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[00:00:22] >> The PGA Tour is proud to bring you the season-long race for the FedEx Cup. Now coverage of the 2022 Cadence Bank Houston Open.

[00:00:48] >> Celebrating its diamond anniversary, this event dates all the way back to the mid-40s when Byron Nelson beat Ben Hogan and Sam Snead. Houston is still basking in the glory of its second World Series title, but this town has golf woven into its fabric. And when the PGA Tour arrives each year, the energy capital of Texas gets energized. Once again, Memorial Park is playing host. 1947 was the first of its 17 times as the venue. Now in its third consecutive year, Memorial Park has become the permanent home of this event. And we have some highlights to pass along. Steve Sands, pleased to be alongside Trevor Immelman. Alex Noren, his 18th hole of the day. It's the 9th.

[00:01:30] >> Yeah, teed up all the way on the right side of this tee box to a right hole location, trying to slice one in there. I think about 180 yards or so. Beautiful shot there from Noren.

[00:01:39] >> He would get to 5 under par after making that birdie, sitting atop the leaderboard. How about Will Gordon, his third at 13?

[00:01:46] >> Coming off of a great week last week. Can be tough to chip here at Memorial Park, so goes with the putter, rattles it home.

[00:01:52] >> Good thing you found the glass.

[00:01:54] >> Good aim, good aim.

[00:01:55] >> Wow. Nice play there from Will. Justin Rose, the gold medalist from 2016, playing his 17th hole of the day, a birdie putt at 8.

[00:02:04] >> Coming off of a missed cut in Mexico last week, but back-to-back birdies there at 7 and 8 for Rose.

[00:02:09] >> It is not easy to get under par here at this golf course, but Alex Noren and Aaron Wise has now joined the fray at 5 under par. David Lipsky, he has a couple holes remaining. He's also playing very, very nicely. Justin Rose's day is complete. Austin Cook's is as well. How about the veteran Zach Johnson, Ryder Cup captain in Rome next year at 2 under par, finding his way.

[00:02:31] >> All the way down that board, you see a lot of big names. And Francesco Molinari, another major champion in the field this week. He also is in the red.

[00:02:48] >> Yeah, we'll go to the short par-3. Austin Eckroat. Ball just stayed up, Trevor.

[00:02:54] >> And doing a good job. Yeah, keep going.

[00:02:56] >> That is an unusual way to make a two here at the short Par-3. Needed for Eckroat, just his second birdie on this Thursday.

[00:03:08] >> Absolutely perfect angle, left side of the fairway. Can he hit it right up the length of this green? 105 total, just a sand wedge. Flighting it low on a good line. Out great.

[00:03:26] >> That's a birdie for Finau.

[00:03:32] >> Let's go up to see what Harris English can do, Billy Ray, with his third.

[00:03:35] >> Well, pretty nifty little punch out from those trees. Got up there about 75 yards here for his third here at the par-4, but more importantly in that left-hand side of the fairway, so a great angle to try to get it in there.

[00:03:50] >> Beauty.

[00:03:50] >> Oh yeah.

[00:03:50] >> I would say it's gonna be a heck of a save there if he's able to make that putt after that tee shot.

[00:03:55] >> That was so good.

[00:03:57] >> Sure is. He's had some pine straw issues here in the last couple holes, but getting out of there with pars.

[00:04:10] >> This is the third shot at the par-4 12th for Griffin.

[00:04:14] >> Get in there.

[00:04:18] >> What a shot.

[00:04:20] >> That's a bonus birdie there.

[00:04:31] >> One of the best approaches we've seen today at the 15th, and Hughes has rolled it well at this point.

[00:04:38] >> Absolutely perfect spot to putt from, just back up the hill.

[00:04:56] >> Another one. Has made it look really easy to this point, Trevor.

[00:05:01] >> Sure has. Does help when you're rolling in putts like that.

[00:05:06] >> Third shot here at 14 for Nick Watney coming off his best finish in the early stages of this season. In Bermuda, he tied for 11th. And that'll help.

[00:05:17] >> All of a sudden, we've got two pitch-ins and a nice putt from Hughes. We're on a run here now.

[00:05:23] >> It's hole-out Thursday here.

[00:05:29] >> We stay with Watney.

[00:05:33] >> There's argument to be made that Nick Watney was the first ever golf podcast guest. It's on the old Bill Simmons show. You're gonna make more podcasts if you hit it that close. A little kick in here at 15.

[00:05:47] >> Bringing it all the way up to Ben Griffin at 16, lining up a birdie try. Okay, pours that one in.

[00:05:57] >> Back-to-back birdies for Griffin at 15 and 16.

[00:06:00] >> Creeps a little bit closer to the lead, now just two back.

[00:06:06] >> Taking a look at Tony Finau, well short here at 2. Trying to get this thing down in two.

[00:06:17] >> How about one?

[00:06:18] >> One.

[00:06:19] >> What?

[00:06:21] >> Talk about a bonus.

[00:06:23] >> Fantastic.

[00:06:24] >> That's how you get yourself into the red.

[00:06:29] >> Sweden's Alex Noren cards seven birdies and just two bogeys for a 65, sharing the round one lead with US star Tony Finau. Round two is next.

[00:06:49] >> Memorial Park sits about five miles from downtown Houston, the most populous city in all of Texas. It opened in 1912 as a nine-hole course. Then in '36, John Bredemus was in charge of the redesign that stretched it out to 18. The modern look is Tom Doak's responsibility. And on this Veterans Day, we say thank you to all of our nation's finest, the women and men who have served and continue to serve, allowing us to enjoy things like this great game. Years ago, the Astros Foundation made its pitch to the city to take over this beloved property, and this tournament, which was first played here in 1947, has found its way back home. I'm Steve Sands, pleased to be alongside Trevor Immelman. And Trevor, Tony Finau went bananas early this morning. Look at the dew on the ground. Here's his tee shot at the 2nd. Yeah, teed off at 724. And he likes the second. Oh, he made a birdie here in round one. And today, dialed this iron shot in as well. Beautiful start.

[00:07:49] >> He would make that little one for birdie to get to 6 under par. Let's go to the 3rd now and his third.

[00:07:53] >> Yeah, par-5 up near the green in two. Lofts that ball up nicely. You can see the ball skipping because of the dew. Back-to-back birdies there for Finau.

[00:08:02] >> Seven under par. Tony was on the move. How about this tee shot at 7?

[00:08:07] >> Yeah, this is high class right here. Just shy of 200 yards. Hole location on a little plateau on the right side. Finau's got his irons dialed in, makes birdies at both par-3s on the front.

[00:08:20] >> Second straight day, Tony with a 30 on the front. How about Patrick Rodgers? He's trying to stay close. A birdie at 8.

[00:08:27] >> About six feet here. It's a part of his game that really has improved. Nice four at par-5.

[00:08:32] >> To 8 under par went Patrick at that time. Then his tee shot at the 9th.

[00:08:38] >> This is his final hole of the day. This hole playing much shorter than what it did yesterday, 155. Birdie, birdie finish for Rodgers. Nice 63.

[00:08:48] >> It's a 9 under par. Patrick, like Tony, shot a 30 on the front nine. Back to Finau for birdie at 17.

[00:08:54] >> Birdie at 16 as well. So that was his ninth birdie of the day to go along with those two bogeys.

[00:09:01] >> Now he's eyeing that course record of 62 out there. It's par-70 here at Memorial Park. Here's his second at 18.

[00:09:09] >> Boom, the tee shot out there. Just 161 left. And that, for me, is the highlight of Finau's day. The control he had on approach was brilliant.

[00:09:19] >> The putter was also working. This is a little one, but he still had to be careful with it. Finau with a course record tying 62 at the Cadence Bank Houston Open. He is the leader. Four shots is the cushion as we speak. Rodgers with that 63. Tyson Alexander playing very well. More scores. We're going to see scoring like we saw yesterday, perhaps. A 64 from Davis Riley puts him in the eighth spot as we speak. You need to go really, really low if you're going to catch up to Tony Finau, but this golf course doesn't give you a lot of opportunity. Now one of the stars in the field this week is this man. He's a Texas guy from Dallas. Number two in the world, Scottie Scheffler. And Billy Ray Brown, you're down there.

[00:10:15] >> Yeah, thank you, Steve. Actually, took a little drop from the car path here right at the 10th hole. It's got 132 yards when he took the drop. Got a very, very nice lie here. Able to spin the ball. Trees up the right will not present any issues. It's out there right now, Trevor. Light winds right now and overcast skies. It's gettable right now if you can get the ball in the fairway. Coming in very high, right at it.

[00:10:47] >> Oh yeah, what a start there, Billy Ray. Yeah, very fortunate with the drop there to catch a lie where you could spin the ball.

[00:10:57] >> Matsuyama's short game on display here, John.

[00:10:59] >> Yeah, after the substandard wedge, but a pretty simple chip here. Not much to it, and there you go.

[00:11:11] >> If you get a ticket this week, come out and follow Carl Yuan. Had an exceptional season last year on the Korn Ferry Tour. And really, the fun starts after he makes contact.

[00:11:21] >> Yeah.

[00:11:21] >> I'm telling you.

[00:11:26] >> Yesterday, Francesco Molinari carded a 1 under par 69. He's getting his day started here at the 10th from off the green.

[00:11:33] >> That one rolled smoothly through the fringe. Oh yeah, there you go.

[00:11:39] >> A birdie on Friday after a bogey at 10 on Thursday. Molinari will take it.

[00:11:49] >> Here's Bramlett at the 17th. We'll go up to the party atmosphere that is the 15th. You can see weather starting to roll in. And Trevor, if you make a birdie in the afternoon here at the 15th, it's half off beers for the fans for 10 minutes. So you want to see these types of shots.

[00:12:28] >> Well, here we go.

[00:12:32] >> Hit them in close and the fans will like it even more. Here's Lipsky at the 13th. Second on the way. Just about lipped in. Back over at 15 and Hideki, long look for par.

[00:13:02] >> Trying to save his three from that tough second.

[00:13:04] >> He just got it, sure.

[00:13:05] >> How about it?

[00:13:11] >> Don't got to tell the story. Just got to write a number down. Now, Scottie.

[00:13:29] >> All right, 137 yards and just momentarily the wind died down here. This is a risky shot here. Tries to take it on and gets a gust back into his face. Wind stayed down. And able to dial it in. What a play. Another good shot there by Scheffler. Great chance here at 17.

[00:13:58] >> Now up at the green.

[00:13:59] >> All right, Billy Ray, this one's got to go.

[00:14:01] >> Yeah, this has certainly got to go back up the hill. He's 2 under par for this opening nine here in the second round. Now, 3 under part. It's been very easy for Scheffler.

[00:14:16] >> We go to the 18th with Montgomery for his second shot.

[00:14:45] >> We don't have to putt.

[00:14:52] >> Back to 18. It doesn't take a lot for PGA Tour players to be heroes.

[00:14:55] >> Go ahead and give your golf ball to a kid.

[00:14:58] >> That's great stuff there.

[00:15:07] >> Let's see what's going on back at 17.

[00:15:08] >> Yeah, Hideki, two great par saves. Looking for one better.

[00:15:12] >> Yeah, after that beautiful wedge, flighted in left of the hole down the hill. Fast putt, it's downwind as well and that's starting to affect these putts.

[00:15:20] >> Let's see if that good par save gave him a little momentum at 16.

[00:15:26] >> Yes, long putt at the 15th. Nice one there at 16 and Hideki can circle that three at 17.

[00:15:40] >> Alex Noren.

[00:15:44] >> He's due.

[00:15:45] >> Oh yeah.

[00:15:52] >> Let's go all the way up to 16 and Denny McCarthy. We know how great he is with this club in his hands. He's over par right now, outside the cut line. Is that going to turn it around or what?

[00:16:11] >> It sure is.

[00:16:11] >> What a putt.

[00:16:22] >> We'll go to 3 and Scottie Scheffler.

[00:16:26] >> Yeah, decent lie over here, Trevor, which you were asking about here. Enough to be able to get enough club underneath this ball and land it softly on the green, waiting for Sam Burns to mark his ball after his third shot. Wind starting to pick up just a bit more now. This is very doable here. Let's say inside at least five feet here.

[00:16:56] >> Maybe better.

[00:16:56] >> Oh yeah, just sensational stuff.

[00:17:02] >> Find somebody with better hands in the game right now. What touch.

[00:17:07] >> That's the eighth eagle today shown here at the third.

[00:17:11] >> And Trevor, the sound off the face, just that quick.

[00:17:15] >> Yeah, sure was good. Got a great break to have the ball sitting up on top of the Bermuda. Taking advantage of it. Now 5-under. The thing that struck me, taking another look, how square the stance was. Got the blade way open. Listen for the sound.

[00:17:40] >> Low round of the day, 62 by Tony Finau, vaulting him to the solo lead over Patrick Rodgers and Alex Noren, who are four back. Round three is next.

[00:18:02] >> Oh, what a difference a day makes. The temperature is almost 30 degrees colder today and the wind will also be a major factor. Round two was completed this morning. The cut was then made, and now the third round is underway as the event celebrates its 75th anniversary. Memorial Park is hosting for the third consecutive year, but 17th overall, dating all the way back to 1947. And there you see the wind whipping. We did not see this the first couple of days. The temperature in the mid-50s this morning. When play resumed in round two, it was in the mid-40s and the wind was pumping. The rounds could take a little while today. And Tony Finau still has the lead just like we saw yesterday in the afternoon in round two. Finau with a wonderful 62 to take that four-shot lead heading into the weekend. And he is on the 1st hole as we speak. Scottie Scheffler, the second ranked player in the world, has a chance to be number one with a win this weekend. He has made his way onto the first page of the leaderboard.

[00:19:10] >> Let's go to the 9th and welcome in Shane.

[00:19:12] >> Thanks, Steve. The first groups out on the day. Harris English, four birdies on that front nine, turning in 32, making a move in these tough conditions. Joseph Brantlett, one of the better rounds on Friday, nice 65. And this for his first birdie on this Saturday. Rolls that in.

[00:19:39] >> Here's Aaron just short of the green.

[00:19:40] >> Just like Finau, Ryan missed the cut in Mexico last week. Great putt. Putt around there to put a little extra work in.

[00:19:52] >> Look at that start for Aaron.

[00:19:56] >> Yeah, back over to the 3rd and Noren.

[00:20:13] >> Got some issues here. He's got a backswing issue with the tree right there. He's got to take it up very upright as you're seeing, hit the ball off this pine straw. It can be very tough to compress a ball, because the bottom just gives away. It's pretty steep ordinarily anyway. Hope there's no roots under there. Came out well.

[00:20:46] >> What a golf shot there.

[00:20:48] >> Goodness.

[00:20:54] >> Up at the green with Noren, back to 3 we go.

[00:20:55] >> And Alex Noren trying to make the craziest birdie of the day.

[00:20:59] >> Back up the hill into the grain, into the wind. It's a putt if you don't catch solid, the wind and the grain will just eat alive.

[00:21:06] >> He's got the sort of stroke that can hold up well in the wind. Big forward press. It's got a fast tempo to it.

[00:21:18] >> Oh, Alex. You get that shot out of the pine straw. You gotta convert it. We're disappointed in you.

[00:21:28] >> Wyndham Clark for birdie at the 5th.

[00:21:39] >> He makes a nice putt there at 5.

[00:21:45] >> Well, they keep mixing it with putter and also with wedges in and around these greens.

[00:21:49] >> Yeah. Lie-dependent, all lie-dependent, how the grain is down there. This is going to be a cool technique here with Finau. He's got that shaft quite vertical, so using the toe of the club a bit more. Very good.

[00:22:09] >> How's that touch?

[00:22:10] >> Very, very good.

[00:22:11] >> Golf course in such great shape, Parker Henry. Just the job that they've done here in resurrecting the area and Parker Henry coming over from Coyle Hollow. He was the assistant super there. He came over, had an early summer, late spring here to Houston, has really done a terrific job.

[00:22:27] >> Up at the 8th. Here's Gary Woodland. Giving this one a ride at the par-5. Look at that.

[00:22:35] >> Keeping it nice and low. I tell you what, this man can hit a low ball as good as any golfer on the planet.

[00:22:42] >> Look at this golf shot.

[00:22:43] >> It's just going to get better and better here.

[00:22:45] >> Oh man, this is great.

[00:22:47] >> Woodland would make that for eagle.

[00:22:56] >> How about Andrew Putnam from the right rough at 12? Oh, bounce it in.

[00:23:14] >> Back here at 7, Tyson Alexander, chance to get to 10-under.

[00:23:17] >> Yeah, another good look here for Tyson coming across the slope, moving just a little bit to the right.

[00:23:21] >> Yeah.

[00:23:21] >> He gets it to go. That gets him to 10-under par, and it's just been, as I said back on the tee, very solid for Tyson.

[00:23:31] >> Ben Taylor on the tee at the 9th.

[00:23:51] >> At the 8th, this is Mackenzie Hughes. He got a win earlier this fall in a playoff over Sepp Straka at the Sanderson Farms in Jackson, Mississippi. That was his second win in his career. As he makes that one for birdie. Second birdie of the day for Mackenzie. And the lead for Finau is suddenly back to four and could get to five.

[00:24:14] >> Let's see if he can take the lid off.

[00:24:16] >> Oh, he can.

[00:24:18] >> What a time for your first Birdie of the day. Tony Finau to 14-under.

[00:24:24] >> Isn't golf crazy. Absolutely flushes it for the first seven. Can't make a birdie, then on eight hits the poor approach -- or second shall I say -- and then makes this bomb to get the birdie. Look at the roll on the floor, so pure.

[00:24:45] >> As we send you back out to the action at 11.

[00:24:48] >> All you want in a par-3 here, Trevor.

[00:24:53] >> At least there's a little help in the wind. But for sure, you take a three and run at 11.

[00:25:06] >> Well, it's going to get better and better. Here we go. Here we go. Traffic in Houston moves slower than that ball was moving. Very good.

[00:25:11] >> It sure was last night.

[00:25:15] >> Go to the 11th. Ben Taylor, a couple seconds last season on the Korn Ferry Tour, helped him land 9th on the regular season list, earn his card for this season on the PGA tour. And another one of those, Trevor, that is having an exceptional week. Scheffler.

[00:26:26] >> And advantage to Scheffler, even though that one looks like it might have rolled a little more as the camera panned. See how that lie is.

[00:26:57] >> Just trying to figure things out down there, aren't they, John?

[00:27:03] >> 193 total. A lot of crosswind, a little bit of hurt here. Talk about having the ball come down the right edge of the bunker, which is about, I would say, 15 feet right of the flagstick. So he's going to have to start this a little bit right of that, even with the hard right to left wind. Oh, it's struck well, right at it.

[00:27:31] >> Oh, is it ever?

[00:27:33] >> That's a birdie for Noren.

[00:27:41] >> Up at 15, talk about a tough start to the day. Russell Knox 3-over through four holes today, has clawed himself back to even par on the round. Back-to-back birdies.

[00:27:57] >> Back at 17.

[00:28:19] >> Did he get there?

[00:28:19] >> Yeah, he has. Great bounce back for Justin Rose.

[00:28:27] >> Go to the 15th. Saw that excellent approach. See if Taylor can pay it off, get the double-digit under par. Already made two 2s today, Trevor.

[00:28:38] >> So what are you telling me? You think this is going in?

[00:28:42] >> Three 2s, like we're playing Liar's Die.

[00:28:54] >> Crowd's hoping it goes in.

[00:28:55] >> Oh, it's going in. It was going nowhere but in. Birdie at 9, 11, 15. Iron play is dialed for Taylor, and he moves into second alone. Been of a bit of a roller coaster as of late for Austin Cook, made par in his first 11 holes, then went bogey, birdie, double birdie, bogey.

[00:29:16] >> Sure, roller coaster.

[00:29:21] >> All right, well, let's just keep it going, huh? Wow, wow, wow. We just needed an eagle.

[00:29:32] >> Billy Ray, Tyson Alexander is about to hit his third.

[00:29:34] >> Yeah, really a poor shot in which Tyson played here at the 14th. Drove it perfect in the fairway, and he had an 8-iron in and just lost it out to the right. Now a bunker shot coming straight back downwind. And once the ball gets on the putting surface, the green runs away from him. Also downwind, so he's going to have to factor that component in to get this one close. Hit a decent line.

[00:29:59] >> Hit a beauty out of the bunker at 10.

[00:30:01] >> No doubt. Easy. Oh, that's one way to stop it.

[00:30:13] >> Back with James Hahn.

[00:30:14] >> Just trying to get it close here. It's 14th. Ball's rolling out. Getting close.

[00:30:26] >> How about the wind?

[00:30:28] >> Talk about a bonus.

[00:30:37] >> A moment ago at 14, we saw this putt before, didn't we?

[00:30:39] >> Yeah.

[00:30:39] >> This time just a little off the green.

[00:30:41] >> Yeah, Wyndham Clark. Yeah, it's really quick at the hole.

[00:30:45] >> His went by by about four feet. Let's see what Rodgers' does.

[00:30:52] >> First birdie of the day.

[00:30:53] >> Come on.

[00:31:04] >> And Tony Finau trying to extend the lead here at 14.

[00:31:06] >> Yeah, another great look downhill, but I don't think it has a whole lot in it. Alex Noren has already putted up and about five feet past, so he'll have that left for par.

[00:31:18] >> What have we got? A little break out the left?

[00:31:20] >> It looks like that. Yeah, might want to fall a hair right at the end, but I think it's pretty straight overall.

[00:31:30] >> There you go.

[00:31:30] >> Tony Finau back to being up by five.

[00:31:38] >> In the cold and blustery conditions, Tony Finau steady, keeping his four-shot lead, but Englishmen Ben Taylor and Justin Rose are hot, carding 65 and 66 in round three. The final round is next.

[00:31:55] >> The new season is on. Familiar faces and new names are ready to go low.

[00:32:01] >> Can you believe that?

[00:32:03] >> That is the look of a winner.

[00:32:05] >> In big tournaments, on great courses, where anything can happen.

[00:32:16] >> Don't miss a week of the race for the FedEx Cup.

[00:32:33] >> Downtown Houston under sparkling sunshine on a Sunday afternoon. The 75th anniversary has been a rousing success, especially if your name is Tony Finau. Tony has been the class of the field thus far through 54 holes. Memorial Park, well, it's been in all its glory this week. The renovation of the course, the investment in the local community have transformed this beloved property, and the good folks here in Houston are better for it. How about the weather? 55 degrees. It is cool out there, but the wind not nearly as much of a factor as it was yesterday. The gusts, only 15 miles per hour. Yesterday, they were about 30 to 35. That is what they're playing for, and Tony has one hand on the trophy, as we speak, with a six-shot lead currently. Steve Sands, pleased to be alongside Trevor Immelman. And Trevor, he got off to a nice start.

[00:33:24] >> Yeah, beautiful short iron into the par-3 2nd, rolls that in from 15 feet. Nice birdie at 2 for Finau.

[00:33:31] >> The lead was pushed to five shots. Speaking of five, here's Tony's second at the 5th.

[00:33:35] >> As he's been doing all week, bombed a tee shot out there, just 88 yards to the hole. Great spin control, and a second birdie for Finau.

[00:33:45] >> And a six-shot lead to 17 under par. It's like a Tony Finau coronation. Look at that.

[00:33:57] >> Now, Finau at the 8th.

[00:34:04] >> What a putt there by Finau. Played a conservative third shot from the left hand rough here at the par-5, and knocks down another one.

[00:34:15] >> Up to the 11th, Adam Hadwin. Just off the green here at the par-3. Okay.

[00:34:33] >> It could be a career defining day for a lot of guys out there, Shane.

[00:34:37] >> So much to play for in the fall. We've seen players run throughout the season, thanks to some great play in September, October, November. Go back out to the 9th. Three par-3s on the front nine here at Memorial Park. This is the last. And it looks like it'll be Alexander first.

[00:34:55] >> Will be pin high with a 7-iron just out to the right. This is a little downhill right to left. And just to piggyback on those comments, it makes such a difference. You have RSM next week, but after that, most of these guys won't be playing until middle of January. And it makes such a difference to show up on the West Coast with your name up there in the top 40 or 30 or 50 of the FedEx. The rest of the year just feels so much more relaxed than having to get out there and pressure immediately to start earning FedEx points. It's just a great head start for these guys if they can play well today.

[00:35:28] >> Alexander has moved in the right direction this season, missed the first two cuts, tied for 64th at the Shriners, tied for 44th at the Butterfield Bermuda Championship. And this looks very, very good. Calm, cool, and collected is Tyson Alexander. He ties Taylor at 11-under.

[00:35:58] >> As Finau gets this birdie putt on the way. Wow.

[00:36:02] >> Autopilot, Trevor.

[00:36:07] >> Trevor, he has played the par-3s on the front nine this week 7-under par. They're not that easy. Just the par-3s alone, he'd be tied for sixth on the leaderboard. One more look, Trevor.

[00:36:19] >> Got the line off of Taylor. Gosh, the way he's rolled the ball this week sure is impressive. And as we've come on the air, think of the two putts that he's made at 8 and 9.

[00:36:31] >> Noren at the 12th.

[00:36:49] >> Now Scheffler at 16.

[00:37:17] >> Back at 13, Alex Smalley for his three. Having a nice week.

[00:37:28] >> Tony Finau hitting his third.

[00:37:30] >> Yeah, choosing putter from just off the edge of the green.

[00:37:32] >> Wow.

[00:37:33] >> And that got away from Tony. Initially it was back uphill, and just gave it too much pace there. Now some work left for Finau to save par at the 10th.

[00:37:42] >> That's a rare mistake, Billy Ray, from Tony.

[00:37:44] >> Certainly so. We haven't seen anything like that in the last couple days, that's for sure.

[00:37:52] >> Finau at 10.

[00:37:54] >> His pace walking after his shot and his preparation, Pre-shot routine. He's sticking right to it, doing the same thing here.

[00:38:04] >> His coach Boyd Summerhayes told me this morning, the focus for this year when they sat down between the President's Cup and the start of Mayakoba, the goal for them was to improve from eight feet and in. He's done that so far this week. Can he make another one?

[00:38:24] >> Hmm, not that time.

[00:38:26] >> He's coming back to the field now, Trevor.

[00:38:46] >> Alexander trying to avoid his first bogey on this Sunday.

[00:38:56] >> Keeping a close eye on that race for second here, Shane. It's going to drop him back to 10-under.

[00:39:10] >> Back to Ben Taylor for par at 11 to remain 11-under.

[00:39:25] >> Up here at the 18th, that's Scottie Scheffler getting comfortable in that bunker. Before the week began, Scottie had a chance, Trevor, if he would have won, to get back into the number one spot in the official World Golf Ranking. And how about you close out your tournament in style? You're not going to reach number one. You're not going to get another victory. But in his home state of Texas, he holes out for a three at the 18th and gets some kudos from his man, Teddy Scott.

[00:39:58] >> Clark at the 12th for birdie.

[00:40:25] >> Let's go up to 13. And Tyson Alexander, John Wood, tee's moved up again, second straight day.

[00:40:31] >> Absolutely, Shane. This hole is set up for some fireworks today. Tee's moved up, a little helping wind, and the easiest pin position you can probably have. Just in the middle of the green, about 10 or 12 stroke paces on. So you make a good swing here, you are going to have a chance at two. Starting pretty straight on a good line if he gets the right bounce.

[00:40:55] >> What a shot this is.

[00:40:57] >> Sure did.

[00:41:07] >> Back with the leader, Tony Finau, about to hit his third here beyond the 12th green.

[00:41:10] >> You know, he's in a really awkward spot, having come back up a steep slope, a really tight lie. Trevor, it looks like he's going to play this with a very square face and try to pitch it into that slope and let it run down over that ridge.

[00:41:22] >> Yeah, ball way back in the stance. This is amazing. Amazing.

[00:41:31] >> You kidding me?

[00:41:33] >> He would knock that in.

[00:41:36] >> Let's go back to 12 and Justin Rose for birdie.

[00:41:40] >> As you said, Trevor left it in a really good spot here for Rose. It will work its way up just a gradual slope. This green here at the 12th is busy. So much movement.

[00:41:55] >> Going to keep the speed up here, coming up the ridge.

[00:42:05] >> Go back to the 13th, saw that pitch shot from Tyson. See if you can pay it off.

[00:42:09] >> Yeah, it was inside an exact same line as his playing competitor, Gary Woodland, so absolutely knows what this putt does. Just a little right to left. Walking it in.

[00:42:27] >> Moves him into solo second. We go up to the 15th, Alex Noren, chance to get to 8-under.

[00:42:41] >> Some struggles on Saturday. Good birdie there.

[00:42:45] >> Go back to the action here at the 13th and Billy Ray, as good as Tony Finau has been this week, he's going to have to be exceptional to get this close.

[00:42:54] >> Definitely so. He's going to have to hit the same type of shot in which he hit back at the 12th, but the slope in front is a little more drastic, a little sharper as it goes back up the hill. And you take the chance here. If you don't get all the way up, it's definitely going to come back, you know, some 20 feet from the putting surface. I think anything on the green here is actually a very good shot of what he's looking at. But once again, choke down, got the ball in the back of the stance. Majority of the way it's going to be in those left-hand side and play this with a straight edge. Little wedge here. Yeah, not going to get up. It's going to come all the way back down.

[00:43:33] >> Second bounce was so soft into the green.

[00:43:44] >> Taylor at 13.

[00:43:45] >> Right here, Big putt. Okay. Gets into the tie for second.

[00:43:55] >> Yeah, that putt did not move much at all.

[00:44:00] >> We know that there's a battle for biggest margin of victory we've seen in quite a while. Last year, the biggest was six in Puerto Rico. Finau won by five. A chance to really run away with this. Try to save par here at 13.

[00:44:16] >> We saw Russell Henley last week with a runaway victory in Mayakoba. This would be a fantastic save here for Finau, just slightly back down the hill.

[00:44:33] >> Answers the call again.

[00:44:40] >> Go to the 9th, Sahith Theegala, round of the day going, 5-under bogey-free, this his last hole.

[00:44:50] >> Sure.

[00:44:57] >> Is he a Steph Curry fan Theegala? Looked a little like the Warriors guard. 64 for Theegala, flawless in this final round.

[00:45:11] >> Back with Tony Finau.

[00:45:12] >> Yeah, very good lie in the bunker. Once the ball gets on the green here, it's going to hit the downslope. Checked up more than what I thought, Trevor.

[00:45:27] >> Been a heck of a week for this kid, Shane.

[00:45:28] >> Yeah, it has. Trying to finish it off in style. Four holes left to play.

[00:45:36] >> 139, initially had 8-iron out, switched to 9. And this needs to be right of the flagstick. Good switch.

[00:45:52] >> Made great saves at 12 and 13, trying to do the same here at 14. Pushed it.

[00:46:02] >> Yeah, on the move early.

[00:46:03] >> Pushed it by a mile. We had a great view at the role of the ball.

[00:46:08] >> Tony has earned the cushion of a six-shot lead, but it is dwindling just a touch. A bogey at 10, a bogey at 14. All of a sudden, Alexander and Taylor are six back.

[00:46:24] >> Alexander for birdie at 15.

[00:46:39] >> Here's Aaron Rai. Another birdie at 16. Yeah.

[00:46:49] >> This is a nice bounce back week for him after missing the cut.

[00:46:56] >> Let's go to 16 and the second for Alexander after that terrific drive.

[00:47:00] >> 260 total, 222 front. He can definitely reach. The only difficulty here is the ball's well below his feet. Sounded like good contact, starting at the right side of the green, turning over. Didn't look like he loved it, but looks okay to me.

[00:47:16] >> It's more than okay.

[00:47:17] >> Oh yeah, what a shot.

[00:47:19] >> Gosh, beautiful.

[00:47:20] >> Very impressive to draw it off that lie, Trevor.

[00:47:22] >> Yeah, absolutely. Ball below his feet, swooped it in there. Is it going to hang on? Just creep off.

[00:47:32] >> I'll tell you this, Billy Ray. Got a six-shot lead, getting to watch two of those before you putt. Ideal.

[00:47:40] >> No doubt. And if this ball would go into the hole, I can rest assure it will be on the last couple rolls.

[00:47:46] >> Keep it high. Keep it way left.

[00:47:51] >> Gives it plenty of error, Trevor, out to the left. Just trying to navigate that slope.

[00:48:00] >> Yeah, still a bit of work left now for Finau. I don't think any issue here. Shane, not much movement, straight back up the hill.

[00:48:10] >> Trevor, he was really firm with these parts throughout the first three rounds. Yeah, nice pop to the stroke right there.

[00:48:21] >> Oh my, oh my.

[00:48:22] >> Well, Steve Sands. Just got a little interesting.

[00:48:28] >> A little loose. Tony's getting a little loose since the turn.

[00:48:32] >> Let's go back to the 16th and Tyson Alexander has an eagle try from just off the green.

[00:48:37] >> After that really quality 3-wood to the back edge of the green. This would be a huge two putt if he can get this up and down. Take a little lead in second place. This goes up the hill steeply and then breaks downhill to his left. So a tough speed here. Pick out a spot on top of that hill and roll it right over that.

[00:49:09] >> Back to 2016 in Puerto Rico, for the longest time, everybody kept saying, is he going to win again? Trevor, is he going to win again? And then five years later, the first playoff event just outside New York City, he got it done.

[00:49:20] >> And that was in a playoff right there. So that was a huge victory for him.

[00:49:26] >> Outside Minneapolis, the great state of Minnesota, Tony Finau was a winner. And then he went over to Michigan and won in Detroit at the Rocket Mortgage.

[00:49:34] >> Back-to-back weeks.

[00:49:38] >> Which, by the way, is also incredibly difficult to do on the PGA Tour. The drama is about to conclude here. Tyson Alexander at 11-under for birdie at the 18th.

[00:49:52] >> Took a long look at that scoreboard, knows exactly where he is. Regardless of what happens here, great experience. He knows it.

[00:49:58] >> Oh, huge. Wow. What a putt for Tyson. And now the pressure shifts to Ben Taylors in the fairway at 18. Tyson, solo second with that birdie at 18. Tony Finau, one last tee shot.

[00:50:18] >> Certainly sticking to his routine here. Up to this point right now, it's just been an incredible performance for Tony Finau throughout the week. And this is one club that has given him so many opportunities. He's driven the ball extremely well. And just the beauty of the left-hand side.

[00:50:45] >> We move ahead to Finau's second shot.

[00:50:47] >> Has to boost his confidence. In any situation he's been in, that was a tremendous three at 18 when he needed it most. Now Finau.

[00:51:06] >> All right. All set here. Go over to the left-hand side up on the top plateau so you can see all the putting surface. Just 183 for Tony. Trying to finish it off in fashion here.

[00:51:26] >> Somewhere down the middle of the green and draw it back.

[00:51:37] >> Definitely sends that out to the right. Trying to draw it back toward the center of the green.

[00:51:47] >> Now up at the green, Finau for birdie and the win.

[00:51:59] >> Oh.

[00:52:07] >> For the third time in his last seven PGA Tour starts, Tony Finau is a winner. The fifth in his career. What a performance, Trevor.

[00:52:22] >> Really was amazing.

[00:52:23] >> What a job.

[00:52:23] >> Really was, and you see the deep respect there that he's receiving.

[00:52:32] >> This concludes the PGA Tour's coverage of the Cadence Bank Houston Open for Memorial Park Golf Course in Houston, Texas.