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[00:00:30] >> Well, it's a lush green oasis. Phoenix Country Club, such a historic layout. Been part of this neighborhood more than 100 years. Downtown Phoenix, where you see the Diamondbacks and Suns play, has just a 10-minute drive over to the course this week. 90 years ago, Phoenix Country Club first started playing host to professional golf, and since 2017, it's been the home for the Charles Schwab Cup Championship. Lanny, some of the early highlights at Phoenix Country Club. John Huston got off to a fast start, then some.

[00:01:02] >> Yeah, fast start is putting it mildly. John Huston, first off, by himself in a onesome, under two hours and 20 minutes, and he shoots 6 under par 65.

[00:01:12] >> What a number to put on the board out of the gate. Steven Alker, 1st hole.

[00:01:17] >> Good start for Alker, getting things rolling early, and the putter looks really nice for Him. And that's big because these greens are perfect. Guys are going to make putts. Talking about making putts, Padraig Harrington from 50 feet at the par-3 2nd.

[00:01:33] >> Harrington knows he has to win this week if he wants to have a shot at winning the Charles Schwab Cup playoff race, and gets that to go on the --

[00:01:46] >> Then the ageless one, Bernhard Langer at the 4th from just over the back of the green. This kid's quick, right by the hole, quick to go downtown. Beautiful putt.

[00:01:56] >> Langer fresh off a win last week at the TimberTech Championship, his second this season. Steven Alker, approach to the 4th.

[00:02:03] >> Well, you wonder why he's playing so well, look how good a golf swing that is. And just nails this iron shot in there to about 10 feet at the 4th. He would make that for birdie, and then at the 5th, he drove it just off the front left, and the rough pitch shot to 15 feet. And another birdie. So Alker off and running, George, at 3 under par.

[00:02:25] >> The putter joining the party for Steven Alker. Where things stand right now, John Huston leading by two. Lee Janzen, Retief Goosen, a big group of players currently with the share of second at 4 under. Steven Alker still on the front nine in this opening round, up to T7 at 3 under par. As we dive deeper, Padraig Harrington, he's 2-under through five holes. Jim Furyk about to close out his day, a couple under par. Thongchai Jaidee, 2-under through six. Here's Langer.

[00:03:07] >> 93 yards there for the ageless wonder, Bernhard Langer, taking dead aim.

[00:03:11] >> Did he ever. Right in there to about a foot and a half.

[00:03:17] >> Out to the par-4 9th, actually playing over par today. Miguel Angel Jimenez for birdie.

[00:03:24] >> Good putt there. This hole, great hole location around that right front.

[00:03:32] >> To the 8th, you got a beat on this birdie putt, Cookie.

[00:03:33] >> Yeah, not much to this, right underneath the hole. And talk about a golf course that could really fit Bernhard Langer. And there you go. Fist pump, everything.

[00:03:42] >> It does fit him, Cookie. I'm actually surprised. With all the wins he has, this is one tournament Bernhard Langer has never Won, is the Schwab Cup.

[00:03:55] >> Let's take two to the 12th. Stephen Ames his second.

[00:03:57] >> Yeah, just a lay up off the tee, put it in position. This hole location I think is fairly gettable today.

[00:04:04] >> Ames in a good rhythm today.

[00:04:06] >> And yes, it was gettable as Stephen Ames showed how to do it there. Langer with a pretty good-sized drive here, Cookie. He's got a little pop in his step.

[00:04:16] >> Now from 118, front right hole location, has to be very precise, just like that.

[00:04:27] >> Had to be good. He was looking after that one. Wow.

[00:04:30] >> Spectacular from Langer. Will Ames add another one on the card?

[00:04:38] >> Pretty good look down this hill here. Oh yeah, catches an edge.

[00:04:42] >> Curls it in. Ames solo second at 5 under par. Jimenez knocks it in at the 12th. How about that scorecard?

[00:04:59] >> Yeah, a couple of bad bogeys there at 6 and 7.

[00:05:06] >> Closer look for Alker at the 10th.

[00:05:17] >> That looked way too easy. I mean, the entire hole just looked simple.

[00:05:28] >> What can Langer dial up in the 12th fairway?

[00:05:29] >> From 92 Yards, look for this one to be stacked. Licking his chops on this one.

[00:05:36] >> Why wouldn't he be? In there about another 18 inches again.

[00:05:48] >> Oh, hit it like that. Alex Cejka doesn't even need a putter. Just dunks it on the 15th.

[00:05:54] >> Doesn't even need green. Just flies it in the hole. That was very cool. It seems like he messed the hole up.

[00:06:05] >> Yeah, a little bit right there, yeah.

[00:06:10] >> Harrington's got it down there a little bit closer, 77 yards.

[00:06:13] >> He kept the speed up good. Did he hit it hard enough? Yes, he did. Excellent play by Harrington.

[00:06:39] >> And there's a great shot by Alker. How about that little response? I'm going to hit it so close I can't miss it.

[00:06:51] >> Par-3 15th, Langer on the box.

[00:06:53] >> After that nice par save back there at 14, 188 yards right up the center of the green. Good looking golf shot.

[00:07:00] >> Let's go see if he gets it there, and he does. He might have made one, Cookie. He's in there a foot.

[00:07:13] >> Harrington's worked a lot on his putting this season.

[00:07:17] >> His stroke looks nice. Nice flow to it. That was beautiful. I mean, it's a very nice-looking putting stroke, particularly for fast greens.

[00:07:35] >> Jerry Kelly made his par and Bernhard just went up, tapped that one right in.

[00:07:52] >> Harrington cans another one.

[00:07:54] >> Yeah, kind of like that. Beautiful putt.

[00:07:58] >> Third birdie in his last five holes. He's now 5-under. What a massive break for Alker.

[00:08:06] >> At least he kicked straight.

[00:08:24] >> Ouch.

[00:08:26] >> No one's safe from Steven Alker, who's now at 6-under, tied for the lead.

[00:08:40] >> Langer for birdie and a 65.

[00:08:41] >> We'll give him 20 feet, goes slightly downhill, then back up the hill. Not much to it.

[00:08:48] >> Just a bit short. Cookie, how would you grade this round from Langer? A lot of good. I mean, we had short irons. He stacked them pretty good. Just that one lone bogey. Other than that, it was pretty impressive. 5-under, 66 for Bernhard Langer. To remain bogey free. And Alker knocks it in for par. Harrington for birdie.

[00:09:36] >> Well, we won't get the pairing tomorrow. Padraig will be right in front of Steven Alker so he can go light it up and put the heat on him and make Alker look at him all day. That's always a good spot too.

[00:09:58] >> Talking with Steven Alker earlier this season, he said it was 20 years ago that he and his family moved to the Valley. Been a long time home for them now, for his life as a professional based here in the US. Alker to card a 65. 18 holes in the books and he is tied for the lead at the Charles Schwab Cup Championship.

[00:10:31] >> That's a man that's not going down without a fight. I mean, there's no question. I mean, we know Padraig's got to win and do it anyway. But I mean, the way Alker's going, Padraig could get hot and win and still not take down the Schwab Cup, because Alker's looking and finishing high enough, he keeps this up.

[00:10:52] >> Leaderboard as it stands in Phoenix, Arizona. Steven Alker tied for the lead with Stephen Ames, had that great start. Bunch of birdies for Miguel Angel Jimenez. Can he avoid some bogeys? Thongchai Jaidee hanging around, as is Padraig Harrington.

[00:11:12] >> Now, look at Phoenix, the state capital of Arizona, the largest by population in the entire country. Phoenix Country Club, first founded in the 19th century. That was back in 1899. For a little more than 100 years, it's been at its present location. So much history at this club. Longtime host of the Phoenix Open. It's played host to a couple Western Opens on the PGA Tour and now the Charles Schwab Cup Championship here on the PGA Tour Champions. Let's check out some of the highlights from round number two so far. Padraig Harrington getting it going on the second.

[00:11:48] >> Yeah, he did after birding the par-5 first. Good short iron here at the second. Goes flag hunting. Almost makes one. What a great shot by Harrington.

[00:12:00] >> Birdies 1, birdies 2. Harrington to 7-under. Steven Alker, quick work of the first.

[00:12:03] >> Yeah, gets it hole high in two off the right side of the green. Delicate little pitch on the first hole. Gets it to about six feet. He would make that for birdie to start his day.

[00:12:15] >> More from Alker on the 2nd.

[00:12:16] >> Yeah, about 15 feet. Not as close as Harrington, but the same result. Beautiful two.

[00:12:23] >> Alker to 8 under par. Padraig Harrington to match him on the 4th.

[00:12:28] >> Yeah, hole location all the way in the back on 4. Harrington puts it just over the back of the green and beautiful roll here.

[00:12:37] >> Padraig hot the second round. Would also birdie the 5th. Same could be said for Steven Alker. These two guys, 1-2 in the point standings, tied for the lead at 9-under. Steven Ames, a shot back, that trio at 7-under currently T4 as we go on down the leaderboard. John Huston had that hot start, was one of the co-leaders after opening with a 6-under 65. 1-over through six today, giving up some ground. Let's go out to the 7th. Third shot for Steven Alker. Say hello to Phil Blackmar.

[00:13:07] >> And hello. Good lie there for Alker. Plenty of green to work with after two big wood shots.

[00:13:18] >> At the 10th, Thongchai Jaidee's second from the fairway. Hole location up the left-hand side here at 10 today. See if Jaidee can get it in there close. He does. What a nice shot. Beauty.

[00:13:36] >> To the 7th, Bernhard Langer for birdie. Just got by the tree with his second.

[00:13:44] >> Oh, beautiful.

[00:13:45] >> There's a nice bounce back after bogeying the 6th. Yeah, just a short par putt at 6. Couldn't have been more than three feet.

[00:13:53] >> Now the stage is set for Steven Alker.

[00:13:59] >> Getting off to a good start once again.

[00:14:01] >> And not much in this putt. Maybe left edge. Gets it right. Oh, he gets in. Beautiful putt. That putt didn't move at all. Really nice read.

[00:14:16] >> Four birdies his first seven holes, outright leader at 10 under par. Padraig Harrington trying to quiet the gallery around this 10th green.

[00:14:32] >> That's the great equalizer, Lanny.

[00:14:33] >> yeah, I think I'd give that putt an A-plus as he hammers that thing in there.

[00:14:38] >> Harrington from deep. Co-leader now at 10 under par. Things are getting interesting here in Phoenix. Goosen over at the 15th green.

[00:14:50] >> Get this club working for Goosen, he can run the tables.

[00:14:54] >> Watch out now.

[00:14:54] >> Yes, there you go.

[00:14:55] >> Goosen to 5-under on the day.

[00:14:57] >> Yes, sneaking up on them.

[00:15:09] >> Quick little putt here, being very careful. Oh yeah.

[00:15:11] >> Birdie for Steven Alker. Fifth one today.

[00:15:16] >> This thing is a train he's on, and it ain't getting off track.

[00:15:26] >> Padraig Harrington to try and tie it up.

[00:15:28] >> 15 feet, right underneath the hole. Not much break to this.

[00:15:31] >> How about this back and forth? Harrington to 11-under and your co-leader.

[00:15:36] >> They're just burying the rest of the field.

[00:15:40] >> The cream rising to the top. Alker and Harrington three shots clear the rest of the pack. 13th green. Bernhard Langer for birdie.

[00:16:00] >> Did he hit it?

[00:16:01] >> Is it enough? Yes, it is.

[00:16:05] >> I think Langer's found his stroke again. Hello.

[00:16:07] >> What a game.

[00:16:09] >> What a bounce back. Two birdies his last three holes. Langer, T6 at 7-under.

[00:16:18] >> 1993 Walker Cup, Brian Gay played Padraig Harrington in singles, Lanny. A lot of history with these two.

[00:16:24] >> Yeah, it really is. And Brian Gay trying to track him down right now. That's kind of what he did that match.

[00:16:36] >> Out to the short par-4 16th, Miguel Angel Jimenez uphill birdie putt.

[00:16:46] >> Finally got one to go in.

[00:16:48] >> Hola, Miguel. First birdie on the backside, Jimenez 8 under par. Back to the 14th. Bernhard Langer this for birdie. Walks in another one. Right when you want to count him out after bogeying the 12th, Birdies on 13 and 14. Langer at 8-under. 15th green, Steven Alker the leader.

[00:17:22] >> He's set up pretty far right of the hole. Got to watch the pace a little bit. Maybe not. Hello.

[00:17:30] >> Boom. Bullseye for Alker.

[00:17:32] >> How about that? Steven Alker looks so good right now. Third shot for Thongchai Jaidee at the 18th.

[00:17:44] >> Chipping right across the green. Plenty green to work with.

[00:17:48] >> Oh no, watch out. First eagle this week at Phoenix Country Club. 67-68.

[00:18:02] >> Third shot, scramble mode activated for Brian Gay.

[00:18:05] >> That it is, similar shot to what he had on the 11th hole, little check and hold and really well done. He's so good. The motion that Brian Gay has on these little low driving pitch shots is absolutely textbook.

[00:18:18] >> Padraig Harrington from 20 feet.

[00:18:21] >> He tends to pull them a little bit. The handle stops and the clubhead just turns over slightly. And he's missed several of these to the left. Let's see what he does here.

[00:18:36] >> Harrington's birdie roll on the way.

[00:18:39] >> Made it. Beautiful.

[00:18:41] >> Looking on the 16th.

[00:18:44] >> Downhill move a little right to left for Steven Ames. Oh beautiful. Staying in touch.

[00:18:55] >> Just a couple under on his round.

[00:19:05] >> This putt should move a little to the right, but not as hard as Langer's did. He set it up up the left side to go pretty good. I'd say he read it well. He put it almost a cup out and just buried it. Gotta love it.

[00:19:19] >> Right on cue. Alker delivers. 13-under, two-shot lead. This shot for Brian Gay.

[00:19:29] >> Damage control right here. That's all you can say.

[00:19:36] >> I would say so.

[00:19:37] >> Damage control and then some. Holes it for par. 65 for Brian Gay.

[00:19:43] >> That keeps him right in the tournament.

[00:19:50] >> Drift back to the 17th. Steven Ames.

[00:19:52] >> Good look at birdie here. Just right up the gut. Yes. Two in a row for Steven Ames. Sneaking up closer.

[00:20:01] >> Ames now T5 at 9-under. A lot of players reaching this in two today. Steven Alker, pretty conservative wedge shot, everything considering. I thought he might get a little more aggressive with this.

[00:20:22] >> Alker's birdie putt for the low round of the day, and that comes up short.

[00:20:26] >> We're right in the middle too. Disappointing finish for both these guys, honestly. Alker ties the low round. Second straight day. 65-64, 13-under, leading by one. He will have a tee time in that final group with Padraig Harrington.

[00:20:51] >> Well, it's nice. I mean he plays late so he can get some rest. He can go home and enjoy a nice dinner, a little libation with friends and come out tomorrow ready to rock and roll.

[00:21:01] >> The scoring pace going to continue into the weekend at Phoenix?

[00:21:04] >> I'm amazed that the scoring is this good. I mean this golf course is tight. There's some rough. The green speeds are way up. I think it just speaks to the fact that we've had perfect weather, no wind whatsoever and the golf course could not be in nicer shape.

[00:21:28] >> Welcome into the third round of the Charles Schwab Cup Championship. Steven Alker the points leader coming into the week. Carried the lead into the weekend at Phoenix Country Club. I'm George Savaricas with World Golf Hall of Famer Lanny Wadkins. Some of the early third round highlights. Padraig Harrington getting it going, par-5 1st.

[00:21:44] >> Yeah, huge tee shot by Harrington. Just a long iron into this par-5, and right off the bat he goes flag hunting. What a second, in there to six feet at the par-5 first.

[00:21:56] >> Harrington would eagle, move to 14-under. So Alker to tie the lead.

[00:22:02] >> Little four-footer there, slides by the edge. Maybe early nerves? Eh, not so sure. Get over here to the third hole and Alker hits a perfect drive and he hits a quality iron shot of his own at the 3rd.

[00:22:16] >> Alker now the chaser one back.

[00:22:18] >> In there to about four feet and he would make that for birdie to tie the lead.

[00:22:26] >> How about this? Par-4 5th. Padraig Harrington drives the green.

[00:22:30] >> Yeah, 301 yards for the hole today. This for eagle too, just slides by the edge about three or four feet. He would make that for birdie three and reclaim the lead.

[00:22:42] >> We have a change atop the leaderboard. Padraig Harrington at 15-under. Steven Alker one back. His second out of the way to the par-4 6th.

[00:22:53] >> Oh, that's a very nice play into that front hole location. Wonderful shot there. Hole high by Alker. That is very makeable. That's the kind he's been making all week.

[00:23:06] >> We're going to make our way to the 7th. Steven Ames for birdie.

[00:23:09] >> On the par-5, this is a good look right here. And Steven Ames trying to stay in touch. That gets Steven to 11.

[00:23:26] >> Little statement early by Harrington.

[00:23:27] >> Yeah, it really is. He's doing what he's supposed to do. I mean, really nothing out of the norm here.

[00:23:38] >> Another birdie. Harrington is 16-under, up by two.

[00:23:42] >> Whatever you want to call it, Lanny, it's sweet.

[00:23:45] >> It's very good. It's a heck of a start.

[00:23:52] >> Move along to the 9th, par putt, Jimenez.

[00:23:55] >> That's a good save. A really poor second caused him to have a lot of work there at the 9th.

[00:24:05] >> Birdie look for Brian Gay at the 10th.

[00:24:07] >> Good shot in here. Will it stay up? Yes, it will. That's a great three at 10. That's a very hard golf hole.

[00:24:15] >> Brian Gay 3-under on the day, now 13-under, solo third. Our final group is out at the 11th.

[00:24:22] >> This is like his middle wedge, this 50-degree wedge, so he can go ahead and take a swing at this.

[00:24:28] >> He did.

[00:24:28] >> Roman bringing you our TrackMan Tracer.

[00:24:31] >> Nice line. And oh, nearly Jars it.

[00:24:36] >> Well, so much for the stance bothering him. What a shot.

[00:24:43] >> Your move, Harrington.

[00:24:45] >> Just 131 yards for Harrington. This is what you're looking for. Dial it in. And an excellent response by Harrington in there to about four feet himself. Great play.

[00:25:06] >> Collin Montgomerie. Down the hill, moving a little left to right. Made it right on top of Paul Broadhurst's head.

[00:25:16] >> On the 11th green, Padraig Harrington for birdie.

[00:25:21] >> Pretty simple look right here, maybe right center.

[00:25:28] >> Yeah, no problem. Made that look easy.

[00:25:36] >> Alex Cejka's third. He has the round of the day going right now on the course, 7-under.

[00:25:40] >> If he gets this up and down, it's going to be one of the up and downs of the day.

[00:25:44] >> Phenomenal.

[00:25:45] >> That's a great shot there.

[00:25:53] >> Harrington, this for birdie. You got a bead on this, Big?

[00:25:55] >> Coming down the hill. A little bit of Speed, should move gently to his right.

[00:26:02] >> If he gets this, it would be like stealing one. And he just stole one. Wow, Harrington with the really hot hand today.

[00:26:09] >> Heating up, back-to-back birdies. Harrington to 18-under.

[00:26:17] >> Yeah, Steven Alker really kind of needs to respond here, Cookie.

[00:26:21] >> Absolutely, Lanny. Absolutely.

[00:26:28] >> Let's watch the stroke from this angle. See what that putter does at the back of the stroke. That was pretty good right there.

[00:26:39] >> Great answer from Alker, second birdie today, comes on the 12th. Alex Cejka to put the finishing touches on an 8-under 63.

[00:26:57] >> That's the low round this week at Phoenix Country Club. Harrington for birdie. And another one.

[00:27:12] >> Big, what's this man been eating at dinner? Wow.

[00:27:16] >> He's on fire now, three in a row. First time we're seeing Bernhard Langer today on the 18th. Glides to the right. Langer at 8 under par, 1-under 70, T12. We got eyes now on Padraig Harrington's tee shot, Phil. How dicey is this lie?

[00:27:50] >> Yeah, the lie is not too bad. There are trees in the area. I really don't think they're going to present much of a problem for him. Only 111 yards. He could conceivably hit this ball close to the hole.

[00:28:05] >> Yes, he can. I would say he did.

[00:28:07] >> It's at nearly tap in range. Wow. Jump to the 16th. Short par-4, Brian Gay. Flip wedge.

[00:28:21] >> Yeah, good tee shot here. Can he get it all the way back to the flag? That's pretty well done. Very nice.

[00:28:28] >> He does such a good job with those type of shots. On the 18th green in this par-5, fourth easiest on the course. Paul Broadhurst for birdie.

[00:28:38] >> Love watching Broady putt. He looks at the hole. He sees it going in before he even hits it.

[00:28:43] >> Mr. Consistency this week. 68, 67, 68, 10-under with 54 holes in the books. Padraig Harrington.

[00:28:57] >> Wow, is he lighting it up.

[00:28:59] >> This backside, parred the 10th, birdies on 11, 12, 13 and 14. First player in the field to 20 under par. Birdie by Gay. 4-under on the round. Padraig Harrington. 8-under, tied for the low round going at this point.

[00:29:33] >> Rolled through there pretty nicely. Quite honestly, it came out nice. That was well done. His touch has really been nice today. Stress wise, yes.

[00:29:45] >> Stress free par for Harrington at the 17th. Brian Gay to leapfrog Steven Alker into solo second. His eagle attempt. Just short. How would you grade this round from Brian Gay? That's a 5-under 66.

[00:30:13] >> Yeah, he's hanging there very nice. He's played well today. Looking like he's getting very comfortable playing out here on this tour.

[00:30:20] >> It's got to be a strange feeling for Padraig Harrington, who has complete control of this tournament, but then he has no control over his destiny to win the Schwab Cup, based on what the rest of the field now has to do.

[00:30:33] >> I think both these guys right now are trying to win this golf tournament first and foremost, and you've almost got to do that and let the Schwab Cup play out as it does.

[00:30:43] >> Big putt for Alker here. This gets him into the final group tomorrow with Harrington.

[00:30:48] >> That it does, Lanny. Important putt right here. He has made nothing today.

[00:30:57] >> Alker able to make birdie on the last.

[00:30:59] >> A bogey-free 68 today for Alker and lost seven shots?

[00:31:05] >> Six shots.

[00:31:07] >> Wow. Yeah, and I think enough of the other players behind them have moved up the board on Steven Alker. He's going to look at that list and he's not going to have a comfortable night's sleep, I don't think, thinking about the Schwab Cup. There's a lot still that can happen tomorrow.

[00:31:35] >> Harrington for birdie. It's a 9-under 62. A scorching Saturday from Padraig Harrington, leading by five now. Lanny, let's look at the leaderboard. 21 under par through 54 holes. I don't know if I saw that at the beginning of the week.

[00:32:01] >> I didn't see it for 72 holes, much less 54. That is some total.

[00:32:09] >> Padraig Harrington has taken control of the tournament. It'll be the biggest round Steven Alker has ever played on Sunday to try and win the Charles Schwab Cup.

[00:32:22] >> Padraig Harrington knows he has to win today to have any chance of winning the Charles Schwab Cup playoffs. He's out well in front at Phoenix Country Club. George Savaricas with World Golf Hall of Famer Lanny Wadkins. Padraig carrying a big lead into the final round. Here he is in the par-5 1st.

[00:32:40] >> Yeah, huge tee shot at 1, setting up an iron to the par-5 and just goes flag hunting right off the bat. What a great play at the first. That for eagle, he would make birdie.

[00:32:51] >> Harrington on the 3rd.

[00:32:53] >> Another good tee shot by Harrington, and the iron game still dialed in. Look at this one. Even George could make that one.

[00:33:02] >> You're too kind. Harrington to 23 under par in this final group. Steven Alker.

[00:33:10] >> Yeah, same hole. Drove it in the left trees and really cool little play right here. Chasing it up, using the slope. Really, really well done there by Steven Alker. In there to about eight feet. He would make that a birdie.

[00:33:26] >> Alker to 17-under at the short par-4 5th.

[00:33:29] >> Yeah, 301 yards and Harrington drove it hole high on the left. Really lovely play here. Had plenty green to work with. Takes advantage. That's well done. And then you think that was well done, look at this. Steven Alker with nothing, down there on a tight hard lie, right in front of the green. Almost holes it for two and he would make a birdie three.

[00:33:55] >> Now live, Lee Janzen off the 11th with putter for birdie.

[00:33:59] >> Came through that fringe very nicely and slammed it.

[00:34:02] >> Ramming speed.

[00:34:03] >> Going for the back of the hole. Wow.

[00:34:12] >> Let's fast forward all the way to the 18th. Jerry Kelly for birdie.

[00:34:16] >> Had a nice week. Not as low as he would like to have gone.

[00:34:19] >> Final round 69. Jerry Kelly currently T17. On the 9th green with the final twosome. This for par.

[00:34:41] >> Quite a save. That's a good grind for Padraig. He worked that over hard. He didn't take it for granted.

[00:34:47] >> Keeps that scorecard clean through the front nine. To the 15th. There's only been one birdie on this par-3 today.

[00:34:54] >> That's kind of surprising. This hole location is tight.

[00:34:57] >> Make it two.

[00:34:58] >> Miguel finds number two. That was downhill quick putt and he got it on the line.

[00:35:03] >> Man of the people, Miguel Angel Jimenez. Three birdies his last four holes. Here's some wedge work from Jim Furyk at the par-5 18th. His third.

[00:35:17] >> Hole location right in the right front. Beautiful play there by Furyk.

[00:35:21] >> That was pretty.

[00:35:26] >> Ping pong back to the 12th. Now it's Harrington.

[00:35:32] >> 117 yards right back into the breeze. That hole cut on the back right. Be careful as it's a dangerous hole location. You want to keep this a little bit short of the hole and just a hair left.

[00:35:46] >> Harrington posing.

[00:35:47] >> Why wouldn't you? Just stuff it in there to about four or five feet max.

[00:35:56] >> Langer's third and came off a win last week, TimberTech Championship. Two wins this season. Successful year, Lanny?

[00:36:01] >> Oh, more than successful. I mean, at his age, at 65 years old, winning a couple of times out here. One off Hale's record. Yes, I would say a very successful year for Bernhard Langer.

[00:36:16] >> Padraig 3-under today. His three birdies came in the first five holes. Riding a run of par since. To make the lead a half dozen. Harrington now 25 under par. On the 18th, Jim Furyk making a nice move today. Tis for birdie and a round of 65.

[00:36:45] >> Good playing for Jim. He didn't have the year he wanted, but kind of getting his game together at the end of the year here.

[00:36:55] >> Langer to close out the year with a birdie.

[00:36:58] >> Yeah, nice little pit shot in here and a couple of feet.

[00:37:08] >> A Sunday 72. 1-over his final 18. Alker would love to get one back.

[00:37:19] >> That he would. Not a better putt to have. About, I'll give it 10 feet, slight right to left breaker. Doesn't have to worry about speed, although it does tend to hang to the right at the very last.

[00:37:35] >> Scorecard today for Steven Alker, 3-under on the front nine, a couple over on the back nine.

[00:37:41] >> First two bogeys of the week at 12 and 13. Actually, you know, surprising. All the good pars and work he's done to make bogey at 12. Disappointing. Good look here, though. Birdie would kind of turn things around for him.

[00:37:58] >> Bounce-back birdie for Steven Alker.

[00:38:01] >> That'll give a little breathing room, make you feel a little better.

[00:38:10] >> Third shot from the rough for Thongchai Jaidee, par-5 18th.

[00:38:20] >> Plenty green to work with, coming all the way across there, and that's really well done. Nice touch there by Jaidee.

[00:38:37] >> It's a birdie to wrap up his season. Harrington's second on 15.

[00:38:48] >> Yeah, it's a pretty quick putt right here. Downhill the entire way, should move a little bit to his right as well. Careful with the speed.

[00:39:00] >> Birdie roll on the way.

[00:39:03] >> Nice look.

[00:39:04] >> Drop.

[00:39:05] >> Hello.

[00:39:06] >> How about that?

[00:39:09] >> He's made one of those it seems like every day. I was sitting there thinking before he hit that, he hadn't made his long one today yet. He has now.

[00:39:20] >> Miguel Angel Jimenez to work his way up the leaderboard. 66 on Sunday for Miguel. He's now T4 with Lee Janzen. Short club in for Alker to the 16th.

[00:39:41] >> Take that aim, 83 yards, wind out of the right. Flight it down a little bit low. Look at that. Low check and hold.

[00:39:48] >> Like that? Beautiful shot. I think he now has both hands firmly on the cup.

[00:39:59] >> Skip a couple to the 18th, Retief Goosen for Eagle.

[00:40:02] >> Yeah, been kind of a quiet day for Goose. Till now. How about that?

[00:40:10] >> First angle of the day on the par-5 18th.

[00:40:13] >> Good way to finish your year.

[00:40:20] >> Padraig Harrington 9-under 62 on Saturday. Today, Lanny, he's 5-under, one off the low round of the day.

[00:40:28] >> Yeah, he's done everything to take care of winning a golf tournament today. It's been beautiful to watch what he's done. Like I said, there's another one.

[00:40:39] >> Harrington absolutely electric, back-to-back birdies, 27-under. 18th green, catching up with Stephen Ames.

[00:40:52] >> Nice tournament. Stephen's played a lot of good quality golf this year. Doesn't have a win, but boy, he has played really, really well.

[00:41:00] >> Way to cap off what he says has been his best season, most complete season on the PGA Tour Champions, even without a win. Steven Alker T2, one hole away from winning the Charles Schwab Cup.

[00:41:21] >> Steven Alker, it's such an incredible story. He just turned 50 last August. Didn't have any status. Had to Monday qualify to first get in on the PGA Tour Champions. Won the TimberTech, giving him status into this season. And now a guy who was a career journeyman between the PGA Tour and Korn Ferry Tour is going to win the Charles Schwab Cup playoffs.

[00:41:44] >> The way he did it was incredible. He Monday qualified once, but then he went and finished top 10 every single week, which the top 10 got him in the following week. He did like five, six weeks in a row. And one of those he happened to get the win at TimberTech, which got him all the way into this tournament. As you know, top 36 here. Everybody here that's here this week is exempt in the next year. So that's what got him into this year. Then he has come out and just blitzed it from day one.

[00:42:16] >> How unlikely a story is it that Steven Alker has gone toe to toe with Padraig Harrington, a three-time major champion, and over the course of the season, Alker is going to prevail?

[00:42:27] >> Yeah, in the Schwab Cup, no question. It's outstanding. You watch Steven Alker and the first question that comes to everybody's mind is, where in the heck has he been? I mean, with this golf swing and the way the scores he's been shooting, the scoring average of 68 point whatever this year, it's great stuff. And you're just kind of like, why hasn't he done well before? And it's hard to figure out because, boy, he looks like an all time worldie the way he sets up and hits it.

[00:42:57] >> 80 yards for Steven right here. And I think a lot of it, Lanny, is just trust, belief, commitment, comfortability. But what he's done has been super impressive.

[00:43:07] >> It really has. I think he does have a really nice comfort level out here. He just shook hands with his caddies. It's a nice job.

[00:43:16] >> It's caddie Sam Ortman. He knows the job pretty much done.

[00:43:28] >> Joe Terry, PGA Tour Champions rule official. Been out here for a long time. Good man.

[00:43:56] >> Padraig makes par and sets the new 72-hole scoring record at 257.

[00:44:01] >> He's got a pretty simple looking shot. I mean, once he drops it, the grass is long enough. He can get the club underneath it. Got plenty green to work with. There is water behind. But I don't think that's going to be an issue. He's got enough green to work with. Shouldn't be an issue.

[00:44:14] >> No, it really shouldn't, Lanny. He's going to be in the rough. The rough is trampled down a little bit. It's not particularly thick rough. Plenty of green going straight up the hill. So it's all about just getting the contact that you want on this pitch. But I would imagine just kind of a little dumper, land it on the green, just let it release back to the hole.

[00:44:36] >> Sounds easy enough, Phil.

[00:44:39] >> He's done the hard work already, Lanny.

[00:44:40] >> Oh, yes, he has. Had a couple times today. He was never in danger of like losing the lead or anybody coming to get him. Alker never made quite a run. Harrington birdied from the very first hole on. So he's been in control. And I love the way he's played with the lead. It's just been outstanding. He's taken that lead and tried to go forward. He's never taken his foot off the gas the whole day. Love seeing that.

[00:45:10] >> Scary to think he said, I'm better as a chaser than out in front. And then he does this today. He looks pretty good out in front.

[00:45:21] >> Will it release?

[00:45:21] >> He probably spun the ball a little bit more than he intended. Still a good shot.

[00:45:34] >> That left for Birdie.

[00:45:35] >> The way he's putted, I'm not sure that he's still very dangerous from right there.

[00:45:44] >> That would eclipse the mark Jack Nicklaus set at the 1990 Senior Players in relation to par. Nicklaus was 27-under in winning that week. Padraig currently 27-under, one last birdie putt on the final hole. So at least one record will fall, maybe two for Harrington.

[00:46:04] >> Lanny, he came out with some goals that he was trying to accomplish this year and the manner in which he was going to try to do. A lot of it related to distance. But he also had some mental goals that he was working on. I have to imagine that he certainly reached the majority of those. He might work a little bit on a short iron game or wedges maybe in the end season, his off season. But he's going to be wanting to get started again next year here pretty soon.

[00:46:28] >> I would think so. Yeah, I would think so. He looks awfully good. It'll be interesting to see what kind of vacation he takes. Does he try and play somewhere else?

[00:46:37] >> I think they're going to play the PNC Father/Son.

[00:46:42] >> It's not the father son anymore, since they did away with that, but it's the PNC, whatever it is.

[00:46:48] >> He'll be playing there in Orlando. I talked with him and his caddie Ronan about if they're getting time off or what what's on the horizon.

[00:47:05] >> Now this putt may move just a little bit to his left I think, maybe right at the hole. It might try to straighten out just a bit, a little bit uphill.

[00:47:13] >> Yeah, it's a tough little read, Phil. It really is.

[00:47:25] >> Harrington for birdie.

[00:47:31] >> Just off the right edge. Well, you know, he's not going to get that other the second record here, George, but if you have to be tied with someone, is it such a bad thing to be tied with Jack Nicklaus?

[00:47:45] >> Almost fitting that he'll be tied with Jack Nicklaus.

[00:47:48] >> Yes.

[00:47:50] >> And this would break the mark that Tom Lehman set at the 2012 Charles Schwab Cup Championship at 258.

[00:48:00] >> Steven Alker has taken care of the Schwab Cup, and this is to tie Alex Cejka for second place in this event, which would conclude just a spectacular year for Steven Alker.

[00:48:14] >> You know what, Lanny? He has handled this so well. 20 straight weeks he's been the leader. Padraig has tried to chase him down. Everybody's tried to chase him down. Probably an uncomfortable situation. A little something he's never experienced, but boy did he handle it well.

[00:48:31] >> He did. It looks like he's always been focused on trying to win each individual tournament and let the big prize, the Schwab Cup, kind of take care of itself.

[00:48:43] >> Just right on that left edge.

[00:48:50] >> So close.

[00:48:52] >> He put a little money in Alex Cejka's pocket with that one.

[00:48:58] >> The tap-in, Steven Alker is your Charles Schwab Cup playoff champion. The emotion pouring out of Alker.

[00:49:16] >> Quite an accomplishment, it really is. I mean, where he was just a year ago, two years ago, to be here right now, just outstanding stuff. You know, golf rewards really, really good play. It doesn't really care what the name is on your bag. How good can you play? Steven Alker has played exceptionally well for quite a while out here now.

[00:49:50] >> Harrington rewrites the record books. That's a new PGA Tour Champions 72-hole scoring record, 257. At 27-under, Padraig Harrington wins by seven in taking the Charles Schwab Cup Championship, his fourth win this season on the PGA Tour Champions. Lanny, what an incredible week for Padraig Harrington.

[00:50:24] >> It really was. I mean, you look at what Harrington's done and the way that he's gone about getting his game ready for this tour. And then what Steven Alker's doing, you know, we've got a great year going to come up in '23. These guys will be going at it, you would think, almost weekly. So it's going to be some kind of fun to watch.

[00:50:44] >> How about that? Steven Alker with his family on hand, has lived here in the Valley for 20 years. Fountain Hills, 35, 40-minute drive. He's had the support of them all week with family and friends here to cheer him on. When you look at this leaderboard, how do you break down what we saw in Phoenix, Arizona?

[00:51:07] >> Well, I mean, two guys did what they came here to do. I mean, you had Padraig Harrington coming here knowing he had to win the golf tournament to make a run at the Schwab Cup. He did everything he could, but Steven Alker took care of business from day one this week. Just spectacular play by Steven Alker. I think he accomplished what he wanted to with a lot more pressure on him than Padraig Harrington had this week. Congratulations, Steven.

[00:51:35] >> On a Sunday, Harrington wins by a touchdown. The final margin, seven at Phoenix Country Club. A record-setting week from Harrington. And it's Steven Alker all smiles in winning the Charles Schwab Cup playoffs.