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[00:00:20] >> The PGA Tour is proud to bring you the season-long race for the FedExCup.

[00:00:43] >> Now, second-day coverage of the 2022 Players Championship.

[00:00:53] >> Well, we knew that patience was going to be the word of the week here at TPC Sawgrass, the iconic Stadium Course and the biggest event, Karen Stupples, on the PGA Tour. And yesterday, we had an hour delay in the morning, about 3 1/2 hours in the afternoon. And today, we're predicting kind of more of the same.

[00:01:11] >> It is. And that kind of, you know, makes for a very even kind of first round. You know, what the players faced yesterday, the players will also face again today -- for the morning wave and afternoon, what should have been the first round. There will be a line of storms that comes through here at some point, it's just a question of how much golf can we play today? How much can we squeeze in? And I know that the rules officials are going to do the very best job they can to get as much as they can possibly play today.

[00:01:37] >> Now we go on to the 3rd with Rory McIlroy.

[00:01:40] >> I can certainly think of easier shots I'd like to start my round off with but that is sensational right there, right over the flagstick.

[00:01:51] >> Dustin Johnson, he started birdie-birdie yesterday, Karen, and nearly had a bogey on 3. A spectacular up and down.

[00:01:58] >> And they decided to mark these putts last night as it was really dark, and Dustin proving why it was a good choice.

[00:02:06] >> After that fantastic tee shot, Rory has this for birdie.

[00:02:12] >> Oh, very nice.

[00:02:12] >> All right. So back-to-back birdies for McIlroy at 2 and 3, and he gets to under par. Let's go back over to the par-3 3rd and see if Max Homa can pay off his tee shot.

[00:02:28] >> Homa moves to 2-under. Back to McIlroy on 4, putting from off the green.

[00:02:33] >> From 20 feet, just off the front edge for Rory. Okay [applause]. I guess that bogey yesterday was a little bit of a sounding board for him.

[00:02:48] >> All right. Spieth, birdie, 7 [applause].

[00:02:53] >> Oh yeah.

[00:02:53] >> The golf gods seem to make things right. All right. Now back to Thomas.

[00:03:05] >> Well, certainly gained a lot of knowledge as to how much this is going to move to his left. And kind of like number 5, you give him just a little bit of that information, and he'll flush it. So above 60% make from here.

[00:03:23] >> Wow! [applause] What a great look that was! Billy, it literally went in the back of the hole. Tremendous!

[00:03:33] >> Cam Davis from Australia, love this guy's game. Oh, come on.

[00:03:44] >> There you go!

[00:03:46] >> Just drips in!

[00:03:47] >> Now Morikawa after that tremendous tee shot at 8.

[00:03:52] >> Well, this could -- this could be the start of a lot of good things going forward. Get this one, then get two or three of the next 10.

[00:04:06] >> Nice! Really nice!

[00:04:10] >> That was a great read. It started right, came back left in the final 3 or 4 inches and perfectly read. Morikawa gets to 1-under-par, heading to the par 5.

[00:04:19] >> Left of his mark right here, and push that way as much as possible. And then, when Jordan's ready to play, then we'll squeegee off for him. Just kind of toward this way.

[00:04:30] >> All right. So they're going to squeegee for Berger, let him play, and then squeegee for Spieth and let him play.

[00:04:39] >> You see how you can almost see the water trying to pool and puddle again very quickly. So it will be interesting to see how this ball reacts now. All right.

[00:04:53] >> All right. Definitely worth taking the time to do it. Great shot. Great spin. Ken, let's go back to 11 now. Billy Ho,' his third shot here at the par 5. Oh!

[00:05:11] >> Rather sporty!

[00:05:12] >> Now Koepka, after a fantastic tee shot at 13. Can he pay it off?

[00:05:19][ Applause and Cheering ]

[00:05:21] >> Yes, he can.

[00:05:25] >> At 14, Schauffele. Yes. In for birdie.

[00:05:32] >> At one of the most difficult holes each and every year here at the Players Championship.

[00:05:39] >> JT, dead set on the fairway.

[00:05:43] >> Doesn't have a great visual of the hole location here though, does he Billy?

[00:05:47] >> Yeah, avoid coming up short here, Steve. He just cannot come up short, and that is directly at the flagstick. What a golf shot!

[00:05:55][ Applause and Cheering ] That was short by about 2 feet.

[00:06:01] >> Back to 15, and the birdie putt for Daniel Berger.

[00:06:07] >> Really solid shot from that fairway bunker. You said it before, Whit, this guy rolls his potato, and doesn't mind a little adversity. Not afraid of some rain. Justin Thomas, you can see what he did at the 14th, and he'll make that pay off. Easy-peasy. Scottie Scheffler at 15 for birdie.

[00:06:36] >> And he should have learned a little bit from Brooks Koepka's putt. Will it slide right? Yes, it will! [applause]. He is feeling it with the putter.

[00:06:46] >> Justin Rose, third shot at the 15th.

[00:06:50] >> Really low lip on this front bunker here at 14. Yes, that is very professionally done.

[00:07:00] >> Third shot, par-5 16th for Spieth.

[00:07:04] >> Oh, look at this!

[00:07:06] >> Oh, the crowd-pleaser.

[00:07:15] >> Dustin Johnson, back at the par-5. His third.

[00:07:18] >> Yeah, you just kind of let gravity do your thing from there. That's a great spot to get up and down from, and that will be a fairly easy birdie.

[00:07:33] >> And we join you on this Friday afternoon, and we wish we had a better sight and better news. But it is once again raining in Northeast Florida at the TPC Sawgrass, the Stadium Course saturated by Mother Nature. But we continue to hope we can get the first round done, the second round started, and work our way towards the weekend at the flagship event of the PGA Tour. A vision generations ago has become one of the best weeks every golf year.

[00:08:02] >> Third shot for Jason Day at the 18th.

[00:08:06] >> Ball above his feet there. Looked like it was sitting pretty well. I don't know how that ball came out. Didn't have to give it the big old flopadopalis there. That was well done.

[00:08:18] >> Here's Spieth for his birdie, after the sizzling, spinning bunker shot. The crowd-pleaser, as Steve Scott called it, and that turns into a birdie for Spieth.

[00:08:30] >> And here at the short par-4, Brice Garnett going along nicely -- 4 under par, 4 birdies, not a bogey on his card today. Just 96 yards here.

[00:08:39] >> And this is that hole location we saw yesterday where the ball filters right back down toward the hole. Ho! -- 31st eagle recorded here at the 4th in the history of the Players, and that moves Brice Garnett to the top of the leaderboard at 6 under! 38-year-old with one PGA Tour win, making his fifth start here in the Players.

[00:09:11] >> You know, Gary, if you can just get it moving back towards that hole location, good things can happen.

[00:09:16] >> Oh, yeah. We saw a lot of birdies yesterday, a lot of balls close, but none this close. Whoa! [cheering]. Ha, ha, ha. Too good!

[00:09:37] >> Lucas Herbert, this at 6 from the bunker, 139.

[00:09:40] >> Yeah, with a wet bunker, should have a really clean lie. Looked like it was sitting perfectly. And this'll spin. Great shot there.

[00:09:52] >> A man who played some great golf in Bermuda to win. Zach Johnson, there goes the umbrella. This for birdie now.

[00:10:00] >> A big swinger from his right to left. Yeah! That made a bogey.

[00:10:10] >> Boy, in these conditions, that's some really good golf!

[00:10:14] >> Over to 16.

[00:10:15] >> All right, Gary. Let's take a look at where the threesome of Scheffler, Koepka, and Schauffele ended up. This is a tough place to get close to the hole on. And this was Schauffele, his third just a moment ago. That is just spectacular!

[00:10:34] >> I'd imagine, Justin, that all the water that's in the green helps keeping it close.

[00:10:40] >> Yes, it does. It doesn't have that pace on the greens where the ball can get away from players.

[00:10:46] >> Looks like they're going to do a little maintenance here. Notah Begay is down with this group.

[00:10:52] >> Yeah. They just had a quick discussion with Brooks Koepka, inquiring about whether he wanted this to be squeegeed or not. And you can see the water starting to collect on the green, especially right behind where the hole's cut. There are various areas that it'll just start to collect, you know? You've got to get the water off the greens, and sometimes it begins to pool up in certain spots.

[00:11:14] >> They do not have a system here which is commonly known as SubAir which vacuums the water out of the turf, as they do in a lot of other places. They have a system that can control the temperature, that can warm the turf or cool it down. But they were very, very specific about saying that they were hoping to organically encourage drainage here by topdressing and not doing anything to manipulate the water. And there's a lot of water falling now. Since the rain started this morning, we understand just under two tenths of an inch have fallen. And if you can't see it, you certainly hear it. And it is really coming down.

[00:11:57] >> They're not going to get rid of that water.

[00:12:00] >> And it looks like there's a lot of pausing going on here. Well, are they going to play? It looks like the sound has let up a little bit. I wonder if it's just a passing squall here but that is a significant amount of rain. That's never a good sign. An official with a horn in his hand [horn sounds]. And there it is.

[00:12:22] >> Now we're in a weather delay. Had that lengthy one yesterday, and we have one now with the lead at 6-under-par.

[00:12:29] >> Will we see more action on the golf course, and when? That's the next question, and that means we need some weather expertise. And Kathryn Tappen is standing by with the Tour meteorologist onsite now, Kathryn?

[00:12:40] >> Yeah, that's right, Mike. I'm here with Wade Stettner. Wade, you were the bearer of bad news. You predicted this forecast yesterday. So, taking a look at the radar, what do you see as the afternoon moves on?

[00:12:49] >> So, as we look at the radar, you can see that this cluster of thunderstorms goes across the Florida peninsula out into the Gulf of Mexico It is over 300 miles deep that we're watching. We have a lot of heavy rain, lightning headed this way, at least over the next couple of hours.

[00:13:03] >> So how optimistic are you that play at some point will resume throughout the course of the afternoon?

[00:13:07] >> It's unlikely, but it's possible. So we're going to wait. Especially later in the afternoon after we get past 4 or 5:00, there's a chance that we might see some clearing. So we're going to kind of hang on and wait to see if we do get that clearing on the radar.

[00:13:17] >> All right, that will mean a lot of rounds to play this weekend. So what does the forecast look like for Saturday as far as trying to get some of these rounds in?

[00:13:24] >> Unfortunately, we have possible severe weather coming through Saturday morning, a line of thunderstorms about midmorning. After that clears, though, we are dry all Saturday afternoon and dry all day Sunday as well.

[00:13:43] >> Three players 6-under, tied for the lead, including Brice Garnett, who joins us here. So let me get this straight. You were supposed to tee off just before 1:30 on Thursday. That got pushed back to 2:30. Then we had a four-hour delay. So what did you do yesterday in terms of the competition?

[00:13:59] >> We laid around all day. We had a very easy day and just chilled at the hotel. Came out about 5:00, you know, we thought maybe possibly getting just, you know, a warm-up and get the bones stretched out. And our tee time ended up being two minutes before darkness and we hit two shots, marked it, and went and had dinner.

[00:14:16] >> You had two shots yesterday?

[00:14:17] >> Two shots yesterday.

[00:14:18] >> That's great, that's quite a day. And here you are leading and still with about a third of your round left. So, first off, tell us about the moment that we saw in our coverage from earlier this morning, as you holed it from the fairway on 4 for the eagle that tied for the lead.

[00:14:33] >> Yeah. First and foremost, on that hole you've just got to get it in the fairway and, you know, get that job done. And then Chris and I, my caddy, we talked about taking quite a bit off the sand wedge there to knock the spin down. At that point, I actually thought it had passed the pin. I was like, how did that not go in? But it was still rolling, and it was just a fun moment for us.

[00:14:54] >> He was pretty fired up about it as well.

[00:14:56] >> He was.

[00:14:56] >> So fourth in Puerto Rico last week. How big was that for you in terms of coming into this week with a good feeling? Because of the five other events you had played in the calendar year 2022, you'd only made two cuts.

[00:15:08] >> Right. Yeah, my whole team, we felt like my game was pretty strong and getting no results out of it. I've always struggled traditionally on the West Coast. But it was huge to go down to Puerto Rico and, you know, build some momentum. And I played pretty well in windy, wet conditions. And told my caddy this week, I was like, hey, there's an island here. I play well on island golf courses, so I'll just keep it going this week.

[00:15:30] >> I like that thinking. You know, oftentimes it's a couple of key weeks that matter. And you snuck in the top 125 from last year, made the playoffs, because of a couple of good weeks, one in Puerto Rico, and you had like a T-5 in Hartford at the Travelers. So the importance of keep the momentum going is really huge in your situation. How valuable is it for you to play well last week, come in, get off to a good start, knowing what it could mean for you for this year and next?

[00:15:55] >> That's right. You just never know week in and week out. You can change your life drastically. And getting into this championship's always big for me, you know. I haven't played in a whole lot of majors, and this is definitely a course and a week that we circle on the calendar every year. So you're always trying to build on it. Everything's trending right now, so we're excited for the rest.

[00:16:16] >> I'd love to ask your perspective. You're 38, right, from Northwest Missouri, played D-II, an All American golfer there. And you're one of the guys who's out here just trying to make sure that you can keep your FedExCup standings where a place you can get into play events like this year after year. We've spent so much time talking about Scottie Scheffler, Jordan Spieth, Justin Thomas. For guys like you, what is it week to week as you show up at events knowing that it could mean where you're working the next year?

[00:16:44] >> Yeah, that's a big part of what we face every week, my team. And, you know, I think I have to have more self-belief. I think my team probably believes in me a little bit more than I do at times. But, you know, when I have the self-belief and like I said, the whole part my game is probably as good or better than it has been my whole career. So we're just kind of waiting for it to all gel and hopefully, you know, we find a week where it all comes together. And that happened a couple years ago in the Dominican Republic when I won. And, you know, who knows, this week may be the week.

[00:17:17] >> You had a couple wins, Korn Ferry, before that. So hopefully you keep it going. Hopefully you can get the first round done in two days and not take three days to play the first round. But if you don't, it's a good highlight to have there on 4. So thanks for coming in. It's great to visit with you.

[00:17:28] >> Absolutely, Mike, thank you.

[00:17:29] >> Brice Garnett, one of the three tied for the lead at 6-under-par at this point. So we have some updates now on what the plan is here going forward for the rest of the day. Still trying to complete round one of the Players Championship. And once again, the rain continues to just train over, 75 miles to Daytona Beach. It's not raining down there. We're just in the wrong spot at the wrong time, unfortunately. Tommy Fleetwood, Tom Hoge, they shot 66 yesterday, didn't hit a shot today and won't the rest of the day. Brice Garnett sitting at 6-under as well. Daniel Berger there 5-under. He's still got a couple of holes left, and those are going to have to wait until tomorrow, for he, Scottie Scheffler, Dustin Johnson, and everybody else in the field. So let's look at Brice Garnett. And he's got the news that we all have now, that we are done for the day. So he is heading on out to get some rest and try to refocus. He's going to be one of the many players -- as Gary Young, chief referee, for this tournament and PGA Tour joins us. He's going to be one of those players who has a three-day first round. Because he played a little bit yesterday, a little bit today. And we are done officially here for today. So what's the announcement that we just shared with the players and everyone else?

[00:18:36] >> Yeah, we basically -- you've summed it up, we're done for the day today. The golf course is just so saturated that conditions are not going to improve to the expectations that we have for this championship. So we should have some drying conditions overnight. We're expecting a lull overnight. Our bigger concern is what's ahead of us tomorrow morning. We're expecting a pretty severe system to roll through the area between 8 and 10 AM.

[00:19:06] >> Okay.

[00:19:07] >> And we have announced that we will play no earlier than 11 AM tomorrow morning.

[00:19:12] >> Right.

[00:19:13] >> So we'll be in very early in the morning to assess the situation with the meteorologist. We'll make a determination whether or not 11 AM is possible. And if we have to delay it further, we'll make those adjustments. But we don't want to lose time. Hopefully we can get started at 11 AM and the system moves through quicker.

[00:19:33] >> And you were trying to hold on as long as possible today. Because even an hour or two of play late this afternoon would've helped the situation. Because you're trying to avoid Tuesday at this point, really, and get finished off Monday. And every hour really counts right now.

[00:19:46] >> Yeah, it really does. But our calculations that we've been doing, if we can start tomorrow, we're very confident. We're obviously into a Monday finish. But we're very confident that we could even repair in between rounds three and four and still accomplish the goal of ending on Monday approximately 6:30, somewhere in that range, and then even have a little bit of time for our playoff, should it be needed.

[00:20:12] >> Because one thing that happens, the clocks go forward an hour. So we'll have an extra hour of daylight. It's not another hour to play, but we'll just slide it back a little bit. You have to start a little bit later, but it's daylight 'till around 7:30 or so. So that would help us there. Let me just go back here for a second, Gary, and just try to do the quick math with you. We need another 13, maybe 14 hours of play to get to 36 holes for everyone. So there's no way we'll get through the second round tomorrow, Saturday?

[00:20:39] >> No.

[00:20:39] >> Given the 11 AM start, right?

[00:20:41] >> That's right.

[00:20:42] >> So we're looking at a cut on Sunday?

[00:20:43] >> We're looking at a cut on Sunday approximately -- if we were to get started at 11, probably in the 1 PM range. If we get started closer to 12, obviously we'd back that up an hour. But we do have an opportunity to begin round three and then roll right into Monday, complete round three in the morning. And, like I said, regroup and roll right into round four.

[00:21:09] >> So if we're planning here, if the weather does work out -- and the forecast does have wind, but it does look okay for Sunday and Monday in terms of the rain.

[00:21:15] >> It does, yeah. Sunday and Monday should provide us dry conditions. It's going to be awfully windy, for sure. So we're also factoring the possibility that pace of play might be slightly slower.

[00:21:29] >> It could take more than a minute on 17T with the way the wind's supposed to blow and how strong. So we're looking at a mega Monday is if we stay on plan here, we could have not just the fourth round but really the completion of the third round.

[00:21:40] >> Yeah.

[00:21:40] >> So long day ahead, long days ahead for you, Jeff Plotts, and the rest of the great crew here at TPC Sawgrass as well. So thank you for giving us the update, and hopefully we'll be back in action and not talking to you tomorrow.

[00:21:52] >> Okay.

[00:21:53] >> Gary's sick of seeing me. Gary, thank you so much. We appreciate you and everybody on the staff. Rory McIlroy, he got the news. He's out of here as well.

[00:22:03] >> Play has been suspended for the day at the Players Championship. The tournament will resume tomorrow from TPC Sawgrass in Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida.