

AI – TEASE

JON RAHM: THE PLAYERS Championship is a tournament unlike any other.

ANNC: Did he? Did he? He did! Oh my goodness! What a putt!

ADAM SCOTT: It is the ultimate test.

ANNC: Adam Scott survives! The youngest champion in the history of THE PLAYERS Championship!

ADAM SCOTT: It was a big win early in my career and no doubt propelled me on to further success.

FOR THE PAST 40 YEARS, THE ESTEEMED PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP HAS BEEN SYNONYMOUS WITH ITS ICONIC HOME, TPC SAWGRASS.

TONY FINAU: The greatest test – golf course wise – and the greatest field that we play in all of golf.

COLLIN MORIKAWA: It really tests all aspects of your game.

AND FOR FOUR DECADES, THE TOUR’S TOUGHEST TEST HAS SEPERATED THE CREAM FROM THE CROP – IDENTIFYING THE PLAYERS WHO ARE...

FRANCESCO MOLINARI: Better than...

JON RAHM: Better than most.

ANNC: Better than most!

WHILE DELIVERING THE GAME’S DEFINING MOMENTS ... AND QUOTES.

NATS: Be the right club.

ADAM HADWIN: Be the right club...

NATS: Today!

THE CHAMPIONS ETCH THEIR NAMES IN HISTORY...

JON RAHM: It could very much round out and complete somebody’s career.

ABRAHAM ANCER: It’s definitely a tournament that people look at dreaming to have it on your resume.

AS THE GAME’S ELITE HOPE TO ADD THE PRESTIGIOUS TITLE TO THEIR LEGACY.

TONY FINAU: It would mean everything to me.

JOAQUIN NIEMANN: It would be a dream come true.

DUSTIN JOHNSON: I definitely would love to be a PLAYERS Champion.

THIS IS THE 2022 PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP PREVIEW SHOW.

A2 – SETUP

MARC LEISHMAN: THE PLAYERS starts off a big four or five months of golf.

ADAM HADWIN: It's the first event that guys have circled on their calendars.

ANIRBAN LAHIRI: If you were to ask anyone what tournament would you want to win, it would have to be THE PLAYERS.

WHILE TPC SAWGRASS PLAYS FAVORITE FOR NO PARTICULAR PLAYER, THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP IS ATTAINABLE BY ANY PLAYER.

JON RAHM: The golf course is such a good design. Nobody has ever dominated.

ADAM HADWIN: Long hitter, short hitter, work the ball right-to-left, left-to-right; anybody has a chance to win there if you bring your 'A game' that week.

HENRIK STENSON: It just favors good play and bold play, and I think you've seen that in the different players that have won it over the years.

ANNC: Henrik Stenson – the first Swede to win THE PLAYERS Championship!

THE ECLECTIC LIST OF CHAMPIONS IS A MELTING POT FROM AROUND THE WORLD...

ANNC: K.J Choi is a PLAYERS Champion!

ANNC: The long wait is over for Sergio Garcia. His big win is the PLAYERS Champion in 2008!

WITH 11 INTERNATIONAL WINNERS REPRESENTING NINE COUNTRIES IN THE LAST 19 EDITIONS...

LEE WESTWOOD: Lots of nationalities playing it and lots of different nationalities are winning it now as well.

INCLUDING LAST YEARS CHAMPION REPRESENTING THE UNITED STATES, BUT A GOLBAL FIGURE IN THE GAME.

A3 – JUSTIN THOMAS FEATURE & MEDIA DAY

NATS: Lets do it!

JUSTIN THOMAS: A lot of great memories. Sawgrass to me is so special and unique.

NATS: Go left?

JUSTIN THOMAS: You always want to be able to go left when you walk in this locker room to use the champions side. It's really, really cool any time you're able to be a part of a champions locker room, especially at a place here like Sawgrass.

TO EARN HIS SPOT IN THE CHAMPIONS LOCKER ROOM, JUSTIN THOMAS HAD TO OVERCOME A 3-SHOT, 54-HOLE DEFICIT IN 2021 – BUT IT WASN'T UNTIL THE BACK NINE THAT HE MADE HIS MOVE.

JUSTIN THOMAS: I played really, really well on Sunday. I think I hit the first 10 greens in regulation and I was only one under par. I hit some good putts, they just weren't going in.

JUSTIN THOMAS: So then 11, hit a great drive, a great 4 iron in there and hit it about 15, 18 feet and that was the first putt that I really had made that day.

ANNC: Justin Thomas has it! Eagle at 11 to take the lead at THE PLAYERS!

WITH THE FIELD HAVING CLOSED THE GAP BEHIND HIM, THOMAS UNLEASHED ONE OF THE NEW WEAPONS IN HIS ARSENAL ON THE 16TH TEE.

ANNC: Oh wow! There's one that might have a little run on it! There's your drill draw right there, fellas! Wow! How do you like that! That's a shot maker!

HE CONVERTED THE CLEVER DRIVE INTO A BIRDIE, AND CONTINUED HIS MOMENTUM...

AND ONE YEAR LATER, RETURNED TO THE 16TH HOLE FOR ANOTHER MEMORABLE MOMENT – THIS TIME, THANKS TO HIS COLLEGE ALMA MATER'S LEGENDARY FOOTBALL COACH.

JUSTIN THOMAS: Hey! Ball coach! I can't believe you got this guy away from recruiting to come here. What's going on coach?

NICK SABAN: Nothing much man. How are you?

JUSTIN THOMAS: Good to see you! What's happenin'?

NICK SABAN: They just wanted me to come down and play a couple holes with you and see if I can qualify for this year's tournament.

NICK SABAN: This is the dogleg where you hit the frozen rope?

JUSTIN THOMAS: Yeah. I guess I'm gonna give that shot a try.

NICK SABAN: That's a good shot.

JUSTIN THOMAS: Keep turnin'!

NICK SABAN: Good putt!

JUSTIN THOMAS: I'll take four of those.

NICK SABAN: Nice putt, man. Nice birdie!

JUSTIN THOMAS: I think it's pretty self-explanatory. Hit the green or you go to the drop zone.

JUSTIN THOMAS: Just like that. Land on that upslope. Sit down! Sit down! See, that's my fault. (laughter) Welcome to 17.

NICK SABAN: This is the one you hit the rope hook on too, right?

JUSTIN THOMAS: Yeah, I hit 5-wood off of this tee, normally.

IN 2021, JT ARRIVED AT THE 72ND HOLE WITH THE CHAMPIONSHIP IN HIS SIGHTS.

JUSTIN THOMAS: I had a two-shot lead. I need to keep it dry. Sometimes when I get in that adrenaline I get a little quick and I did but I hit it really, really hard.

ANNC: He's playing that big right to left looper. Easy.

JUSTIN THOMAS: Luckily, it went far enough to where it kinda got around that corner, and I was able to breathe when the ball landed and kicked straight for me.

ANNC: Justin Thomas is the 2021 PLAYERS Championship winner!

JUSTIN THOMAS: It's a golf course I said when I first played it, I was gonna win there. I love the course, I love everything about the place. So I was glad to do that. And now it's just trying to see how many I can get.

JUSTIN THOMAS: Definitely a lot of great memories coming back here, being the first time since I won. That being said, just because you're excited and happy to be here doesn't mean it's just handed to you. I gotta put in some work and get ready to try and defend.

NICK SABAN: When we win the National Championship, everybody says you gotta defend. You don't have to defend. Nobody can take away what you did last year.

JUSTIN THOMAS: He's getting soft on me! He's getting soft!

NICK SABAN: Just have fun and go do it again.

JUSTIN THOMAS: That's right.

NICK SABAN: There's no such thing as defending a title, in my opinion, because they don't take it away from you. You're always gonna be a PLAYERS Champion and you're always gonna have that special place in the locker room, so just go have fun and win it again.

JUSTIN THOMAS: There you go! I like that!

A4 – ANNIVERSARY DEFINING MOMENT – SI WOO KIM (2017)

ANNC: And there is Si Woo Kim, what is in store for this 21-year-old today?

ANNC: Kim has a good look at an opening birdie. Si Woo Kim, who's trying to become the youngest PLAYERS Champion in history, starts off with a birdie at the first.

ANNC: How bout it... yeah!

SI WOO KIM: First Korean to win since KJ Choi there, pretty special, yeah means a lot.

ANNC: 21-year-old, Si Woo Kim from South Korea, he is the youngest PLAYERS Champion... ever.

B1 – ANNIVERSARY DEFINING MOMENT – STEVE ELKINGTON (1997)

ANNC: Steve Elkington from New South Wales. Just moments from accepting his second PLAYERS Championship.

ANNC: Still with the meat of the course ahead of him with a four-shot lead.

ANNC: The lead is five.

STEVE ELKINGTON: When I won this tournament in '91, it was a bit of a surprise. I was only on my third year on the TOUR and it was really great to win this event. Obviously, I won by a large margin this time, but I could tell you I was fortunate.

ANNC: Look at this, look at this... Oh my!

ANNC: Steve Elkington with a strong exclamation point to his championship today.

B2 – AUSSIE SUCCESS AT THE PLAYERS

DIRECTLY INBETWEEN ELKINGTON'S TWO TITLES, FELLOW AUSSIE, GREG NORMAN, CLAIMED ANOTHER PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE COUNTRY IN RECORD FASHION, SETTING THE 72-HOLE SCORING RECORD AT 24-UNDER.

ANNC: Wow! This is almost indescribable.

ADAM SCOTT: I grew up watching that event being played. To win it early on in my career is amazing.

ANNC: The youngest champion in the history of THE PLAYERS Championship!

AND JUST MORE THAN A DECADE AFTER SCOTT, AN AUSTRALIAN WON THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP FOR THE FIFTH TIME.

ANNC: Wire to wire champion, Jason Day! 2016 PLAYERS Champion!

JASON DAY: Being announced as a Player champion is always special. I know that my name is down in history now.

ADAM SCOTT: There's been such a strong presence since the 90s, 2000s. And that trend is continuing and it gives the next generation behind a group of guys that aren't too far in front of them.

LUCAS HERBERT: For our population and for how many guys we have up there in the world, it feels like we're going into a nice, exciting period. There's always guys to cheer on, there's always sort of guys coming through at that next level.

B3 – FIRST-TIMER: LUCAS HERBERT

ANNC: And Lucas Herbert has broken through on the PGA TOUR! The 25-year-old from Australia is a winner!

WITH HIS WIN IN BERMUDA EARLIER THIS SEASON, IT MAY SEEM LIKE LUCAS HERBERT'S ARRIVAL ON THE PGA TOUR HAPPENED OVERNIGHT...

LUCAS HERBERT: It's sort of like your new world. My phone was blowing up and everything. You just knew sort of life was about to change, that was our last little moment to just enjoy how cool was what we just did.

YET HIS JOURNEY TO HIS FIRST PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIP HAS BEEN PAVED BY SHEER DETERMINATION...WHICH STARTED AS A GOLF-OBSSESSED YOUNGSTER IN BENDIGO, AUSTRALIA.

LUCAS HERBERT: When I was a kid playing pretty much any sport, dad would drive me everywhere. And then mom was pretty much sitting there going 'I'm willing to keep funding this as long as you keep working at it because I just believe that you'll get there.'

HERBERT MOM: We always thought he would give up when he hit adolescence. He had to make a decision with some of the sports that he played and it was probably then when he decided that he would play golf that we thought, look, you never know where he might go.

IT WAS THIS SUPPORT AND DYNAMIC WHICH SET THE GROUNDWORK TO PERSEVERE THROUGH ADVERSE YEARS...

AFTER TURNING PRO AT AGE 19 IN 2015, HERBERT EXPERIENCED YEARS OF STRUGGLES AS HE TOOK HIS GAME WORLDWIDE...MOST NOTABLY IN 2019 WHEN HE QUESTIONED HIS FUTURE IN THE GAME.

LUCAS HERBERT: Probably like anyone who's had a bit of a crisis in their life, I had a lot of pressure on myself to play well and I stepped up to the next level relatively easily each time I'd been challenged and I just think I hadn't quite stepped up to that next level as easily as I thought I would have.

HERBERT MOM: My piece of advice hasn't changed; that his success is as much to do on the course as it is off the course.

LUCAS HERBERT: I just didn't have a good balance going on with my life. When you can nail that perfectly, that's when you get the best out of yourself on the golf course and that's when you're the happiest as well.

THE REJUVINATED HERBERT TOOK ON HIS NEW MINDSET AND SAW IMMEDIATE SUCCESS...

ANNC: An Australian wins on Australia Day here in Dubai!

THROUGH WINS IN CONSECUTIVE SEASONS ON THE DP WORLD TOUR.

ANNC: Lucas Herbert – he's our champion.

AND WITH THE MENTAL SIDE INTACT, IT WAS EASIER FOR THE AUSSIE TO BE IN COMPLETE CONTROL OF HIS GAME...

LUCAS HERBERT: When I'm playing well, I drive it great. And then I'm a pretty world-class putter. My approach game is probably not the best, so I can find myself in some little, tricky, short-sided spots that I can get out of with some good consistency.

THESE STRENGTHS COULD PROVE PIVOTAL – BOTH PHYSICAL AND MENTAL – IN THE DAUNTING TEST THE STADIUM COURSE PROVIDES.

ALL WHILE KEEPING THE CONFIDENCE FROM HIS FIRST PGA TOUR WIN – BUT ALSO REALIZING THE PURSUIT OF PERFECTION IS NEVER OVER.

LUCAS HERBERT: The enjoyment side of life takes over a little bit as well and as long as you can recognize when you've gone too far, one way or the other and get yourself back on track pretty quickly, but now's a good time for me to hit the reset button and get back into the swing of things.

CI – ANNIVERSARY DEFINING MOMENT – SANDY LYLE (1987)

ANNC: Sandy is a great, world-wide champion. To have him as the Tournament Players Champion is indeed an honor.

SANDY LYLE: A crucial point would be number 15 in the back of the green.

ANNC: How about that? yes sir!

SANDY LYLE: Then I made a long putt at 18 from about 40 or 50 feet.

ANNC: Now Sandy Lyle lining it up to win.

SANDY LYLE: For me to come over here to Florida and to win this big prestigious tournament was very high estimated in my mind.

C2 – ENGLISHMEN AT THE PLAYERS

TIM BARTER: It was a huge win. The first 13 additions of THE PLAYERS had all been won by Americans, and they finished second, so international players had not really threatened.

NICK DOUGHERTY: Once we saw one of ours get across the line, the others start to think we can beat.

HENNI KOYACK: That really opened up the floodgates.

ANNC: And that is going to...are you kidding me...put it away!

LEE WESTWOOD: Just recently a lot of different nationalities have won it.

WAYNE RILEY: We've had Adam Scott.

ANNC: Adam Scott survives!

WAYNE RILEY: Sergio...

ANNC: The long wait is over!

WAYNE RILEY: Stenson...

ANNC: The first Swede...K.J. Choi is a Players Champion.

HENRIK STENSON: Rory's won it, we got Kaymer as well.

ANNC: Did he, did he, he did! Oh my goodness!

HENRIK STENSON: But, no English yet.

MATT WALLACE: Umm ... what can I say??

SO IT BEGS THE QUESTION – WITH THE RICH HISTORY – AND PROMISE – OF ENGLISHMEN ON THE PGA TOUR...WHO'S FIRST??

LEE WESTWOOD: It's coveted for everybody, everybody knows THE PLAYERS is a massive tournament.

IAN POULTER: It's the buzz you get around the course. It's a tough test of golf. I love the test. I love what it means.

JUSTIN ROSE: Being the flagship event of the PGA TOUR, THE PLAYERS Championship's a coveted tournament, 100%.

THE ENGLISH APPLAUDED A WIN FOR THE ISLAND OF IRELAND IN 2019.

ANNC: Rory McIlroy is a PLAYERS Champion.

AND WHILE LYLE'S WIN 35 YEARS AGO WAS A TRIUMPH FOR SCOTLAND...

NICK DOUGHERTY: We haven't seen any other players from Britain win since Sandy Lyle.

MATT FITZPATRICK: Probably is a little bit of a surprise because we produced some very good players.

PERHAPS IT'S BECAUSE THE OVERALL SUCCESS OF ENGLISHMEN – 10 MAJOR CHAMPIONSHIPS, 40 PGA TOUR VICTORIES...NOT TO MENTION A FEDEXCUP, AND COUNTLESS WINS ACROSS THE GLOBE...

IS WHY THE SHOCK FACTOR THAT THEY HAVEN'T BEEN THE ONES TO FOLLOW SUIT...IS SO HIGH.

TIM BARTER: It's difficult to pinpoint why that might be, we've had half a dozen runner up spots. It just happens that the English players have not done so, so far...

HENNI KOYACK: It's more of when, not if, and just a matter of time.

JUSTIN ROSE: But, there's no reason why not...

WELL – MAYBE NOT...

CONSIDER THIS...IN THE FIRST 26 YEARS OF THE PLAYERS – THE AVERAGE OF ENGLISHMEN TEEING IT UP PER EVENT...IS LESS THAN TWO.

JUSTIN ROSE: Back in the day, 20, 30 years ago, there were much more of a limited amount of players that could win THE PLAYERS Championship.

MATT WALLACE: Nick Faldo would have had a chance

ANNC: Pressure putt right there. Gets him within one shot for the time being.

MATT WALLACE: All of our hopes lied with him and he didn't get across the line.

JUSTIN ROSE: For quite a period of time, there might have been relying upon two or three of us in the top 50, so the numbers weren't stacking up in our favor. They're beginning to stack up a bit more in our favor.

JUSTIN ROSE: English golf is strong at the moment just in terms of numbers and depth, I think that there might be six or seven guys in the Top 50 in the world.

HENNI KOYACK: The tournament has just grown so much in stature over the course of the last 20 years. And that's obviously attracted the best players in the world.

PROOF SHOWN IN THE LAST 17 PLAYINGS – AS THERE'S AN AVERAGE OF SEVEN PER EVENT IN THAT SPAN.

NICK DOUGHERTY: We're seeing a lot more success and a lot more Top 10s from the British players in general.

TIM BARTER: And we've had a lot of great English players over the last 20 years. They really have been world class.

AND THAT'S ONLY HEIGHTENED BY THE RESULTS – ESPECIALLY WITH THREE IN THE TOP 10 IN 2021.

NICK DOUGHERTY: For a nation, it inspires.

HENNI KOYACK: We've had so many players come close.

ANNC: Matthew Fitzpatrick finds the bottom.

MATT FITZPATRICK: Eddie had a good finish in 2019.

HENNI KOYACK: Tommy Fleetwood.

ANNC: Tommy Fleetwood – just showing off now.

JUSTIN ROSE: You had Lee Westwood through the years.

ANNC: And made it! What a putt!

JUSTIN ROSE: T4 has been my highest result to date.

ANNC: 5-under par for the U.S. Open Champ.

JUSTIN ROSE: Luke Donald was world number one, he's had looks at it. Ian Poulter has done very, very well there.

ANNC: Oh ho, Wow! What a shot! I did not see that one! What a shot by Poulter!

HENNI KOYACK: A lot of English players have come really close over the years, but the Stadium Course held off so far.

FINE POINT...PROVING THE VOLATILITY OF THE STADIUM COURSE.

LEE WESTWOOD: There's no reason why the golf course shouldn't suit Englishmen, it's a golf course that really doesn't favor anybody. I'm not a massive hitter anymore and I finished second. Justin Thomas beat me, he's what you would say is a long hitter.

IAN POULTER: I've had a mixed bag. I've had two second place finishes, I've missed cuts. I've kind of had some mediocre weeks there.

WEBB SIMPSON: You would have thought one of these great players of the last 20 years would have won but, Phil has one win there and Tiger has two. In all their years, you would have thought they would have won it more, I think it just shows it's such a hard golf course to win on.

NICK DOUGHERTY: At THE PLAYERS in particular, if you give yourself a chance, inevitably you're going to get across the line.

ENGLAND COLLECTIVELY HAS 23 TOP 10'S IN THE EVENT – SECOND ON THE LIST OF ANY COUNTRY OUTSIDE THE U.S. TO ONLY AUSTRALIA.

JUSTIN ROSE: I've seen their icons win that tournament. Greg Norman, Adam Scott, Steve Elkington. Maybe we need an Englishman to get that vibe going amongst the rest of us.

AND THE ENGLISH STALWARTS – TO THOSE WAITING IN THE FOLD – COULD HELP CHANGE THE TIDE AT ANY GIVEN TIME.

WAYNE RILEY: English golf is so very strong right now. Coming out of terminal five at Heathrow is a conveyor belt of players.

ANNC: What a putt, Aaron Rai, the English Professional golfer.

MATT WALLACE: It's just an anomaly and hopefully one of us can get across the line.

TIM BARTER: My man would be Matthew Fitzpatrick. He's got a really sound game.

MATT FITZPATRICK: It's about time an Englishman did win so I may as well do it next year. It would mean a hell of a lot, really would.

HENNI KOYACK: Ian Poulter or Tommy Fleetwood, but I'm gonna pick Tommy Fleetwood just because of his stellar iron player and past results there.

NICK DOUGHERTY: He certainly has the heart; he has the head.

TOMMY FLEETWOOD: You can name the events that are the big ones in world golf, THE PLAYERS is right up there. And to be the first Englishman would be amazing.

WAYNE RILEY: Lee Westwood goes about it very much like Tommy Fleetwood. Tyrrell stands to mind.

JUSTIN ROSE: I, myself... With the next generation coming through now there's gonna be more and more opportunities for the English guys to get it done there.

HENRIK STENSON: There's always gonna be some English players up there. Sooner or later it will happen.

NICK DOUGHERTY: Once at the gates open, they'll come flooding on through. Whoever that person is will certainly pave the way for future generations. So it will be pivotal for our nation.

DI – ANNIVERSARY DEFINING MOMENT – CRAIG PERKS (2002)

ANNC: What a rollercoaster round for Craig Perks.

ANNC: Back at 16.

CRAIG PERKS: I know it was going pretty fast and it hit dead center and disappeared.

ANNC: Oh!

CRAIG PERKS: When I got up there I could kind of just see the line. I could just see it funneling down there. It really was just perfect speed and a perfect putt.

ANNC: Good speed, that's very good speed. Look at this.

CRAIG PERKS: I've worked hard ever since I've come to this country in 1985 for this moment. I've kind of let that work pay off.

ANNC: Oh that's beautiful! And that is gonna put it away!

CRAIG PERKS: I was proud to be in this tournament to start with and obviously to be a champion is beyond words.

D2 – 40 YEARS OF TPC SAWGRASS

ANNC: Ponte Vedra Beach, Florida. The home of one of golf's greatest tests. Pete Dye's Stadium Course at TPC Sawgrass.

JON RAHM: It has stood the test of time. It's a great test and it's a great golf course.

MATT KUCHAR: It tests every part of your game. If you've got any weaknesses, TPC Sawgrass will find them.

ANNC: What a good effort! Oh my! KUUUUUCH!

PAUL CASEY: The intimidation factor at TPC Sawgrass is level ten scary, intimidating, imposing.

NATS/ANNC: No! Oh not there! Oh no!

LEE WESTWOOD: You have the chance for success and disaster on nearly every hole out there. It's exciting to watch. It's exciting to play.

FOR THE PAST 40 YEARS, THE PLAYERS CHAMPION HAS BEEN CROWNED AT TPC SAWGRASS – BOTH THE TOURNAMENT AND THE VENUE... IDEAS CONCEPTUALIZED BY THE PGA TOUR'S SECOND COMMISSIONER, DEANE BEMAN.

DEANE BEMAN: We're building the Tournament Players Club which is really a new dimension in tournament golf. It's what I call "stadium golf."

AND TO CREATE THIS REVOLUTIONARY, FAN-FRIENDLY STAGE, BEMAN TASKED THE DESIGN TO INSURANCE SALESMAN TURNED GOLF COURSE ARCHITECT, PETE DYE.

DEANE BEMAN: Pete is a master of deception. He understands how to challenge a golfer, and particularly challenge him mentally.

PETE DYE: Deane had a great idea about how to promote golf and having a golf course that would take care of the gallery.

DEANE BEMAN: I wanted the concept of the golf course for the gallery to be that somebody could stay in an area and not have to walk very far and see action on two or three, maybe four holes and he was able to do that...that's it—stadium golf.

ANNC: The greatest innovation for spectators since the TOUR began. Stadium golf—the concept of tomorrow. Golf’s future has arrived.

DYE DELIVERED NOT ONLY THE PERFECT THEATER, BUT A DIFFICULT CHALLENGE TO DISTINGUISH THE BEST OF THE BEST.

TIGER WOODS: It really doesn't cater to any one style. The way he designed it, it's brilliant.

ANNC: Better than most!

ADAM SCOTT: The atmosphere and the way this golf course lends itself to excitement. It's one of the greatest tournament golf courses that there'll ever be.

NATS: Pete Dye will go for a swim today.

RORY McILROY: I certainly appreciate the mind games that he plays with his architecture.

ANNC: Rory McIlroy is a PLAYERS Champion!

RICKIE FOWLER: There's plenty of birdies to be made if you get yourself in the right position.

ANNC: Rickie Fowler owns the island green! Five twos in six trips around it!

HENRIK STENSON: It's a risk and reward type of golf that doesn't favor a specific type of player.

JON RAHM: Since they started playing here at TPC Sawgrass in '82, you don't see many names that repeat as champions. And that speaks to the uniqueness of it.

RORY McILROY: It's awesome to be able to call yourself a PLAYERS Champion. It's a who's who of golf over the last 40 years.