**2022 PGA TOUR – THE CUT #42 (CJ CUP IN SOUTH CAROLINA)**

MASTER SCRIPT

***A1: Cold Open***

ANNC: Keita Nakajima. Former number one amateur in the world. Professional debut this week. And making the most of it.

ANNC: second time playing in the ZOZO Championship.

ANNC: he's trying to follow in the footsteps of Matsuyama, fellow countryman

ANNC: love the look of this young guy's golf game. Another potential future super star, a huge stage for him

***A2: The CUT Titles***

**WELCOME TO PGA TOUR -- THE CUT**

***A3: ZOZO Content (On-site)***

ATTENDANT: Good luck this week.

KEITA NAKAJIMA: Good morning. I'm really happy to be playing my first PGA TOUR tournament in Japan. I'm really excited.

KEITA NAKAJIMA: Good morning.

KEITA NAKAJIMA: Last year I tried to just enjoy myself and have fun, but this year I really want to play well and win. When I made my pro debut he (Hideki) messaged me telling me just one thing, "There's going be a lot of tough times, just hang in there."

KEITA NAKAJIMA: I'm so excited. I just hope people will be there cheering me on.

KEITA NAKAJIMA: The PGA TOUR attracts the attention of golf fans all over the world, and having an event here in Japan is a really big deal for Japanese players and golf fans alike. I'm just prepping like I would any other week.

CADDIE: Let's try and go at it around 80, 204 to the pin from here.

**EVEN IN THE EARLY STAGES OF TOURNAMENT PREP, NAKAJIMA RECEIVED EXACTLY WHAT HE WISHED FOR IN HIS DEBUT.**

KEITA NAKAJIMA: It's the first time for me playing in Japan and having so many fans out here during a practice round, and thinking about how many more people will be here once the tournament starts makes me really excited.

PRODUCER:: Did you see Matsuyama's win last year?

KEITA NAKAJIMA: Of course I watched it!

KEITA NAKAJIMA: Despite having all of that pressure with the gallery feeling like they're closing in on top of you, and to be able to make such a pure swing was just unbelievable.

KEITA NAKAJIMA: I want the fans to see that I'm giving it all I've got, but also having fun.

**NAKAJIMA CARRIED THAT EXCITEMENT INTO TOURNAMENT PLAY, GOING 70-63 IN THE OPENING ROUNDS.**

NAKAJIMA EAGLE ANNC: 02:17:15 yeah why not!

**AFTER TWO MORE ROUNDS IN THE 60S, THE YOUNG STAR FINISHED IN A TIE FOR 12TH AND TAKES HIS EXPERIENCE TO THE JAPAN GOLF TOUR...BUT IT WAS ANOTHER MULTIPLE YEAR DROUGHT THAT ENDED ON SUNDAY.**

***A4: ZOZO Winners Sizzle***

ANNC: This could be the one that seals it for him. And he's done it! He makes the 3 at 17 and a big advantage for Kegan Bradley!

KEEGAN BRADLEY: That birdie on 17 is one of the best birdies of my life.

ANNC: Now our leader just trying to get this up and in and take-home PGA TOUR victory number 5.

ANNC: And the drought for Kegan Bradley ends in Japan.

KEEGAN BRADLEY:: I really put a lot of work in this off season. This is what I want to do. I want to win tournaments; I want to be in the conversation, and this is a good start.

ANNC: You can see the emotion there for Kegan, this means a lot to him. Really cool to see.

KEEGAN BRADLEY: It's so good to talk to you

JILLIAN BRADLEY: I love you so much. We watched every second.

KEEGAN BRADLEY: I cant keep it together.

JILLIAN BRADLEY: I'm so proud of you honey. I'm so proud of you.

KEEGAN BRADLEY: Love you.

KEEGAN BRADLEY: Being able to share a win with your family is something I never thought of and I never knew it would be so amazing.

***A5: Sentry GFX***

**WITH THE VICTORY, KEEGAN BRADLEY SNAPPED A FOUR-YEAR WINLESS DROUGHT AND PUNCHED A TICKET TO MAUI FOR THE 2023 SENTRY TOURNAMENT OF CHAMPIONS.**

***A6: FedEx Cup Standings GFX***

**BRADLEY ALSO EARNED 500 FEDEXCUP POINTS, VAULTING HIMSELF TO THE TOP SPOT IN THE STANDINGS. HE’S FOLLOWED CLOSELY BY FELLOW WINNERS THIS SEASON MACKENZIE HUGHES AND MAX HOMA.**

***B1: Pickleball with Spieth and Scheffler***

JORDAN SPIETH: I got to be honest, this is the equivalent to like a first pitch where you go out in front of a bunch of people but you know you're not very good at what you're about to do and it's just a different feeling.

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: My buddies were asking me on the way here, they're like, do you get nervous? Like yeah, I mean this is not what I'm good at.

JORDAN SPIETH: Exactly

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: This is not what I do

ANNC: Scottie Scheffler, Jordan Spieth will take on Dirk Nowitzki and John Isner

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Hey no matter what we got on the board.

JORDAN SPIETH: I'm not going to point fingers, that one was on me.

JORDAN SPIETH: It's all fun and games when it's kind of your sport isn't it. Hey man this is an exhibition you don't have to be so mean.

JORDAN SPIETH: Atta boy nice shot

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Good shot Jordan

JORDAN SPIETH: That was nice of you john

TONY ROMO: Got ourselves the point of the century

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: That was a good point though, good job

JORDAN SPIETH: I can't wait to thank Gunnan for giving you these two. That was great. Yeah. Let's give the better player with the best two in the world. That's nice.

JORDAN SPIETH: Good going

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: He's not suppose to hit it hard at you, he's suppose to hit it hard to me

JORDAN SPIETH: That felt personal

JORDAN SPIETH: Why am I going right at him?

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah

JORDAN SPIETH: You can't lose that point right there. Oh you can't lose that point when he sat down

JORDAN SPIETH: Nice job, thanks for not winning that earlier

JORDAN SPIETH: Me and you verse them two

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Yeah lets try again

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Alright let's go one more

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Jordan you're there that was it

JORDAN SPIETH: Yeah that was a good shot

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Thanks, when I hit it over there you go

JORDAN SPIETH: Oh that's a good point I backed off of it ha-ha

JORDAN SPIETH: Microphone out

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Awe yeah good job

JORDAN SPIETH: Alright, one and one

***B2: TOUR Playlist***

**BOTH SPIETH AND SCHEFFLER TAKE THEIR TALENTS BACK TO THE GOLF COURSE AS THE PGA TOUR RETURNS TO SOUTH CAROLINA AND A VENUE RICH WITH HISTORY AND A DEEP IMPACT.**

***B3: Congaree Refresher***

ANNC: Tom Fazio laid out this golf course in 2017 on a 3,200 acre former rice plantation in South Carolina's low country. And the PGA TOUR coming here for this special week.

JOHN MCNEELY: The unique elements about Congaree is it's a sandy soil similar to a Pinehurst and we do have a lot of pine trees but the golf course really is made up from the old oak trees that we have on property.

JOHN MCNEELY: Grasses are unique here because we don't over-seed our grasses. We have one height of cut pretty much all throughout the golf course, so that's a little bit different.

ANNC: Tyrrell Hatton, well he's made a sloppy start. Makes it back in a hurry.

KEVIN KISNER: You'll see a variety of shots from around the greens with no rough and runoff into collection areas. Guys can putt it, chip it, or use bump and runs kind of like you see links-style in Scotland or England.

WILLIAM MCGIRT: At Congaree, we have a world class golf course, however I feel like golf is not the most important thing here.

BRUCE DAVIDSON: Well, the Congaree Foundation was created to provide vocational and educational opportunities to underserved or underprivileged children. And so, the foundation is supported exclusively by our ambassador members who not only give financially, but they give up their time.

BRUCE DAVIDSON: This is the only club that we know of in the world where someone joins the club. The mission is to give back to expand access to the game.

WILLIAM MCGIRT: We're helping kids to prepare for life, grow their lives and prepare for their futures. When I come to Congaree, yes I have a great time playing a world class golf course, but I also know that I'm part of something much, much bigger than just golf.

***B4: Rory By the Numbers***

**LAST SEASON WAS MEMORABLE FOR RORY MCILROY. AS HE MAKES HIS SEASON DEBUT AT THE CJ CUP IN SOUTH CAROLINA, WE'RE HIGHLIGHTING THE NUMBERS BEHIND HIS CAREER YEAR THAT BEGAN AT THE SAME EVENT.**

RORY MCILROY: The CJ Cup was my first start after the Ryder cup. Whistling Straits was my lowest point of my career. I went into CJ Cup with not many expectations.

ANNC: You wonder the emotion that he showed at the Ryder Cup, if that's going to translate into this season. Is that going to motivate him? I feel like that disappointment of that week is going to spurn him to great things.

ANNC: When this guy starts to make putts you better watch out. This would give him the lead, how bout it? An eagle at 18 for McIlroy

ANNC: He's going to tap it in, Rory McIlroy is the winner of the CJ Cup at Summit

RORY MCILROY: I didn't think I would be able to turn it around as quickly as I did but to get that win at CJ so soon after what happened at the Ryder Cup was validation of what I had worked on were the right things and gave me a lot of encouragement the rest of the season.

ANNC: So good to be back in Canada, they waited for three years since 2019 when Rory was their champion. Look at this leaderboard loaded with stars.

ANNC: The Rory roars start early

RORY MCILROY: I feel like I took more responsibilities on myself, going up against Tony and JT on the final day, I pulled one out of the bag it was a really cool moment.

ANNC: It's the end of the road for the PGA TOUR season. Historic East Lake hosting the Tour Championship.

RORY MCILROY: I think it's a big deal. I would rank a FedExCup right alongside winning a major championship, putting yourself in position year after yea is the benchmark.

ANNC: If McIlroy can make something happen early maybe it will be game for the back nine.

ANNC: What a battle between them. Scheffler and McIlroy.

RORY MCILROY: Silver lining was I was playing in the last group so I could at least keep an eye on what he was doing if things didn't quite work out for him.

ANNC: McIlroy has inched ahead with two holes to go in regulation

RORY MCILROY: Really proud of my resilience. Just sort of stuck my head down and kept going and took advantage of the opportunity that I was given.

ANNC: In an extraordinary PGA TOUR season it is Rory McIlroy with his extraordinary talents that wins a third FEDEXCUP title.

RORY MCILROY: It's really cool to do something in golf that no one has ever done before. I put that up with some of the biggest achievements I've had in this game.

***B5: Comcast Business TOUR Top-10***

**WHILE MCILROY HOPES TO DEFEND HIS TITLE AT THE CJ CUP IN SOUTH CAROLINA, HE'LL BE JOINED NINE OF THE COMCAST BUSINESS TOUR TOP TEN.**

***B6: ServPro Saving Shots***

**THE CUT PRESENTS: SAVING SHOTS**

ANNC: Hideki's third. the ball not sitting that well, the green's running away from him. I don't think he can spin this. Ah this is magnificent. Spun it a little bit.

ANNC: Xander Schauffele's third. And it is a pretty straight forward bunker shot, a lot of green with which to work. Yeah, about like that. Brilliant. Just kind of do that, that works if you're Xander.

ANNC: Back at the 17th with Andrew Putnam from the bunker. Oh yeah, what a shot! That's a man with some confidence from the bunkers.

***C1: REJOIN***

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***C2: On the Range***

TRAVIS FULTON: Here with Carl Yuan, first off, congratulations on getting your TOUR card. That's got to be a dream come true.

CARL YUAN: For sure, it's always been my goal since I started playing golf and finally, we're here.

TRAVIS FULTON: So I'm watching some of these videos and I'm seeing like these, gyrations, these finishes all over the board. I got to ask you; do you practice those here or are they just spontaneous on the golf course?

CARL YUAN: A lot of times it just happens on the course. If there is a shot I need to hit, my body feels like yeah, probably that's the right way to do it.

ANNC: Yuan likes to be very, very entertaining with his follow through.

ANNC: You have to fit a mold apparently these days and he does not fit that mold and he has a lot of fun on the golf course. Unbelievable, it's so good!

ANNC: It's like he has a sword in his hand.

CARL YUAN: I'm very much a feel l player and there are fundamental things I do to try and get my alignment right before I go play.

TRAVIS FULTON: So is the picture, like, for you is it down in here or is it up here? Do you feel like it's path and face right here?

CARL YUAN: I think it's more down here for me.

CARL YUAN: Sometimes I see an invisible line here and I see where my club head is moving. So if I want to hit a draw here, I really see this line coming through here and my club face aiming this way.

TRAVIS FULTON: Let's hit a little draw here.

CARL YUAN: So it's the same grip just a little a little different path, a little out to the right, face slightly close to that.

TRAVIS FULTON: Let's see a little sweeper here.

TRAVIS FULTON: You only have to hit that shot when you have to get out of trouble I'd imagine.

CARL YUAN: I mean, I'm pretty good off the trees.

TRAVIS FULTON: Let's hit the driver here.

TRAVIS FULTON: Can you give me the helicopter, hold off fade one time here. This is great stuff right here.

TRAVIS FULTON: Love it! Good stuff. Carl Yuan, best of luck to your rookie season on the PGA TOUR.

***C3: RSM ‘BIRDIES FORE LOVE’ Feature***

**IN 2020, COREY CONNERS WAS ONE OF THREE PLAYERS TO EARN THREE HUNDRED THOUSAND DOLLARS THROUGH THE BIRDIES FORE LOVE PROGRAM… AND SOME OF THOSE FUNDS WENT TO A CLOSE FRIEND.**

COREY CONNERS: Camilo is such an unbelievable guy, and obviously it was tragic what happened to their family. I was fortunate to win some money that I was able to donate to his charity. I look forward to continue to support his miracles, him and his wife Maria as well.

CAMILO VILLEGAS: Mia's Miracles is our foundation that came about after we lost our daughter Mia in 2020. The Birdies Fore Love RSM initiative is very cool and I've had Corey conners come up to us and donate some money, and bring smiles, because that's what we do.

COREY CONNERS: The generosity of RSM of sponsoring this donation is pretty remarkable.

***D1: Local IQ ‘CADDIE CORNER’ Feature***

RYAN PALMER: What is my longest putt ever made? Made my longest in ten years last week.

JAMES EDMUNDSON: 45 feet. 3m last week. Hole 9 on Saturday

ANNC: 45 feet, Ryan Palmer, good all the way.

RYAN PALMER: I've made one longer than that in 20 years. I put 81 feet.

RYAN PALMER: What's my one guilty pleasure after a long day of golf?

JAMES EDMUNDSON: Dr. Pepper.

RYAN PALMER: Dr. Pepper and a beer.

JAMES EDMUNDSON: We're in sync.

RYAN PALMER: I mean it's amazing.

JAMES EDMUNDSON: We only spend more awake time than we do with our wives.

RYAN PALMER: What's my favorite course on TOUR?

JAMES EDMUNDSON: Pebble Beach.

ANNC: Piercing drive from Ryan Palmer. Nice soft gentle Texas draw right there down the middle.

RYAN PALMER: Last round, Pebble Beach. What's one tournament I want to win more than any other?

JAMES EDMUNDSON: Colonial

RYAN PALMER: Colonial

ANNC: Ryan Palmer, to be the first man to get to three under. Yeah let's walk it in. Look out.

RYAN PALMER: We're both going to cannon ball in the pond of 18. Who would be in my dream foursome?

JAMES EDMUNDSON: Oh man, his dad, Fred Couples, and James Edmundson.

RYAN PALMER: I said dad, I said Freddie, and actually I would love to see Hogan play golf in his prime. Sorry James.

JAMES EDMUNDSON: It's alright.

***D2: BetParx***

KRISTEN ROGERS: Hi, I'm Kristen Rogers from BetParx here, with a quick look at the CJ CUP, as the PGA TOUR heads back stateside to South Carolina. BetParx is proud to be the official betting operator of the PGA TOUR.

KRISTEN ROGERS: Six of the top ten in the world are headed to Congaree Golf Club this week, including Rory McIlroy who I think will continue an incredible fall campaign. This is Rory's first PGA TOUR event since East Lake and he is my pick to repeat at this tournament, albeit at a different course.

KRISTEN ROGERS: Rickie Fowler also back in the conversation this week after coming up just short at the ZOZO Championship, finishing one stroke back of Keegan Bradley. Don't know if we'll see him with another top-five finish this week but I do expect Sam Burns and Cameron Young to finish there. The wide fairways seem to be set up perfectly for their games.

***D3: Rollout***

JORDAN SPIETH: Dirk and I had an opportunity to yell at a ref.

SCOTTIE SCHEFFLER: Everybody, Ben just asked who that guy is, that’s Tony Romo.

JORDAN SPIETH: Alright, one to one.

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