

2026 PGA TOUR THE CUT #18: The Memorial Presented by Workday

A1 - Rodgers Mindful Open

PATRICK RODGERS: Oh man. I haven't read this in awhile ... Do you want me to read it out loud?

PATRICK RODGERS: I was one of the most accomplished college players of all-time. Yet 11 seasons and over 300 PGA TOUR events later, I still have zero wins. That's the story most people know. But it's not the whole story.

ANNC: Patrick Rodgers, just a prodigious talent out of Indiana

ANNC: Won 11 times in college at Stanford where Tiger Woods went to school.

ANNC: Broke most of Tiger Woods' records was expected to really take off on the PGA TOUR.

ANNC: Pretty amazing that Patrick Rodgers is still looking for that first win. Just hasn't been able to get through that door yet...

PATRICK RODGERS: The struggle cut deeper than I ever imagined. Four runner ups, two playoff losses and many weeks spent trying to recover from each one. Every missed cut somehow felt like the worst one. Every bogey on the last left a pit in my stomach. Watching my peers achieve the success I desperately chased chipped away at my ego and my belief. Hundreds of what ifs. Thousands of hours of effort with seemingly nothing to show for it. And yet, I'm incredibly blessed. I play a game for a living. What I want to create for me or my wife is a lot deeper than any golf accomplishment.

A2 - Titles

A3 - Patrick Rodgers Mindful Part 1

PATRICK RODGERS: I wrote this letter in the offseason around Christmas of 2025. I felt like I needed to accomplish something to validate myself as a player, and I finally quit living that narrative and felt like I have something to share through my experience of a lot of failures. I've had to face a lot of internal growth. And so that's where it came from.

RAFI RODGERS: Oh my God, it's a T-Rex!

PATRICK RODGERS: Oh my gosh, how did you get so lucky?

RAFI RODGERS: Yeah, it's my favorite dino, a T-Rex. Can I have a picture with this cute little

buddy?

PATRICK RODGERS: I was very similar when I was a kid where you get kind of locked in on things that you're passionate about, hence my golf career. And for him, it's dinosaurs. I have quite a strong willed, obsessive personality. I see it very much in my son. Which is wild when it's your own personality is reflected back to you in the form of a child. For whatever reason, golf really resonated with me. Tiger Woods made it look really inspiring and something that looked like just the most fun. But it also felt very attainable. And I just kind of used to being one of the best players in the world on the PGA TOUR as my North Star to kind of guide everything. I pretended to be a PGA TOUR player when I was 12 and that that got me to where I am today.

CHARLIE RODGERS: He was always a very serious kid. He was kind of a professional before he was professional. You could tell that this is what he wanted to do.

CATHY FAULKNER: He was very introspective about the game. He would study his statistics and think about how he could have played a specific hole a different way. It was amazing to his coaches for a young golfer to be so analytical.

JUDY RODGERS: When he was in sixth grade each student had to write about who they were and where they wanted to go. And he said he wanted to win a state championship. He wanted to play golf at Stanford. He wanted to play professional golf and be the number one amateur. And when we read it afterwards, we were like, well, okay, so at 12, he had all this figured out.

PATRICK RODGERS: I've earned far more than I deserve. But none of that erases the internal battles. The weight of expectation.

ANNC: Patrick Rodgers, sort of one of those big three with Jordan Spieth and Justin Thomas, a heralded class. It was never a question of if, it was a question of when he would make it out on the PGA TOUR ...

PATRICK RODGERS: I read an article in Golf Digest. I think it was like 2008, I was a freshman in high school and it was like a ranking system or a list of the top colleges to play golf and Stanford was kind of on a comeback at the time. I found Conrad Ray's email, and I emailed him out of the blue and asked if I could come out to visit and take a tour. And he would have no reason to have me on any radar. I still don't even know why he responded. But he showed me around. And as soon as he showed me campus and the facility. It like put a really clear vision on my dream.

CHARLIE RODGERS: His generation, Tiger Woods was a big influence. Watching Tiger play in majors and Patrick always wore pants as a junior golfer. Early on said he wanted to go to Stanford where Tiger went.

PATRICK RODGERS: I operated like a professional and having a group to go through it with that are now like some of my closest friends in the world, was really special. And then my last year in school, we had an amazing team and we were the best team in the country. All of those things with winning individually and comparisons to Tiger was happening, we were experiencing

some amazing team success.

CHARLIE RODGERS: I think that experience, being player of the year. beating some of the Tigers records was very humbling.

LARRY FAULKNER: Almost every major award that came out, Patrick seemed to get it. We were so proud of him.

JUDY RODGERS: It was such a whirlwind just kind of riding the waves of when things are good, enjoy the heck out of it because it's not always good. Sometimes things are hard and tough. But when it's good, you just have to enjoy it.

ANNC: We'd like to welcome Patrick Rodgers to the Travelers Championship that doesn't need much of an introduction. Your list of achievements pretty much too long to rattle off ...

PATRICK RODGERS: To be making my professional debut here in Hartford at the Travelers is just so special for me. I have the confidence that I feel like I can come out here and win. Golf can be beautiful and brutally honest. So I had to redefine winning. Looking back, it happened fast. I won on the Korn Ferry Tour like seven months after turning pro. But that was the longest, most difficult year of my professional career. When I was getting started, the only opportunities that you had were through sponsor exemptions and you felt like you had to earn your PGA TOUR status. And it felt like a really, really, really daunting task. I put an incredible amount of internal pressure on myself to be on the PGA TOUR immediately, to win immediately That summer I squeaked into the Korn Ferry Finals. I dealt with an injury for the first time, I was really close to getting my TOUR card, but didn't get it. I was as low as I had ever been with golf because I was supposed to be on the PGA TOUR. That's how I felt. And I wasn't there yet. And I felt very, very, low and defeated.

ANNC: One of the early stories today and this week has been Patrick Rodgers. Not a member yet of the PGA TOUR, trying to get that done today.

PATRICK RODGERS: I had every bit of evidence to tell me that I was on the right track, but it just was like out of alignment with where I had seen myself going. I had never dealt with such strong internal pressure from myself and felt like I had fallen so short of my own expectations.

ANNC: Unfortunate into the creek.

ANNC: You can only imagine what was flooding the brain, about to get the exempt status. The hardest thing in the world is to get the chance to have the freedom to play.

PATRICK RODGERS: Where did my confidence crack? When did I fold under pressure? What risks was I afraid to take? I think the biggest shift for me was meeting my wife. We met at the

end of 2016 in Miami Beach on a Christmas holiday. She was living in Los Angeles, pursuing her dreams, making films. I don't think either one of us met each other with any sort of expectation and very quickly, realized that it was someone that I couldn't live without. It changed my life, in a big, very unexpected, fast way. We got engaged a year-after our first date and married a year and a half after that, in the summer of 2019. Navigating life and golf with her has been like one of the most special parts of my golfing life. She just helped me become my own person and my own man. I definitely feel like it was chapter two of my golfing life.

JUDY RODGERS: If you could devise the perfect wife for Patrick, it would be Jade. She's very supportive and selfless. She's an ideal mother to his children. And without her, he couldn't do what he does. She supports him emotionally in such a huge, huge way.

CATHY FAULKNER: We loved her from the start. She's wonderful. So devoted to him and the kids. And, I think that she helps him maintain the proper perspective.

A4 - More insights from Patrick Rodgers Later in the show

MORE INSIGHTS FROM PATRICK RODGERS LATER IN THE SHOW.

B1 - Keith Mitchell Walkthrough CSC

KEITH MITCHELL: Hey, I'm Keith Mitchell. Let's walk through my practice round today here in Fort Worth. First tee, par five. Hit it a little right there in the right rough. I had to be careful here. I was trying to hit it over the trees in the distance and under the trees right where we're standing. Holes reachable in two, but not from the right rough.

This green slopes a bunch from back to front. Went to my 56. Try to take a little bit of spin off when it landed on the green. All in all on the green below the hole. Putting up to it for birdie. Number two. I've always hit driver here. Hit this one right over that last tree trunk at the far bunker gives you a little wedge into the green. Perfect angle into this green. The left side of the fairway really opens up the front of the green. Have about 75 yards here with a lob wedge. Again two greens and regulation. Not too bad. We always want to put our birdie putt out in practice rounds. You know gives us a little confidence especially like that one if it goes in from 25 plus feet I never put par putts in practice rounds. Never want to make a bogey if I don't have to.

We got 105 yards going to try to hit a lob wedge up and over and hopefully get some a little extra heat from the rough. Clear the tree by a mile. Didn't think I could actually hit it that high. Putt for birdie here on six.

Straight up the hill a little break at the end. Miss another one low. Going to blame Brad for not reading that one again. I was in between 7 and 8 iron here. Had some wind off the right 170. So chose hit a full eight and try to ride it with the wind. Probably one of my best shots of the day.

Spun left when it landed on the green and left us about this 4-or 5-footer. A little tap in bird. Love to have those all week. From about 100 yards. Hitting the sand wedge here. Got to go over water though. So you got to make sure you give it a little extra juice just in case. 30ft. past the hole's much better than 30ft short of the hole. Trying to cap off a nice practice round with a birdie.

Good read, finally Hit a little too hard. But all in all, we're giving myself that. Thanks for joining along. Hopefully learn some things that can help you and that help us prepare for a tournament.

B2 - Charles Schwab Challenger Winner

BUT IT WAS RUSSELL HENLEY WHO'S PREP CULMINATED WITH A TROPHY.

ANNC: It's Henley at the home of Hogan! He birdies the last four holes he plays today including the playoff. Just unbelievable resilience from Russell Henley.

RUSSELL HENLEY: I feel like mentally I've kind of let my frustrations get the best of me this year, and so I felt like this week I wanted to start just being better about that and fighting all the way through the finish line. It's amazing to be 11th on the FedExCup and kind of fighting my way back up closer to the top there. I'm excited about the rest of the year and I'm going to keep trying to work hard at it and see if I can be in contention as much as I can.

B3 - FEC Standings

WITH HIS WIN AT THE CHARLES SCHWAB CHALLENGE, RUSSELL HENLEY'S SIXTH CAREER VICTORY MOVES HIM UP 15 SPOTS TO ELEVENTH IN THE FEDEXCUP STANDINGS GOING INTO THE MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT PRESENTED BY WORKDAY.

B4 - Winner Walk

RUSSELL HENLEY: What a cool car.

TEIL DUNCAN HENLEY: Are we all getting in?

RUSSELL HENLEY: I think we should all get in.

TEIL DUNCAN HENLEY: OK.

RUSSELL HENLEY: Let's get in there.

TEIL DUNCAN HENLEY: Alright.

RUSSELL HENLEY: So you build this thing from scratch?

AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEER: Yes sir.

RUSSELL HENLEY: Are they all custom?

AUTOMOTIVE ENGINEER: The best of the best.

RUSSELL HENLEY: Wow.

TEIL DUNCAN HENLEY: Fun, I love the color.

RUSSELL HENLEY: Wow.

RUSSELL HENLEY: This is going to be great for the farm, huh?

PHOTOGRAPHER: What a great family.

TEIL DUNCAN HENLEY: That's great.

C1 – Rejoin

UP NEXT, PART TWO OF MINDFUL WITH PATRICK RODGERS.

C2 - Patrick Rodgers Mindful - Part 2

PATRICK RODGERS: Now entering year 12 on the PGA TOUR, I feel more confident than ever. Struggle shapes you. Failure teaches you and resilience becomes its own quiet superpower. I'm still here. I'm still going. And maybe that's the biggest win of all.

My whole career, I think, has been an evolution. I've always been very thoughtful with how I approached the game. I've had notebooks about my golf game since I was like 12 years old. But maybe earlier in my career it might have been more about improving my greens in regulation or putts per round. Now it's a lot more of like the soft skills.

How to be a more balanced human, a better husband, a better father, and then knowing that all of those things add up and translate to the golf course. I feel much freer and more comfortable in my own skin without feeling like that perceived lack of accomplishment is hanging over my head.

JUDY RODGERS: That is winning. When any human can feel that you have all you need. You've mastered whatever you're doing.

CHARLIE RODGERS Winning isn't the end all. It doesn't define him. Of course, it will be great when and if he does, but it's not who he is. If he wins or loses.

PATRICK RODGERS: A lot of my career has been a means to an end. Both to like provide for my family and achieve the outcomes that I always wanted to win tournaments, to be a major champion, to be one of the best players in the world. I realized that that was kind of an empty pursuit, because there's always that next step to get to. I needed to have a deeper meaning for playing. I've learned that life has a much deeper, more impactful meaning than a number on a scorecard. But yet pursuing my dreams and pushing myself to be the best that I can be on the PGA TOUR is a worthwhile pursuit.

The addiction and the obsession and what I love about the game, that's like the drug that golf is, and that's the thing that no matter if you win, miss a few cuts in a row, that's the same pursuit all the time that can't really be taken away. I hope that my kids take away a sense of empowerment that it's important to chase your dreams regardless of the outcome. I hope that I can be an example for my kids to be courageous. Whether you win a trophy along the way or not.

PRODUCER: We have one last surprise for you ...

PATRICK RODGERS: Oh shoot.

JADE RODGERS: Patrick, for the last ten years I've had a front-row seat to watching you chase your dream. I've seen you battle injuries, setbacks, doubts, and those moments when people question whether you'll ever get the success they thought you would. And yet somehow, every single time, you get back up. You don't stop. You keep going. From day one you've been unwavering as a partner, a husband, and a dad. Watching you with our kids — that's the thing that makes me fall in love with you all over again. You've won in the way you've built this life with us. And I know one day that trophy is coming. I've always believed that. Whether it happens tomorrow or years from now, I want you to know something: The greatest thing you've ever done isn't written on a leaderboard. It's the life you've built with us. And no matter what happens in golf, Rafi and Rosie — and our third that's on the way — will always know the most important thing about you: that their dad never stopped showing up.

PATRICK RODGERS: You know it and you feel it, but it's different when you read it. My life has just gotten immeasurably better and more fulfilled since I met Jade, and the way she has my back in every situation and every difficult moment is really extraordinary. She just makes me want to take on the world. There's a reason why I wanted to marry her on our first date and she's still showing up in that same way. I don't need to accomplish a single thing in my career because I feel like I've won the lottery the way we are as a team. But everything else just kind of feels

like a cherry on top, so. I feel like I need to pinch myself. I'm a lucky guy.

PATRICK RODGERS: A PGA TOUR win is something that I deeply, deeply, deeply care about. In a much different reason than I cared about at the beginning of my career. The joy of sharing that with my family and seeing the fruits of that labor pay off, I think it's a much less selfish way now. It's not to say that I'm a PGA TOUR champion for myself or to prove anything to anyone. It's just the moment that would provide for my family, old and young would be really special.

RAFI RODGERS: Keep practicing and one day you'll win a tournament. I just have a feeling one day you're going to win, I just know it. Be strong like a T-Rex, I love you so much.

D1 - Tee it Up – Memorial

LET'S TEE IT UP FOR THE MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT PRESENTED BY WORKDAY, WHERE THE BEST IN GOLF LOOK TO WIN AT JACK'S PLACE ...

RUSSELL HENLEY, COMING OFF A WIN AT COLONIAL, IS LOOKING TO BECOME THE 10TH GOLFER TO WIN BOTH ARNOLD PALMER AND JACK NICKLAUS' TOURNAMENTS ...

RORY MCILROY IS BACK TO MAKE HIS 14TH START AT THE MEMORIAL ... HE'S FINISHED IN THE TOP-10 FIVE TIMES ... THIS WILL BE MCILROY'S FIRST START SINCE HIS T7 FINISH AT THE PGA CHAMPIONSHIP...

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER LOOKS TO DEFEND HIS TITLE FOR A THIRD STRAIGHT YEAR AT THE MEMORIAL.... WITH TOP 3 FINISHES IN 4 OF HIS LAST 5 TOUR STARTS, SCHEFFLER IS STILL LOOKING FOR HIS SECOND WIN OF THE YEAR...

D2 - TV Times Memorial

ON THE PGA TOUR THIS WEEK, TUNE IN AS TODAY'S STARS TAKE ON LEGENDARY JACK NICKLAUS' PLACE AT THE MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT PRESENTED BY WORKDAY.

D3 - Champions Hole - Muirfield Village

THE PGA TOUR VISITS MUIRFIELD VILLAGE GOLF CLUB THIS WEEK, AND USING HISTORICAL DATA AND COURSE INSIGHTS, WE'VE IDENTIFIED THE CHAMPION'S HOLE...

LAUDED AS ONE OF THE TOUGHEST FINISHING HOLES ON TOUR, NO CHAMPION AT MUIRFIELD VILLAGE HAS HOISTED THE TROPHY WITHOUT CONQUERING THE 480-YARD 18TH HOLE.

SINCE 1983, THE WINNERS AT THE MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT HAVE A BELOW PAR SCORING AVERAGE, AND THEY GAIN 0.32 STROKES PER ROUND ON THE FIELD... THAT IS THE LARGEST DIFFERENCE OF ANY HOLE ON THE COURSE...

BACK TO THAT ELEVATED GREEN... SINCE SHOTLINK BEGAN TRACKING DATA IN 2003, THE 18TH GREEN IS THE SECOND-TOUGHEST TO HIT AT THE MEMORIAL TOURNAMENT, AS JUST 47 PERCENT OF PLAYERS GET ON IN REGULATION...

THAT PUTS AN INCREASED EMPHASIS ON SCRAMBLING... WINNERS HAVE BEEN ABLE TO GET UP AND DOWN JUST OVER 68 PERCENT OF THE TIME, WHILE THE FIELD IS AT 46 PERCENT... THAT IS THE THIRD-LARGEST DIFFERENTIAL ON THE COURSE...

SOMETIMES, YOU DON'T NEED TO SCRAMBLE AND YOU CAN FINISH IN STYLE... WINNERS MAKE BIRDIE OR BETTER MORE THAN 26 PERCENT OF THE TIME ON THE 18TH HOLE, MORE THAN DOUBLE THE RATE OF THE FIELD AVERAGE – AGAIN, THE LARGEST DIFFERENTIAL OF ANY HOLE ON THE COURSE...

THERE WAS NEVER A MORE PERFECT EXAMPLE OF THIS THAN 2014... HIDEKI MATSUYAMA WON IN A PLAYOFF, BUT THERE WERE THIRTY-SEVEN PLAYERS IN THE FIELD WHO WOULD HAVE WON THE EVENT IF THEY HAD SWITCHED SCORES ON THE 18TH WITH MATSUYAMA... THAT'S BECAUSE HE PAINTED A MASTERPIECE ON 18, RECORDING BIRDIE IN EACH ROUND!

MATSUYAMA'S PERFORMANCE STARTED A STRETCH IN WHICH 11 OF THE LAST 12 WINNERS PLAYED THE HOLE AT PAR OR BETTER... AND THAT'S WHY THE 18TH AT MUIRFIELD VILLAGE GOLF CLUB IS THE CHAMPION'S HOLE.

D4 - Show Courtesy