Production Transcript for 22INTCUTCH - HOAG CLASSIC.mp3

[00:00:53] >> Welcome into our first round coverage of the Hoag Classic PGA TOUR Champions out on the West Coast in Newport Beach, California, that historic Newport Beach Country Club. Leaderboard as it stands right now, familiar name has now joined the fray. There are four tied for the lead at 5 under par, including 43-time winner on the PGA TOUR Champions Bernhard Langer, 5-under through 12, defending champion a couple years ago. Ernie Els just a shot back, part of a bunch that's currently in a tie for fifth at 4 under par. We have Bernhard Langer now on the 13th tee.

[00:01:31] >> Par-3 today playing 160 yards with the wind in from the right. Birdies on his last two holes.

[00:01:39] >> And continues to go flag hunting. Just a beautiful shot right over top of the flag here at 13. Great leave there for Bernhard.

[00:01:47] >> The signature hole out here, the par-3 17th. Don't let the sun fool you, a little chilly out there.

[00:01:53] >> Yes, I think it's a very chilly day, a little bit more than we expect here this time of year. And hold location on the top left here, I think the hardest on this green. And a gorgeous shot by Cameron Beckman.

[00:02:06] >> Some of the earlier highlights, Lanny, Jim Furyk for birdie on the 4th.

[00:02:12] >> Yeah, a little 129-yard par-3, and a beautiful roll by Furyk down the slope.

[00:02:20] >> How about this name, Bernhard Langer? What a run he has been on the start the season.

[00:02:23] >> He has been aggressive with the driver here at 11, and a wonderful little pitch shot in there to about 18 inches. Extremely well done.

[00:02:31] >> Nippy little wedge there. That has him at 4 under par. Very next hole, Lanny.

[00:02:36] >> Yeah, about 104 yards here, and smartly, he drove it up the left side of the fairway to create an angle. And again, another well-judged short iron in there to about three feet. Just excellent wedge control there by Langer.

[00:02:49] >> Langer would kick that in for birdie. Ernie Els in the same group to match.

[00:02:53] >> Ernie's putting has been a little bit better as of late. Had a good finish last week in Tucson. He's a little bit more excited about it heading into this week.

[00:03:02] >> And now on the 13th, Bernhard Langer for another birdie.

[00:03:06] >> Covered the flag right over top of the flag, going down the slope, moving hard right to left.

[00:03:12] >> Get out of here.

[00:03:13] >> Oh, my goodness. That's what he's been doing so well all year.

[00:03:17] >> On the 18th, Jeff Maggert has this for birdie.

[00:03:21] >> To finish 5-under, and he gets it. Jeff swinging very well and he's been working on the putting a lot lately. It looks like it's starting to work for him. So good play there by Jeff.

[00:03:35] >> Second shot to the closing hole, Cameron Beckman at 5-under.

[00:03:39] >> Takes two good pokes to get there up to slope, air's cool. He ought to be able to get close even if he can't get there. Oh, he does. Look at this shot by Beckman, turned it into the flag.

[00:03:49] >> How good is that, Lanny?

[00:03:50] >> Can't get any better than that with that hole location. That's outstanding.

[00:03:57] >> Third shot for Jim Furyk from the bunker. This on the 14th.

[00:04:02] >> Oh, oh. I thought that was in.

[00:04:05] >> How did that not drop?

[00:04:06] >> I don't know. The pace was wonderful.

[00:04:12] >> Ernie Els should be letting this one rip, Phil.

[00:04:14] >> Yes. Perfect conditions for Ernie. He likes to hit high draw. Boy, he's hammered this thing. This is launched.

[00:04:22] >> And it's chasing out nicely. It's rolling another 30 yards, so big tee shot there by Ernie.

[00:04:28] >> Cameron Beckman on the 18th green to leapfrog Bernhard Langer.

[00:04:33] >> Yeah, I cannot get over how great a second shot he just played in here. This is up the hill, maybe right edge.

[00:04:37] >> Finish it off with a three on the last.

[00:04:42][ Applause ]

[00:04:45] >> And he looked very cool doing it, too. That was very casual, a little brush in there.

[00:04:49] >> Well, you know, that's the cherry on top with a 7-under 64 for Cameron Beckman. One-shot lead at the moment here at the Hoag Classic over Langer. You see Yang, Maggert, Dodd now in a tie for third. Scott Parel is in the same group as Colin Montgomery to move to 4-under.

[00:05:14] >> We have seen some really long tee shots from Parel today in a couple places, George. And if you're leaving yourself these kind of putts, you should be getting something in. There we go.

[00:05:29] >> We saw Parel blast it on the par-5 3rd, made birdie there. Now takes advantage of another par-5 in birdying the 15th. Mike Weir, 15th green.

[00:05:41] >> Well, you got a good look from Retief Goosen. So Mike knows this is edge or inside the hole with the proper pace. And he snuck it in the left edge, little softer speed.

[00:05:56] >> Slip back to 15, Darren Clarke's second at the par-5.

[00:05:58] >> Much better angle from the left there, about 200 yards into the hole, just over 200. That's a good-looking shot if it's the right distance.

[00:06:08] >> Might catch the slope. He would like it to come back around. It might feed down. Don't hang, don't hang. Come on Clarke, you start yelling at it. There you go, now it's going to be good.

[00:06:20] >> Work in, work in.

[00:06:22] >> Yeah.

[00:06:23] >> Work in.

[00:06:25] >> Yeah, he can say, I just had a great shot. Beautiful

[00:06:29] >> Over on the front nine, some trouble for Y. Yang. Tee shot OB, this now his fourth of the par-4.

[00:06:34] >> Yeah, and flirted with it with his second tee shot having it that far left. So obviously Y not liking where this hole sets up. Might be able to get out of here with bogey if he can make a putt.

[00:06:48] >> That tee shot really opened this up for Ernie.

[00:06:49] >> What has Ernie got in here, Big? This looks like a 7-iron or something.

[00:06:53] >> Oh, it's got to be less than that. He's only got 173 yards. He's got a little help from the right. I'm thinking he could hit a big 9 if he wanted.

[00:07:00] >> Oh my.

[00:07:00] >> At the very least, it would be a soft 8. Goosen hit 7 in the group prior. This is right up his alley. He can kind of use that slope as a backboard a little bit.

[00:07:12] >> Yes. 100%. Yeah, don't let it get right. Anywhere just a little left of the flag. Oh, he overcooked it. He's turned it left. He is not going to be happy with that. Well, that may come back down. He just got happier. He just put a smiley face on that shot. It's okay. Didn't turn out as bad as he thought it was going to.

[00:07:35] >> All's well that ends well.

[00:07:39] >> Let's move forward to the 18th, Rocco Mediate for the biride.

[00:07:41] >> New putting style for Rocco. He's emulating Bryson DeChambeau with what he's doing, and it seems to be working for Rocco. Might rejuvenate his career a little bit. For one, it's a nice round of golf.

[00:08:08] >> Ernie didn't read enough break into that. He had good paste but just never high enough. See to me, that should have been a putt Ernie should have been trying to miss on the high side. It's almost impossible to do with that slope. You saw his playing partners ball, you know, Darren Clarke's ball come off that slope. That's how severe it is. Clarkie coming the other direction, this is about right edge putt or so, Big?

[00:08:29] >> It is. You know, this time of day though, this sits right in a saddle, Lanny. And it comes off a big kind of knob on his left and then the slope to his right. It sits right down in there. And so it can be hard to pick up the exact read. He's got shadows from the trees, palm trees around the screen kind of laying across as well that can sometimes distort I think a little bit your vision when you get those, particularly at an angle like they are right now.

[00:08:50] >> Yeah, and the other thing is if you get it outside the hole with just a shade too much pace, it is not going to turn. It's got to be the proper pace here to match the line. This for eagle. Yes.

[00:09:07] >> Pours that one in. Third eagle of the day on the par-5 15th. Clarke jumps from 3 to 5-under. Scott Parel to cash in for birdie in a round of 4-under 67. Parel birdied all three par-5's at Newport Beach Country Club. Here's Bernhard Langer also trying to catch our leader Cameron Beckman.

[00:09:30] >> You know, Lanny, we throw accolades on Bernhard every week, it seems. But to play around a weakness in your game and still play as well as he does, that's phenomenal.

[00:09:38] >> Yeah, and he's done that for a while, his chipping, pitching. I want to say about four or five years ago he almost had the yips chipping, but the rest of his game makes up for it. And like you said, Phil, he's figured out a way to play around it and he's worked very hard on it. I wouldn't say it's a big plus in his game, but he can handle the pitches and chips now pretty regularly.

[00:09:59] >> Miguel trying to force something in on 15 for eagle.

[00:10:04][ Applause ] How about that shot?

[00:10:11] >> We're back on the 18th, Bernhard Langer's been a magician with these shots today, Big.

[00:10:14] >> It looks like he's chosen maybe less than a wedge here, kind of a long putt stroke almost, a lower pitch and run. Trying to scoot it back there. Did he hit it hard enough?

[00:10:27] >> Pretty good. A little short, but not bad.

[00:10:36] >> David Toms to close out his round with a birdie.

[00:10:44] >> Kind of left center putt. Oh, he kind of waved at it and got in the edge.

[00:10:52] >> That one fluttered in. Tom's 4 deep though today.

[00:10:59] >> Mike Weir for birdie at 18.

[00:11:07] >> Round of 69 for Weir.

[00:11:12] >> Langer's got a little bit of an uphill putt. And you know, they've been coming -- so many putts have bene so quick, I think sometimes it's tough to adjust mentally.

[00:11:26] >> Langer to shoot his age with a 64.

[00:11:29] >> Been doing that a lot lately. Not that one. That turned off. I don't think he ever played that quite high enough. He was putting that, he liked where he aimed that, I think. But that had to be at least on the top edge and it wasn't.

[00:11:46] >> You leave one short like this last hole. What are you thinking here?

[00:11:49] >> Well, he's thinking you hit this solid. And it's tough putting in the shadows this time of day.

[00:11:56] >> Furyk for eagle.

[00:11:57] >> Oh my.

[00:11:57] >> How good is that?

[00:12:00] >> Makes up for the last one. There you go, Jim Furyk. Great finish.

[00:12:06][ Applause ]

[00:12:12] >> Eagle number two on the 18th today. Furyk, 2-under 69.

[00:12:19] >> Cameron Beckman 7-under 64, one clear of the rest of the field. A name that surprises you on the first page of the leaderboard.

[00:12:25] >> Yeah, Cameron Beckman, I mean, I haven't seen much of him lately. I know he's got the talent. He's got a win out here and capable of really playing well. Just hasn't played to the level I think he should be playing to.

[00:12:48] >> March here in Southern California. You think you're going to escape the cold? Yeah, not today. The wind is whipping for round two of the Hoag Classic. Feels like a seaside Lynx in Ireland type of day at Newport Beach Country Club. A couple under can actually be a pretty good score. George Savaricas with World Golf Hall of Famer Lanny Wadkins checking out some of the earlier highlights. Retief Goosen, par-3 4th.

[00:13:08] >> Yeah, cute little hole here, wind really a factor today. Have to be aware of it. Goosen gives it a wide berth out to the right, uses the slope and the wind, that is really a well-placed shot.

[00:13:20] >> Goosen on a tear early with birdie five of his first seven holes. Speaking of the 7th, David Toms for birdie.

[00:13:26] >> Really tough green to putt, slopes very hard from the back right where Toms is to the front left, just trying to get this one close. And boom, look what I found.

[00:13:37] >> How about that from Toms? Cameron Beckman on the 6th, the overnight leader.

[00:13:41] >> Just off the front left of the green, you're always smart keeping it on the ground when the winds blowing this hole. And really worked out well for Cameron there.

[00:13:49] >> Beckman playing solid. Ernie Els defending champ from back in 2020 on the 12th.

[00:13:55] >> Hanging in there, playing very nice golf. He's even par today, needs some birdies. This may get it started for Ernie Els. And he would go on to make that and get to sixth. He is three back.

[00:14:06] >> How about that big bunch in a tie for second at 6-under? They're three back of the leader Cameron Beckman who was 2-under in his second round through 10 holes.

[00:14:18] >> Let's go out to the action on the 11th, Cameron Beckman with the short one left for par.

[00:14:23] >> Yeah, drove it in a bad position, pitched it just over the back of the green, and long approach putt from off the edge to here. Actually a pretty good save. Had he hit his tee shot left, he might have had a simple up and down for birdie.

[00:14:37] >> Jump ahead to the par-3 17th, Lee Janzen.

[00:14:42] >> Hole location on the front right today at 17, pretty cute. Oh, and Lee Janzen takes the flag on, bounces it off the flag. What a great shot.

[00:14:54] >> Back on the 13th, the par-3, Ernie Els on the tee.

[00:14:58] >> 174 today, hole location over in the left-hand side. I think he's trying to get the wind to move it right to left. Hangs out, that could be some issues. He's got to come over a slow hump in the green. It's doable.

[00:15:13] >> Back to 17, Lee Janzen.

[00:15:20] >> Just about three feet for Janzen. This ought to be kind of right center, right edge putt.

[00:15:25] >> Janzen to move into solo second at 7-under.

[00:15:28] >> Oh yeah, no problem.

[00:15:31] >> 5-under today, ties the low round on the course.

[00:15:33] >> And a par-5 18th coming up.

[00:15:38] >> Let's move along to the 13th, Ernie Els for birdie.

[00:15:40] >> Coming up the slope in the beginning, then back downhill right there, going to turn right to left. Oh, he buried it.

[00:15:47] >> Ernie. Now in a tie for second with Lee Janzen at 7-under.

[00:15:52] >> That's not something we've been saying a lot in the last few months, Ernie burying a putt.

[00:15:57] >> on the 18th, Lee Janzen also part of this group at 7-under.

[00:16:01] >> Yeah, front right hole location, kind of a tough spot here. Lee about 12 feet. Did he hit it? Yes he did.

[00:16:08] >> What a round from Lee Janzen. Ernie Els' second to the 15th. Lanny, he said after yesterday, how does he handle tough conditions at this stage of his career? I've done well at links golf at the Open. I've done well, but I also haven't done well. So kind of a mixed bag.

[00:16:26] >> I think that's the way it is with most great players, because they try to play the shots required. And some days you pull them off and some days it just doesn't work very well. This works pretty well right there. Good shot there by Ernie. He's going to have that for eagle. What a play, and a simple little uphill putt too.

[00:16:46] >> Stephen Ames 18th for birdie.

[00:16:49] >> Pulled that one. Stephen really improved his putting last year and started having a lot of good finishes. And we're seeing a lot more of him at the top of the leaderboard, and I think it's because he has improved his putting. Just a gorgeous golf swing, hits a lot of quality shots.

[00:17:03] >> 68, 69.

[00:17:11] >> Shortest par-5 on the course, 491 yards, playing as the easiest hole today in Newport Beach Country Club.

[00:17:17] >> And then you add the wind in, crosswind, trying to get it back onto that little shelf that requires quite a good shot.

[00:17:41] >> Second for Langer.

[00:17:43] >> Great starting line.

[00:17:44] >> Needs to get down. Oh, beautiful shot.

[00:17:48] >> That's going to end up very close to what Ernie's did. Not quite as deep into the green, but he's up there hole high, putting up the slope. Could not have a better look.

[00:17:57] >> Els for eagle to grab a two-shot lead.

[00:18:06] >> That was a little wishy there. That wasn't his best stroke. He's been making better strokes than that.

[00:18:17] >> Ernie now at 8-under, 3-under on his round.

[00:18:20] >> Langer here with his chance for three. He's just been playing solid, not really doing anything spectacular, taking what the course gives him. And look out for Bernard Langer.

[00:18:33] >> Yeah, 2-over today and not much going on for Bernhard. And that's kind of a weak effort there, surprising.

[00:18:42] >> If he knocks that in, gets back to 6, you know, I wouldn't count him out either come tomorrow, Lanny.

[00:18:49] >> Oh no. There's a lot of golf left to be played, and at least a potential birdie or two coming to the house.

[00:18:55] >> I don't know if I'd count out Bernhard Langer just about any week on the PGA TOUR Champions. Slowly making his way back up the leaderboard, Langer in a tie for sixth. Ernie Els up by 1 in Newport Beach. Ernie Els.

[00:19:09] >> Tough little putt here. Greens are getting a little bouncy here in the afternoon.

[00:19:19] >> First wishy-washy stroke from Ernie.

[00:19:20] >> Yeah, he just got it outside.

[00:19:23] >> Three-putt bogey. That has opened things up once again for, tied for the lead at 7 under par.

[00:19:33] >> Some of the great shots that we've seen right here on the par-3 17th, Lanny. Earlier, a little less breezy for Scott Dunlap.

[00:19:42] >> Well, you can use the backstop behind the flag, and Scott does that to a point. Yeah, there it is, left of it. This should come around back to the hole. There you go.

[00:19:55] >> Greens have been so firm this week. You see how much this was rolling up.

[00:19:59] >> That's the way you do it.

[00:20:03] >> Nearly a hole-in-one.

[00:20:05] >> Jeff Hart's second from off the 17th.

[00:20:12] >> Tough little pitch, got to land it just right. And well played there by Jeff Hart.

[00:20:19] >> Now, Kirk Triplett who struggled in his opening round but today can seemingly do no wrong.

[00:20:28] >> Up the left-hand side, this should hit the slope and come on down.

[00:20:33] >> Triplett had opened with a 75. And this will nestle in tight on the 17th. He's currently 4-under on his round today.

[00:20:46] >> Beckman, fellow coleader at 7-under, his second from the sand.

[00:20:49] >> Yeah, this is doable. He's on the upslope, just dumping that on the edge of the green, let it release. Hit it fat. Didn't carry it to the green.

[00:21:00] >> David Toms for birdie.

[00:21:03] >> Well, he needed that one. That would have been a very disappointing par had he not gotten that one in. Don't know what kind of third shot he played there.

[00:21:10] >> David Toms with a 2-under 69 that included a double on the 14th. He's at 6-under, just a shot off the lead and a tie for fifth.

[00:21:23] >> Cameron Beckman for par. Stays right the whole way.

[00:21:40] >> Beckman with another dropped shot. Will be his third bogey on the back nine. At one point he had a three-shot lead. Beckman will now fall one back, see he's currently in a tie for fourth. An impressive round. Ernie will tap this in for a 3-under 68, beating the scoring average today by four and a half shots.

[00:22:09] >> And he has the lead heading to tomorrow. Always a good thing. Take every single shot you can get ahead. Don't be bashful.

[00:22:20] >> Beckman started the day at 7-under. Assuming he knocks this in, he'll walk off the 18th green at 7-under, one back at Ernie Els.

[00:22:29] >> Yeah, one back, not a bad spot to be, and he'll be in front of Els in the next-to-last group tomorrow. He can go out there and maybe shoot a good number and put some pressure on the leaders, on Ernie.

[00:22:47] >> So Beckman in a tie for second at 7-under. You see this leaderboard, what comes to mind, Lanny?

[00:22:53] >> Well, what comes to mind is that we've got a lot of guys that have won a lot of quality tournaments right at the top. It makes it a big, high mountain for Cameron Beckman to try and climb. And you've got the likes of Ernie Els, Lee Janzen, Retief Goosen all there. It's going to be quite a show tomorrow.

[00:23:14] >> Final round of the Hoag Classic, and things changed here at Newport Beach Country Club in a hurry. I'm not just talking about the conditions, but the complexion of the leaderboard. It took about one hole here on Sunday for Retief Goosen to hole out, take the lead, and he has taken full control of this tournament, 5-under through 8 today, a four-shot advantage over K. J. Choi. Ernie Els had the lead coming into Sunday, has been going the wrong direction, 3-over through 8. Els now trails by 7. A moment ago, out on the 9th, Ernie Els trying to right the ship, Phil.

[00:23:51] >> It's been a tough start for sure. This is from 126 yards out of the rough, a good lie, back right hole location. Uphill and he needs a lot of these to get back into this tournament.

[00:24:00] >> Yeah, he could actually have used this to have gone in, Phil. But great shot in there by Ernie, needs that.

[00:24:08] >> Up to the 11th from just short of the green, Doug Barron for birdie.

[00:24:16] >> Great little birdie there, hard to get it close to that hole location on 11 today.

[00:24:21] >> Ernie Els to get one back.

[00:24:24] >> Needs to get this moving in the other direction. Hasn't been the putter so far for Ernie. It's been the ball striking has not been up to his normal quality.

[00:24:35] >> Signs of life.

[00:24:39] >> Boy, he can do it. I mean, 10 and 11 and 12 are all birdie holes sitting right there in front of you. Can he get on a run here and then, you know, be a factor?

[00:24:48] >> Tim Petrovic also from off the green. We just saw Doug Barron hole out a moment ago.

[00:24:53] >> Yeah, popular spot here, leaving right off the front of the green. And maybe that's the reason why -- it's a simple putt. Saw two guys just bury it there. Barron's going to give Petrovic a little room service. There you go.

[00:25:14] >> Got to be careful with these on Poana.

[00:25:17] >> Lee Janzen in with par on the 9th.

[00:25:24] >> Middle of the 10th fairway, David Toms.

[00:25:30] >> Perfect tee shot by Toms. Good look here, this hole location 20 steps on and beautiful play right underneath the flag.

[00:25:42] >> Jump from 10 to the 11th, Bernhard Langer.

[00:25:44] >> Yeah, one of the best examples of how hard it is to get to the hole is right here at the 11th. This hole location right on the front left, it's hard and just hard to get it close. That's a really good shot by Langer. Excellent play.

[00:26:14] >> Give you some good vibes to close out your Sunday at the Hoag Classic. Started his week here at Newport Beach Country Club with a 69 and will close it out with a 69. Back to the 11th, Bernhard Langer past the pin, downhill birdie putt.

[00:26:33] >> Anytime you're downhill, you're always being a little careful. You don't want it getting away from you pace-wise. That one was a little frisky. This is what you'd like to do at 10 right here, George, have the uphill look. Maybe a right center, right edge putt. Always out to the right.

[00:27:02] >> Leaderboard as it stands right now, Retief Goosen rounded the day shaping up so far, 5-under at the turn, playing the 10th, four-shot lead over K. J. Choi who has a par putt on that 10th green. Tim Petrovic also playing well, 4-under on his round. He's in a tie for third with Lee Janzen. Ernie Els a birdie on the 9th but 2-over on his round. Been a disappointing front nine for the two-time winner on the PGA TOUR Champions, defending champion here at the Hoag Classic. Some of the other notable names just outside the top 10. Bernhard Langer, Darren Clarke there in that tie for 16th. Steven Alker playing great today, 5-under on his round. He's been able to jump all the way up to a tie for 13th. Miguel Angel Jimenez even today in the final round in a tie for 21st. Jim Furyk, we just saw him close out his week with that 1-under 70. 1-under has him in a tie for 27th. Some of the earlier highlights, Retief Goosen after eagling the 1st, for birdie on the 2nd.

[00:28:14] >> Yeah, beautiful putt there, and obviously hold the second shot at one. Turn comes back with a great little play at two, then an excellent iron second shot into three. This is for his two-putt birdie. Had a look at eagle. So an amazing start for Goosen.

[00:28:29] >> Was 4-under through 3, more from Goosen on the 6th.

[00:28:34] >> In the right rough, but the lie was clean so he could be aggressive with the short iron. Hole location pretty much out in the open for him from that angle, and he takes advantage, in there to three feet. Just a lovely shot by Goose.

[00:28:46] >> Retief Goosen taking control of this tournament, was 5-under through 6, 5-under on his front nine, a four-shot lead over K. J. Choi. And here is the scorecard -- eagle, birdie, birdie, another birdie on the 6th. Goosen flying here at Newport Beach Country Club.

[00:29:08] >> Tim Petrovic on the 12th, already 4-under on his round. You see that big tree guarding the front of this green.

[00:29:15] >> Hole location back today, so the tree not much of a factor. You've still got to contend with it a little. And Retief doing what you're supposed to, Phil. He got in there nice.

[00:29:25] >> He did. He's 5-under though 7, so he putted poorly the rest of the way when I saw him last night. But you know, if no one makes a charge, putt it on the green for a two-putt, but you always like to putt your pedal to the metal. So here's a good chance for him.

[00:29:39] >> Well, you know what? You never know when things are going to go the wrong way. So you build that lead as much as you can, and if you end up winning by five, six, seven, eight, that's fine. If it happens to slip back to three or four, at least you had some wiggle room. And there's Goosen extending the lead. I like that.

[00:29:57] >> Like he's listening to you, Lanny.

[00:29:58] >> That was beautiful.

[00:29:59] >> Such a pure roll from Goosen, 13-under, five-shot lead at the Hoag Classic.

[00:30:08] >> Let's move to the 12th, Bernhard Langer's third shot from off the green.

[00:30:12] >> Going with hybrid, gets it rolling through the fringe very nicely. And the result is very nice. There you go, Bernhard. Kind of sneaking back up now.

[00:30:23] >> 4-under catapults him back inside the top 10.

[00:30:26] >> 15 and 18 may be potential eagles.

[00:30:28] >> K. J. Choi to tidy up his par on the 12th. So K. J. Choi, Tim Petrovic tied for second at 8-under.

[00:30:45] >> Head to the 13th green, Stephen Ames eying up his birdie putt.

[00:30:50] >> Yeah, left this in a nice spot, putting straight up the valley, if you will. And yes indeed.

[00:30:55] >> Hello.

[00:30:56] >> Good putt.

[00:30:59] >> Nice roll from Ames, back-to-back birdies from 12 and 13. He's at 7-under.

[00:31:04] >> He's at it.

[00:31:08] >> Goosen, the benefit here having watched that ball land softly. So he knows he can fly it pretty far back there and have it not run through like it did at the last.

[00:31:20] >> Pretty good line right here, according to our tracer. And an excellent shot by Goosen. He's got a very makeable putt, about 12-footer, 10-, 12-footer for birdie.

[00:31:28] >> Nice bounce back for Goosen after bogeying the last.

[00:31:39] >> All the way back to the 12th, Ernie Els to try and pull within 5.

[00:31:43] >> Yeah, he's just looking just a little disconsolate. Certainly you can understand why with what Goosen's done out here today. He could hole this one, maybe just get a little mojo on his side, change that step a little bit, off and running possibly.

[00:31:56] >> Yeah, no question, Phil. And you know, even though Goosen's played exceptionally well today, I mean, Ernie's, you know, position is a lot self-inflicted. There's no reason with Ernie coming out the way he's been playing he couldn't have been 3-under today. He would still be within shouting distance of Goosen and we'd have game on.

[00:32:21] >> This is birdie putt. Gets it to drop.

[00:32:24] >> Boy, you never know. It might be game on still.

[00:32:26] >> It may be. And his putting stroke looks better this week than it has looked in a long time.

[00:32:35] >> 13th tee, K. J. Choi four back.

[00:32:38] >> Hole location on the right front right over the bunker. Don't want any part of that bunker. This is all over the flag. Oh, beautiful shot by K. J. Straight at it.

[00:32:51] >> K. J. could be making it interesting now. Up on the 14th, Bernhard Langer's second.

[00:33:01] >> Just in the right rough. This hole location at 14's over on the left-hand -- excuse me, right-hand side, hard to get it close if you're up the right side of the fairway. That's really well done there by Langer.

[00:33:13] >> Back on the 12th, can Retief Goosen match what we saw from Ernie Els?

[00:33:18] >> Well, it's not the kind of putt that you can be real bold with. It's a little downhill, so you've just got to make a soft stroke and hope that it holds its line with this green so quick.

[00:33:31] >> He actually made a pretty good roll with his putt that missed on the previous hole. That may be too low. Oh, it hangs in there. Nice. I thought it was too low and going to turn out, and that was a great read by Goosen. Beautiful pace.

[00:33:44] >> After bogeying 11, Goosen immediately answers. Another birdie on the 12th. Five-shot lead once again over Petrovic and Choi.

[00:33:59] >> To the 13th. It's a little momentum swing here in the last five minutes.

[00:34:07] >> Yeah, no question. I mean, there have been some openings for K. J. He hasn't taken advantage. Goosen just made another birdie. Is he going to even keep pace at this stage?

[00:34:17] >> If Goosen misses, K. J. could have pulled within three, but Goosen makes, he's at 13-under. If K. J. Choi misses here, the margin's still 5.

[00:34:25] >> And we haven't seen K. J. make a putt in quite a long time.

[00:34:29] >> It's certainly been a minute. K. J.'s last birdie coming on the 7th.

[00:34:40] >> And there have been some short holes in that stretch -- holes that he's had driver, wedge, driver, 9-iron, some holes that he really should have been making birdies if he wants to run down Goosen. Got that one.

[00:34:55] >> Right in the cup. K. J. Choi in solo second at 9-under. Closing hole, par-5 18th, Miguel Angel Jimenez immersing himself in the gallery for his third.

[00:35:10] >> Yeah, way over to the left, got a little pitch shot from behind the green. Pretty well done right there. Had plenty of green to work with, and nice shot by Miguel.

[00:35:27] >> K. J. Choi at 9-under in solo second, 14th fairway.

[00:35:34] >> He's going to take dead aim. This hole location's over the right-hand side. He has, this is going straight at it. Get up. Beautiful shot by K. J. that's what he's looking for.

[00:35:56] >> Miguel Angel Jimenez birdies his final hole of the week. 73, 67, 70. Can K. J. Choi shave this deficit down to three shots?

[00:36:15] >> Not much in this. A little downhill. Pulled it, I think. Yes, he did. That was a pretty straight putt. Langer had one on that line earlier and it was straight the hole way. And it looked like K. J. was trying to hit it easy. And sometimes when you hit it easy, the hands stop and the putter head releases, and that's what happened right there.

[00:36:38] >> A good tee shot here, this hole becomes a birdie hole now. Playing 140, he's got 134, a little downhill back into the breeze. It's very cool right now, so the ball not going real far. He's got a great look from here.

[00:36:49] >> He really does. The bunker shouldn't really be a factor here. He does like to work it right to left, so not a hole location he would be in love with, but he takes it on. What a great shot by Janzen.

[00:36:59] >> Roll out.

[00:37:04] >> Pretty well done right there. That's two good ones in a row. He just creased it to a tough hole location at 13, comes right back and does the same thing here.

[00:37:17] >> Janzen basically blocking the cup.

[00:37:19] >> Yeah, and Phil, I'm guessing Retief's lie is okay in this short rough.

[00:37:24] >> The lie is like it's sitting on a tee, couldn't be any better. Five yards closer, 129.

[00:37:32] >> He's got to be looking, what, 10 feet left of the flat, hole high?

[00:37:36] >> I think so. I was trying to listen in there a little bit. But you know, it helps when you go second, you had a chance to watch Janzen's ball in the air, give you a little feel for how the ball's flying up there. I mean, from this distance, just a little flip wedge, you can go ahead and be pretty aggressive. You've got 18 feet at least right of this hole still on the green.

[00:37:54] >> Let's check out our Top Tracer Technology, this brought to you by the Hawaiian Islands.

[00:38:02] >> He's set up to take it on, and he is. That's really well done by Retief. He's got it down in the day, swinging with as much confidence as I've seen him swing with in a long, long time.

[00:38:16] >> Lanny, the 15th playing as the easiest hole on the course here at Newport Beach Country Club. Stephen Ames for birdie.

[00:38:22] >> Yeah, nice position here, just two feet straight up the hill. No problem, gets him to 8-under.

[00:38:35] >> Janzen after his second shot nearly dropped, a tap-in birdie.

[00:38:51] >> He's within three, first time somebody's been that close in a long time. Let's see how Goosen responds.

[00:39:02] >> K. J. Choi, 4-under, 10-under for the Championship here at the Hoag Classic, but has given up ground today to Retief Goosen. 17th tee, it's Jeff Maggert, 1-over for the week.

[00:39:14] >> Hole location, the back right. Need to land it right into the crest on that right side. And there it is. That should come back.

[00:39:32] >> Dropping.

[00:39:32] >> That's what we're looking for.

[00:39:39] >> Look where K. J. Choi drove it on the 16th.

[00:39:42] >> Do you sacrifice a club right now? I think I would. He didn't have to. He might be okay.

[00:39:52] >> Scurrying towards the front of the green.

[00:39:54] >> That ends up great. What a shot by K. J. That is spectacular.

[00:39:59] >> Pulled one off there. I thought the tree might get him, but he was far enough back, it did not. It's hard to commit to this shot, and K. J. did right there and just knew he wasn't going to get the tree, even though he short-armed it a little bit. It worked out well.

[00:40:16] >> Ernie Els' birdie attempt.

[00:40:26] >> Finally somebody makes it from behind the hole. Ernie hit it with the proper pace. Very nice.

[00:40:31] >> That's a pretty slick up and down from where he was short of the green. He had to negotiate that ridge. That was well done.

[00:40:36] >> All that work Ernie's done, he's now worked his way back to even-par for the day. Now we've got some -- we may have some fun going into 17 and 18. I didn't think we were going to have any, George.

[00:40:51] >> K. J. keeping it somewhat exciting on the back nine.

[00:40:57] >> It's quite a round he's got going. I mean, K. J.'s 4-under today. I mean, Goosen is 7-under today. It's incredible.

[00:41:12] >> This becomes big now for Goosen with K. J. up there almost tap-in range for birdie at 16. He doesn't know it, but this becomes very important.

[00:41:28][ Applause ]

[00:41:36] >> I mean, with how good a second shot K. J. Choi hit on 16, he's got to knock this in for birdie.

[00:41:43] >> And he does. Only a couple feet, and trying to keep a little bit of heat on Goosen, and he's succeeding.

[00:41:49] >> Goosen and Choi separating themselves from the rest of the field at the Hoag Classic.

[00:41:57] >> Cameron Beckman for birdie, started the day at 7-under, now 4, needs this to get back to 5. So a disappointing day for Cameron, I'm sure. He kind of held in there pretty good yesterday and then thought he might play a little bit around the golf today. That may have been the issue.

[00:42:13] >> 4-under has him in a tie for 10th.

[00:42:23][ Applause ]

[00:42:29] >> The middle part of his round did him in, from 8 to 11, three bogies.

[00:42:35] >> Retief Goosen, three-shot lead, a birdie pot here on the 16th green.

[00:42:40] >> There's a leaderboard right off the front left of this green. He has no idea where K. J. may have hit his iron shot there at 17, but he does know that he birdied the 16th. So he would like to run theis in straight up the hill. This is, Lanny, a very makeable putt. Not much in it.

[00:42:54] >> It's perfect to make, just don't get too frisky with it. Put by at the most.

[00:43:10] >> Didn't hit it.

[00:43:15] >> Not only did K. J. Choi hit a poor shot, he has a really, really difficult pitch here, George.

[00:43:21] >> How high is he going to have to play this? We see the tilt in the green.

[00:43:24] >> 10, 15 feet left of the flag at least. It's got to kick right and go straight sideways once it gets on top. There it is. No way to stop it now.

[00:43:40] >> May not stay on the green. K. J. Choi and full scramble mode on the 17th.

[00:44:02] >> Just a very, very poor shot off the tee for K. J. I think the wrong club and he hit it left. You know he needed to be trying to fly this. About 18 feet short of the hole would have been the place to fly it, right into the crest of that upslope. We've seen shots from Fred Couples and other players and they've made two here in the last round, that's where it landed. I think that's what he was going for, but he just complete mishit off the tee, then really had no shot with a pitch at all to get it close.

[00:44:30] >> If this hasn't already been decided, this the last gasp for K. J. Choi.

[00:44:34] >> You would think so.

[00:44:38] >> His par try on the way. K. J. Choi nearly answers the bell.

[00:44:44] >> Great try.

[00:44:50] >> And untimely bogey for Choi.

[00:44:52] >> Yeah, and he looks back at the putt. The putt could have gone in, but that's not the shot that really cost him the bogey. It was the tee shot, no question. You know, he didn't even give himself a look at birdie. When you're trying to catch somebody and you're three back, you've got to have a look.

[00:45:12] >> Goosen has a 9-iron. I'm standing up at the green and the wind is swirling around between the stands and actually back into the player's face here to the right side of the green. He may have a club he can just go ahead and hit hard there, Phil.

[00:45:24] >> I just think the center of the green is what he's looking at, obviously. He doesn't care for this back there. Right there.

[00:45:35] >> That's exactly what he needed to do with a four-shot lead, no question.

[00:45:44] >> Rolled just outside the ball of Lee Janzen.

[00:45:55] >> So it's a definite group that made a bet on Ernie getting closer to the hole than the other two.

[00:46:01] >> Now the breeze freshening back into the player's face up here at the green. Now, an 8-iron for Ernie, that's plenty of club. He's going to try to cut this in there. The shots he's tried to cut today have not been his best. They've tended to be a pull.

[00:46:15] >> He hasn't rotated well when he's done it. He tends to set up very square, I always think maybe a little too square for a guy who's trying to hit a cut sometimes. Because by setting up this square, it means he's got to really rotate a lot to get it to cut. Same thing there again.

[00:46:39] >> It just hangs on that top edge. It'll be okay.

[00:46:41] >> That will be quick.

[00:46:45] >> Final group on the second-to-last hole at the Hoag Classic. Goosen cruising, up four.

[00:46:55] >> Out to the 17th with the final group. You have a look at this birdie putt for the leader, Retief Goosen, Phil?

[00:47:01] >> Yeah, straight up and over a pretty good sized ridge, flattens out once it gets on top. Shouldn't break a whole lot and turn right right there, straighten out. Not bad, we'd like to have a little bit more than that, a little more in that left than he would like.

[00:47:14] >> Nice when you got a four-shot cushion, though.

[00:47:20] >> As soon as he hit it, he knew it. He knew he didn't hit it quite as hard as he wanted.

[00:47:38] >> This is very fast. It's going to break to the right, off a little mose and then, whew, watch out.

[00:47:42] >> That's a big nose, and it is going to break right hard, and it is quick around the hole once it gets to the crest of the hill.

[00:47:58] >> And there it goes.

[00:47:58] >> That had some serious pace to it.

[00:48:09] >> 18th green, shorty left Stephen Ames for birdie.

[00:48:12][ Applause ] Final round 67, and brought it home strong the back nine, 33.

[00:48:20] >> Yeah.

[00:48:34] >> The narrative with Retief Goosen has been injuries the last 10 years. Had back issues. We had talked with him. Phil, I know you chatted with him. Got his shoulder scoped in the offseason wasn't near 100% kicking things off at Hualalai, now feels like he's close to being 100% healthy. And we're seeing that version of Retief Goosen. This for par.

[00:48:57] >> He has played very well today, to your point, George. And now that he's healthy, if he starts rolling that putter like that, expect to see Retief in the winner's circle quite often.

[00:49:08] >> K. J. Choi to get one back on the last, post 11-under and he would be solo second.

[00:49:24] >> If he makes this, he probably takes care of his little tournament finishes second, unless Janzen can do something really strange.

[00:49:36] >> K. J. Choi to birdie the last.

[00:49:39] >> Good putt there. 17 cost him.

[00:49:47] >> What can you say about Retief's performance not only this week but what we've seen this final round to start with a hole out for eagle on your first hole, and rides that adrenaline to the round of the week?

[00:49:58] >> You know, the first thing I'm going to say, it's about time. I mean, I think we've all recognized the amount of talent Retief Goosen has -- World Golf Hall of Famer. The fact that he only has one win out here at this point in time after three plus years to me is shocking. He's got way too much talent to be sitting there on one win. So maybe this, you know, being healthy finding a putting stroke -- we may see a lot more of this from Retief Goosen. I think this is more than just one round here. I think this is a defining moment for him on PGA TOUR Champions.

[00:50:34] >> Same sort of shot for Goosen, but didn't have quite as much green to work with, and the line not quite as good. So maybe a little higher trajectory here.

[00:50:45] >> Throws it up in the air, probably going to release a little bit more. It does, still an excellent play, leaves himself an uphill putt. Retief has looked as in control of his game today as I've seen him really since Firestone. It's been fun to watch. I love to watch a performance like this. And he's made it look very easy.

[00:51:09] >> You see the fans with their Goosen signs, rooting on the goose.

[00:51:29] >> Retief Goosen for birdie, a round of 63.

[00:51:32] >> Probably just inside of the right edge. Good solid stroke, finish it off.

[00:51:39] >> To win by four.

[00:51:39] >> Yes, sir. Love that. That's the way you win.

[00:51:43] >> What an ending from Retief Goosen. Wins for the second time on the PGA TOUR Champions. At 63, the low round of the week at Newport Beach Country Club. The Hoag Classic 2022 edition. Retief catapulted himself up the leaderboard, starting eagle, birdie, birdie -- 4-under his first three holes -- and winds up winning by four at the Hoag Classic.