in the middle of this thing.

HARRINGTON: First round, you need to be well under par or else you're just too far back because there's not enough time to make it up. So, there's a real urgency to the Champions Tour.

C2 – PADRAIG HARRINGTON

ANNC: A great year. Two major championships for Padraig, and I believe that's really his main focus.

HARRINGTON: I won the tournaments I wanted to win. I targeted the Senior Open, I won that, I won two majors, so it's been a great year for me.

ANNC: Leading PGA TOUR Champions in driving distance, would be 47th on the PGA TOUR in driving distance average right now.

HARRINGTON: I think, for me, at 50, I was still trying to play with the regular guys, but I think a lot of my game at that stage was trying to reinvent myself as a different person. The Champions Tour is definitely a new lease of life. I'm always going to do plenty of work, but I can come out here and relax a little bit more and enjoy it.

WHILE HARRINGTON SECURED HIS FIRST MULTI-MAJOR SEASON SINCE JOINING THE CHAMPIONS TOUR, STEWART CINK FOUND HIS STRIDE IN HIS FIRST FULL YEAR ON THE SENIOR CIRCUIT.

C3 – STEWART CINK

CINK: It's just so rare that you can turn 50 and have this new opportunity. PGA TOUR Champions, when you come out as a rookie, you're almost at the top of your career. I just wasn't really performing that great on the PGA TOUR. And it just was like, what am I doing?

ANNC: It feels like it's taken him a little while to find his mojo out here, but you always sensed that he was capable of explosive things.

HARRINGTON: He's very similar to me. He physically has the game to compete with the younger guys. But you over try. You think you need your A-game when you're out there. So, you're trying to catch lightning in a bottle when you're with the young guys.

CINK: When I was about 51 playing on the PGA TOUR, where I just felt like I was really grinding hard to earn the right to do that again the next year. The average age is getting younger on the PGA TOUR and we're not getting younger. I felt like an outlier.

HARRINGTON: If you want to have a successful Champions Tour career, you really need to be out here playing. But, for me, and I still say to Stewart, trying to catch lightning in a bottle is a lot more fun.

CINK: Yeah, Padraig said I shouldn't play out here. He said I should just keep playing out there. I don't know what he was talking about.

GOOD ADVICE, BUT LUCKY FOR CINK, HE DIDN'T LISTEN TO HARRINGTON. AS HE HAS HAD A CAREER YEAR ON PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS ... WITH HIS

FIRST MULTI-WIN SEASON HEADING INTO THE CHARLES SCHWAB CUP CHAMPIONSHIP.

ANNC: Stewart Cink has won the Insperity Invitational!

ANNC: Stewart Cink wins for the second time this year!

CINK: It's been a pretty successful year overall because I've had a lot of chances. I've been in the mix most every tournament and you can't let yourself be too down about not winning because the players are so good and the scoring is amazing. And so, you almost have to be flawless.

HARRINGTON: He's married a lot of what you would say about the Champions Tour when he came out here first and was trying to play both tours. He hadn't got the rhythm of this tour at all. Now that he's more here, he's obviously a stalwart up on the leaderboard every week. He's got the Champions Tour number at this stage. He knows what he's doing out here.

CINK: I think it's the year of patience, too. Golf just doesn't always reward you with immediate results. High finishes and being in contention a lot are good indicators that you're doing the right things, and it's been a great ride.

ANNC: Stewart's not shy about wanting to win this Charles Schwab Cup, not shy at all about it.

C4 – CINK MIC'D UP

HIS DESIRE TO WIN WAS ON FULL DISPLAY ON THE OPENING HOLE DURING THE FIRST ROUND

ELS: My man. Big guy.

CINK: Looking forward to it. Good playing this year.

ELS: Well done this year.

STARTER: From Atlanta, Georgia. Please welcome Stewart Cink.

CINK: Thank you.

CINK: This hole, you know, it's a little claustrophobic. You got a fence over there and a fence over there. So, you kind of don't aim down the center. Your line is about right where Ernie's ball went. Just on the right edge. And you take what you get sometimes.

CHRIS JONES: 185.

CINK: 85, so that's our runway. So, we're just talking like a 9-iron. Hit something 160 in the air.

FAN: Good shot there.

CINK: If it was a regular lie, or a little thinner, we could've gone low and probably put some heat on it.

JONES: 96.

CINK: Nine. Six.

JONES: Yes, sir.

CINK: Plenty of room behind it. I think we probably want something to carry pretty close to at it. And no wind at all, right?

JONES: No wind at all. If there was, it might be just a breath in your face. So, I think we play it right to the pin. Good play.

CINK: Might get a little birdie off Ernie.

CINK: On shots like that that are all feel, we try to just let the body do the work and, you know, if you're shooting a basketball, you're not going to think about how hard to throw the ball from behind the three-point line. You're just letting your body just react.

STEWART CINK CAME OUT FIRING. THAT OPENING BIRDIE SET THE MOMENTUM IN MOTION. HE KNEW A FAST START IN THE FIRST ROUND WOULD BE VITAL TO BEATING THE GAME'S BEST.

DI – FIRST THREE ROUNDS RECAP

ANNC: Phoenix Country Club, the setting once again. Crowds are out and excited to be here considering the leaderboard we have.

THE STAGE WAS SET FOR A DRAMATIC FINISH TO THE 2025 SEASON.

ANNC: It's a long way to go. Four days, just a longer event for these Champions Tour players.

PADRAIG HARRINGTON, JUSTIN LEONARD, RETIEF GOOSEN AND STEVE ALLAN DID NOT BREAK INTO THE TOP 25, AND WERE ELIMINATED FROM CONTENTION IN ROUND ONE.

ANNC: The man that started the playoffs atop the points list, four wins this season, Miguel Angel Jiménez, probably just finishing that cigar. Last one of the season.

MIGUEL ANGEL JIMÉNEZ CLIMBED INTO THE TOP FIVE THROUGH 36 HOLES, BUT FELL OUT OF THE RACE FOR THE SEASON-LONG TITLE.

ANNC: Richard Green, who got off to such a great start, on a par run as of late.

RICHARD GREEN FIZZLED OUT OF THE TOP FIVE AFTER THREE ROUNDS.

ANNC: Stewart Cink has talked so much about the importance of this week and this championship.

ANNC: Cink one back, 65 today.

ANNC: Alker with that closing birdie. That man is relentless here in Phoenix. he's leading by one.

WITH NO ONE THREATENING THE LEAD, STEWART CINK AND STEVEN ALKER PULLED AWAY FROM THE PACK AND SET UP A SUNDAY SHOWDOWN FOR THE CHARLES SCHWAB CUP.

ANNC: Two-horse race for the Charles Schwab Cup, it looks like. And it should be quite a good match tomorrow.

D2 – FINAL ROUND RECAP

CINK: Good morning.

ALKER: Here we go. Round 4. This may be fun today.

CINK: What a way to end it.

ALKER: It's why we play this crazy game, right?

CINK: Hopefully, we both play great and have a big ol' battle coming down the stretch.

ANNC: With an opportunity to win both the Charles Schwab Championship and the Charles Schwab Cup.

STARTER: First to play, please welcome our current Schwab Cup points leader, Steven Alker.

STARTER: And next to play from Atlanta, Georgia, please welcome Stewart Cink.

ALKER VIES TO BECOME THE THIRD PLAYER IN SCHWAB CUP TO WIN THE TOURNAMENT BACK-TO-BACK. WHILE CINK LOOKS TO CAPTURE HIS FIRST SCHWAB CUP VICTORY.

ANNC: When paired together, Stewart Cink has beaten Alker five out of six times.

ANNC: When you've beaten a guy virtually every time you've played with him, you're going to have a great feeling.

A LASER-FOCUSED CINK TIED THE LEAD ON THE FIFTH HOLE ... BUT ALKER REGAINED IT ON THE SIXTH.

ANNC: He's gotten very comfortable being in the last group, guys. This is the 13th time in his career. And Stewart's been in the last group enough. I think he's getting fairly comfortable with it as well.

ALKER BOGEYED THREE OF HIS NEXT SIX HOLES.

ANNC: Uh-oh. Goodness. That is a real blink from Steven Alker.

AND CINK TOOK A THREE-SHOT LEAD OVER THE KIWI THROUGH 12.

ANNC: Stewart Cink, that was beautiful. The second he's grabbed the lead, he's been spot on. It's like he was ready for it.

BUT ALKER WASN'T DONE JUST YET.

ANNC: That's exactly what he needed to calm himself down. Not out of it.

ANNC: After the little miscues, he's just putting it right back on Stewart Cink. He's just saying, "It won't be easy for you, Stewart. I'm not going to let it be easy."

ANNC: What a response. You know, that's how a champion wins championships. Alker just hit this momentum-shifting shot, and Stewart just answers.

ANNC: The second he got behind, he got more comfortable. Everything came back to the vintage Steven Alker. He's making birdies, and he's just not going to let Stewart have it. Now they're both on fire.

HEADING INTO THE 72ND HOLE, ALKER WAS ONE SHOT BACK OF CINK AND NEEDED TO BE FLAWLESS IF HE WAS GOING TO WIN HIS THIRD SCHWAB CUP.

ANNC: Somebody's about to hit a shot that's going to define this championship. Here we go. It's going to happen right now. Got it to the right, yep. Hazard. That is shocking.

ANNC: Just get it on the green here somewhere. He's really dialed in. You can see the look on his face. All he needed. How about Cink coming up clutch in the final event of the year?

ANNC: He put it out there to start the year, exclamation mark to end, Charles Schwab Cup Champion! And a winner, here in Phoenix! Just the fourth time in the Charles Schwab Cup history, a player took home both trophies in the final event of the year.

D3 – CINK WINNER'S WALK

CINK: Hey! That was fun. This week was just, like, icing on the cake and I'm very, very pleased.

REPORTER: Well, go sign your card. Congratulations.

JONES: We're official?

CINK: We did it!

JONES: You did it.

CINK: We did it, buddy.

CINK: Thank you.

CEO: And now let's give him the other one.

PHOTOGRAPHER: Good. Nice. Perfect, thank you.

CINK: Good seeing you!

PHOTOGRAPHER: How high can you?

CINK: I can take it high!

PHOTOGRAPHER: Yeah? Let's do that.

CINK: Like, one-handed?

PHOTOGRAPHER: Sure! Why not? One more. I love it. There you go.

CINK: Hey, buddy. Appreciate it, buddy. I'm in good company. You're inspiring. Thanks. Oh, we're selfie-ing? You got good selfie arms, Lisa.

LISA CINK: Just a picture? OK. You need to hold up.

STEWART: Hold up a what?

LISA: I don't know like, "Yeah!"

ERIC MELLER: Well done. Good job.

CINK: Jerome!

JERRY KELLY: I'm glad I got to play this week.

CINK: Appreciate it.

KELLY: Be a part of it. That's awesome. Great job, man.

CINK: Thank you.

CINK: Amigo.

JIMÉNEZ: No words.

CINK: Good man.

SERVER: For you guys.

CINK: Oh, oh. Oh, well. OK.

SERVER: Cheers. Come on.

CINK: Here, let's do it like this.

LISA: Oh, really? You're so silly.

CINK: Cheers, y'all.

MELLER: To a great season.

CINK: To good friends. Competitors.

So happy to have you on the Tour.

CINK: Oh. Thank you. I'm very happy to be out here. So fun. Bottoms up. Ooh. Bubbly.