Production Transcript for REWIND\_WWT22\_HENLEY.mp3

[00:00:20] >> The PGA Tour is proud to bring the season-long race for the FedEx Cup. Now, coverage of the 2022 World Wide Technology Championship at Mayakoba.

[00:00:49] >> Golf in Mexico dates back to the 19th century. Fast forward all the way to present day 2022, and this country is hosting its 16th version of this event. El Camaleon Golf Club, the venue for all 16, sits along the Caribbean Sea on the Riviera Maya. What a gorgeous setting, with a terrific vibe. So many things to do here on the property. This week, golf, however, is the centerpiece. Steve Sands, pleased to be alongside Trevor Immelman once again. And we have some highlights to pass along from earlier in the day. This is the two-time defending champion, Viktor Hovland hitting his second at 16.

[00:01:24] >> Getting in the fairway here at 16 is a must. Once you can do that, you can attack the hole location. Awesome approach there from Hovland.

[00:01:31] >> Another birdie there for Viktor, 6-under 65 for Hovland. Scottie Scheffler, number 2, the highest ranked player in the field this week, his second at 16.

[00:01:39] >> So he says, "Hey, Viktor, nice shot. But this one's just a little better."

[00:01:44] >> I thought 16 was supposed to be tough.

[00:01:45] >> Well, normally is.

[00:01:46] >> These guys are crushing it today. Seamus Power, won last week in Bermuda, here he is at the par-3 15th.

[00:01:53] >> Yeah, coming in with a ton of confidence after getting his second PGA Tour win. And take a look at this, almost goes in the hole there at the par 3.

[00:02:00] >> Oh, man. Almost had an ace there right behind us here at 15. Francesco Molinari, what a sweet swing. It's just off the fairway at 16.

[00:02:08] >> I mean another good shot into 16. So far playing at the second toughest all on the golf course. Just goes to show how great these approaches are in from Scheffler, Hovland, and Molinari.

[00:02:20] >> Piercy would catch that in and make a birdie. Excuse me, Francesco. This is Scott Piercy. His birdie at 10, 7-under 64 for Piercy. A long one here for birdie.

[00:02:31] >> Yeah, across the green. He's coming off of two missed cuts. So good for him getting off to a good start here, might cover.

[00:02:37] >> How about Russell Henley, his second at the 18th?

[00:02:40] >> This guy's been the Top 6 strokes gained approach for the last two years. Absolutely one of the best iron players on tour, showing off for us here at 18.

[00:02:53] >> They are knocking it tight. Ball is up. Really wet conditions here this week in Mayakoba. How about Will Gordon? What a day he had.

[00:03:01] >> Yeah. This is for his ninth birdie in the first 16 holes. He's off to a fly off, getting off to a good solid start here this season.

[00:03:10] >> Nine-under par 62 for Will, is one shy of the tournament record. And he has the lead all to himself looking down at all those other scores. You see Viktor Hovland there, the-two time defending champion.

[00:03:37] >> This was just a moment ago at the par-3 15th, Danny Willett off to a nice start, 2-under this afternoon.

[00:03:47] >> No way he gets it inside of what Power did, right?

[00:03:49] >> Taking advantage.

[00:03:52] >> What a cool view that is.

[00:03:58] >> Yeah, that's awesome. That's a cenote there right in front of him, limestone cave. Jason Day has got wood out here, Arron.

[00:04:07] >> Yeah. And that cenote wall gets your attention on this downhill lie, 251. More than likely not in play, but if you catch it a hair thin.

[00:04:14] >> Curt and Billy Ray tried to throw me in there yesterday, Arron.

[00:04:21] >> I believe that. You're pretty easy to pick up.

[00:04:24] >> Rose and Horschel also hit up. They're just right in the green.

[00:04:30] >> Day would go on to make bogey.

[00:04:31] >> Horschel up near the green at 7.

[00:04:43] >> Well, that will be a tap in birdie.

[00:04:48] >> Back to 11 now. And Brian Harman with just a sand wedge left for his second shot. This is 100% green light right here.

[00:05:00] >> No.

[00:05:01] >> He would make that for birdie.

[00:05:07] >> This is at 15, Brad Adamonis who won the Ascension Classic, which qualified him for this tournament here at Mayakoba. Veteran, had a year on the PGA Tour back in the day. Beautiful shot there.

[00:05:23] >> Harris English, remember he missed it left to the green. Here's his second at the par-3 10th.

[00:05:27] >> Yeah, really difficult pitch. Ball sitting right on top of that Bermuda grass.

[00:05:32] >> Oh, yeah, how about it? Fantastic.

[00:05:35] >> Guys, I didn't see that one coming.

[00:05:37] >> Nobody did.

[00:05:38] >> More than one way to make a birdie.

[00:05:42] >> The 13, and Finau, a curious fan there.

[00:05:52] >> Coati, coati. That's it.

[00:05:54] >> Coati.

[00:05:57] >> I might want to check that pronunciation there.

[00:06:01] >> What? Give us your attempt, Billy Ray.

[00:06:04] >> Coati.

[00:06:05] >> Coati.

[00:06:06] >> Q-U --

[00:06:07] >> Oh, boy. Oh, boy.

[00:06:10] >> Here we go.

[00:06:11] >> He's persistent.

[00:06:12] >> Oh, no. They're back in the fairway. They're incredible. Almost looks like a long tail raccoon if you will.

[00:06:19] >> They're amazing.

[00:06:20] >> I think he's looking for a treat.

[00:06:22] >> There they are.

[00:06:22] >> There's a --

[00:06:22] >> The whole family.

[00:06:24] >> There's the rest of the crew.

[00:06:25] >> They're back there. I mean a single file making their way off.

[00:06:28] >> He hear it.

[00:06:29] >> What's with the tails?

[00:06:31] >> You know, I don't know.

[00:06:32] >> That's so they get a good signal.

[00:06:34] >> Billy Ray, go do a walk and talk with one of those.

[00:06:36] >> You know what, we would understand each other. All right, Finau set to go here at the par 5. All three players can get here go to this par 5. That was from 218.

[00:06:46] >> We saw the bottom of the club. That was a 4-iron hitting. He knew it needed to get up just a touch.

[00:06:51] >> Finau would go on to make birdie.

[00:07:02] >> Justin Lower just a moment ago at the 8th, coming off another Top 10 at Bermuda. A beauty there.

[00:07:11] >> Tony has to be really careful with this one, not to get over anxious and run it by here.

[00:07:18] >> You look at his stats for this past season, and putting, it was the -- you know, I guess what you'd call the worst, but he's still gained shots in putting.

[00:07:29] >> He's --

[00:07:29] >> Right here.

[00:07:30] >> How about that?

[00:07:31] >> Center, got there for Tony Finau.

[00:07:38] >> That's Henrik Norlander. He has this putt for eagle.

[00:07:45] >> Come on.

[00:07:48] >> There you go. Another eagle at the par-5 13th.

[00:07:54] >> Tony Finau from that left rough at 18, Billy Ray.

[00:07:57] >> Yeah. Ball's end up nicely though. But the ball below his feet, that was just a wedge there for Tony. Oh, my.

[00:08:05] >> Yeah.

[00:08:08] >> As good a shot at 18 as we've seen all day.

[00:08:12] >> How about that second shot from Tony, Billy Ray?

[00:08:14] >> Yeah, fantastic. Trevor, you just touched on Sebastian Munoz, 3-over, after we came on the air and Tony Finau now was 3-over after two holes where he made triple bogey, and just fight his way back, and has a wonderful finish there, and gets it in red figures.

[00:08:34] >> Argentina's Emiliano Grillo got off to a great start in Round 1, birdieing 3, 4, and 7 before surrendering a shot at the 9th. He would have two more birdies on the back, closing with a round of 4-under 67, setting himself up perfectly to make the cut. Young American Will Gordon sits atop the Round 1 leaderboard after firing a smooth 62. But three-time PGA Tour winner, Russell Henley, lurks just one shot back. Round 2 is next.

[00:09:18] >> Thirty-seven miles south of Cancun, along the Yucatan Peninsula, the gorgeous resort of Mayakoba and the El Camaleon Golf Club. The course opened in 2006. The following year, it began its current run of 16 straight years staging this event. Hit it straight, you are rewarded. Get offline, big numbers await. But with a soft conditions due to all that rain earlier in the week, expect to see plenty of rounds go deep into the 60s. There is a bit of a breeze today. Didn't have that for almost the entire first round until late in the afternoon. This is more Mexico like. Curt, let's check out some highlights from earlier in the day. And, Trevor, how about this from Brian Harman on the tee at the short par-3 4th?

[00:10:00] >> Yeah, just 113 yards playing back into the wind. Green pitches from back to front. This has got some potential here. Oh, yeah. How about a 1 for Harman?

[00:10:12] >> How about a tequila at bar later today? On Brian.

[00:10:16] >> There you go.

[00:10:16] >> Harry Higgs, he's making a nice move on this Friday, 2nd and 9/

[00:10:20] >> Coming from that fairway bunker there, hole location in the front right portion. Has he got enough to get it all the way up onto the green? Sure. Does beautiful shot from Higgs. And what a round of 62 he shot.

[00:10:34] >> Ten-under par, he's currently 3-back of the lead, which is held by this man, Sam Ryder. Here he is for birdie at 6.

[00:10:39] >> Got off to an absolute flyer. Right there. His fifth birdie in his first six holes.

[00:10:46] >> Boy, when you get that putter rolling the way Sam did today, look out. Here he is at 8.

[00:10:53] >> Oh, it's just rolling so smooth. Birdied both par 3s on the front.

[00:10:57] >> And we talked about the course draining well. The greens are in excellent condition. Here's another one at 9.

[00:11:02] >> Yeah, sure, I'll pass, fail, and greens rolling, so true. Wasn't quite sure that he had that one down.

[00:11:08] >> Excuse me.

[00:11:08] >> But it was a 29 on the front nonetheless.

[00:11:10] >> That's true. That's true. I thought he was going to make that one. Now, we're over at 15.

[00:11:14] >> Just loves the par 3s. Birdied all of the threes in this round.

[00:11:24] >> Sixteen, a long birdie try for Garrick Higgo.

[00:11:27] >> Up and over the ridge. He's off to a poor start so far today. Well, that sure will help.

[00:11:38] >> Back to Hovland at the 7th.

[00:11:40] >> H only just got some room to work with as it comes over this bunker. His third shot here at the par 5 coming very high.

[00:11:49] >> Hovland for birdie.

[00:11:50] >> Coming out for short miss at the 6th. This will get him back to even par, Curt, and 6-under for the championship.

[00:11:57] >> And he said --

[00:11:58] >> There you got. That could turn the tables.

[00:12:00] >> Seventeen.

[00:12:04] >> Russell Henley second shot. And there is some loft on this club. So an opportunity here. Front hole location, you just got to make sure you don't come up a little short and spin back off. And he doesn't. Very well done.

[00:12:17] >> And we go up to 17. And Russ Henley has got another great look at birdie here.

[00:12:23] >> Stroke is looking so good to me today, Henley stroke. He's made a number of putts of about this length already. And even if you look back at 16 when he had about 20, 25 feet, it was right on line. It was --

[00:12:37] >> Yeah.

[00:12:37] >> -- a foot short, but it was right on line.

[00:12:39] >> You know, Steve was talking about how he won that first event as a PGA Tour player in -- at the Sony. Another good putt there for him. I remember, I thought, man, this guy is just filling it up from everywhere. He putted light. Obviously, he won the tournament. He punted well. But it was beyond just putting well. It was really good.

[00:12:58] >> That's Patrick Rodgers just off the green's edge.

[00:13:04] >> Birdied number 9.

[00:13:07] >> Yeah.

[00:13:08] >> And there's another.

[00:13:09] >> Sure. Look good.

[00:13:12] >> This is it 13, Seamus Power. This is actually makeable. It brakes hard left. Once it gets up and over a little rise in the green, this has a chance.

[00:13:24] >> Nice shot.

[00:13:28] >> Hovland at the par-5 13th just off the card path.

[00:13:31] >> Yeah, rarely fortunate here, right, Billy Ray?

[00:13:37] >> No doubt. Able to advance the ball, Mitchell, fortunate as well, advanced the ball at the fairway here at the par 5.

[00:13:43] >> Wow, this is an aggressive play. I didn't see this coming, guys. He's taken a shot at it from here.

[00:13:52] >> Well, he really got lucky that there wasn't a route anywhere near that ball there.

[00:13:56] >> Wow.

[00:13:57] >> A lot of routes right at that path.

[00:13:58] >> Just take a look at this, Curt. Watch his feet here. He tries to keep his feet so stable. Left foot is on the path. But watch the right foot, keeps it grounded throughout the whole swing. Oh, man, upper body strength and flexibility.

[00:14:12] >> Yeah.

[00:14:13] >> Patrick Rodgers, he's a guy who works hard.

[00:14:19] >> Nice looking stroke there.

[00:14:22] >> Yeah. OK.

[00:14:24] >> Beautiful tempo to that stroke.

[00:14:27] >> All right.

[00:14:29] >> Now, Scheffler for birdie.

[00:14:31] >> You spoke about it moments ago, it's almost like a must make birdie for Scheffler after all the near misses here. Wonderful little pitch here. Keep this inside the hole.

[00:14:43] >> Boy. Oh my goodness.

[00:14:46] >> Talk about some frustration now.

[00:14:51] >> He cannot make a thing today.

[00:14:54] >> Viktor Hovland is in a nice position underneath the hole here, Billy Ray.

[00:14:57] >> No, early call here. I don't think he's going to make this one. That pill turning back to his left. Very doable here. Could be aggressive.

[00:15:04] >> Makes it its two in a row. There we go.

[00:15:06] >> There we go.

[00:15:08] >> It just looked like all the way, Trevor, that was one of those putts you got. This looks really easy.

[00:15:15] >> Now, Scottie Scheffler here at 15.

[00:15:17] >> I'll see how he rebounds, Curt, after the first bogey of the week. Three quarter swing, trust the flight, this shot down here at the par 3.

[00:15:26] >> Yeah.

[00:15:27] >> All right.

[00:15:28] >> It's below the hole, and good look to a rebound after that bogey.

[00:15:35] >> Scheffler for birdie at 15. Yeah, there you go. Finally. Take the cover off the hole for Scottie Scheffler. This is at 15, Patton Kizzire. He's at 10-under.

[00:15:51] >> He's only missed two greens in regulation.

[00:15:58] >> And that is -- I'm going to -- the way he putts, just go ahead and give him that one.

[00:16:02] >> To the 9th.

[00:16:03] >> And Charley Hoffman, his second shot. Charley is a past champion here.

[00:16:07] >> He's at 5, and that cut has just swung its way to 4-under.

[00:16:12] >> It could drive. Good second shot.

[00:16:15] >> Oh, yeah.

[00:16:15] >> So he will make the weekend, no problem.

[00:16:18] >> But at first, to the leader, Russell Henley who's now extended it out to 2.

[00:16:26] >> It could easily be 4.

[00:16:53] >> Arron, we talked about jokingly actually, I mean what we know that Curt Byron was obviously a great, great athlete. Russell Henley was an all-state basketball player in high school in Georgia. And he's playing here professional golf. He's an amazing athlete.

[00:17:05] >> I'll tell you what, I don't think people realize how many good athletes are on the PGA Tour. Just because they're golfers doesn't mean they're not good athletes. That's for sure.

[00:17:13] >> Look at that.

[00:17:14] >> That was pretty athletic.

[00:17:15] >> Oh, man.

[00:17:16] >> Good. Great. That almost flew right in.

[00:17:19] >> I'll tell you what.

[00:17:19] >> Nate Lashley was an all-state basketball player. Mark Hubbard was a good basketball player --

[00:17:23] >> Yeah.

[00:17:24] >> -- in high school.

[00:17:25] >> A lot of athletes right here on the PGA Tour. Come on back with us and see if Russell Henley can extend that lead to 3.

[00:17:31] >> Let's go back to 8, and Russell Henley, what a tee shot, Arron.

[00:17:34] >> Oh my gosh, I went up there and looked at the ball mark. And it was only about 6 inches from the hole.

[00:17:41] >> That was really close on the fly, Arron.

[00:17:43] >> All of a sudden, three stroke lead.

[00:17:45] >> Yeah.

[00:17:46] >> Well, I'll tell you, he's putting the hammer down at the end here.

[00:17:48] >> Sure is.

[00:17:49] >> Russell Henley jumps Will Gordon for the Round 2 lead after a marvelous bogey free 63 that saw him make 8 birdies. Harry Higgs who needs a Top 10 to make it into next week, fired a 62.

[00:18:07] >> And we welcome you to the weekend in Mexico. Carbon copy from yesterday, slight breeze, sunshine, look at that gorgeous view. And of course, that's gettable. We have seen some incredible scoring this far. A year ago, Viktor Hovland broke the tournament record with a winning number of 23-under par. That mark, now it's in jeopardy this week. Coring has been the theme. Early week rain soften the course, couple that with very little wind, and it's a recipe for the best players in the world to take advantage. And Seamus Power is doing just that. Steve Sands with Trevor Immelman. Here's a tee shot at 8.

[00:18:42] >> Oh, man, hole in one for Power coming off a birdie at 7 as well.

[00:18:47] >> Incredible start to his third round for the Irishman who won last week, Trevor, in Bermuda. Now, to the other side of the course, his second at 11.

[00:18:55] >> Yeah. So coming in here with a ton of confidence. Already seen him hole 1-iron shot today. Don't tell me. Oh, man. All out for 2 at 11.

[00:19:06] >> Just an amazing display. We've seen a 1 from him. Now, we've seen a 2. How about this, though? At 14, from the bunker after an errant shot. Here's how you make up for it.

[00:19:17] >> Yeah, not the easiest bunker shots. Got a lot of ground to cover. It's a nice little hop just here. Come on, Steve Sands, Seamus Power is on a roll.

[00:19:28] >> Yes he is. And he's made his way all the way to the first page of the leaderboard, just 3-back of the top spot. Thomas Detry is also on the move. Here's a birdie try at 15.

[00:19:38] >> Yeah, long range, looking for his seventh birdie of the day. Also coming off a good week last week at Bermuda.

[00:19:45] >> Boom. They are jarring them from everywhere. Now, Russell Henley, zero bogeys on the card. The only player in the field thus far to do it. And look what he did it the 1st.

[00:19:54] >> Yeah, playing at the toughest hole on the golf course for the second day in a row. Nothing for Henley. Birdie at number 1.

[00:20:00] >> Seventeen-under through 37 holes was the overnight leader. And his third at 2 after driver get in trouble.

[00:20:09] >> Yeah, poor tee shot into the penalty area. Narrow green, particularly coming from this angle up the left-hand side. But a great response there from Henley. And he actually saves par at the 2nd.

[00:20:22] >> To remain bogey free, just amazing run for Russell Henley. Moment ago at the 10th, short par 3, here's Greyson Sigg. For a while yesterday, Greyson had a really going, going at 30.

[00:20:36] >> Yeah, he should did. It was a roller coaster for him, only three pars in that round of 67.

[00:20:42] >> Another one, yes.

[00:20:44] >> Oh, come on.

[00:20:46] >> That's two holes in one today.

[00:20:48] >> And three for the week. We have Brian Harman yesterday.

[00:20:50] >> Exactly. Seamus Power, 8 earlier, Harman yesterday here at 10, and now, Sigg. Look at that. Did they really know on the tee? They didn't. They had no idea on the tee at 10.

[00:21:01] >> They're looking for the -- there you go, baby.

[00:21:06] >> Look at that.

[00:21:08] >> That's what it is, man. Pretty start.

[00:21:12] >> They did a great job birdieing the par-5 5th. Gets into 1-over for the day.

[00:21:17] >> And this is a part of a golf course you can attack. You know, even with the par-3 8, you can attack there.

[00:21:23] >> Seven maybe reachable if you get all over a tee shot there at the par 5.

[00:21:27] >> There are five I think he's long enough. He hits at that fairway. I think he can get it there today.

[00:21:30] >> So that would be the mindset.

[00:21:34] >> That's just a smooth sand wedge right here. Might have to get down a little bit.

[00:21:46] >> No, that is perfect.

[00:21:48] >> Puts at 17.

[00:21:50] >> Yeah, the drivable par 4, and Joel Dahmen is going to give it a shot with the driver. The group in front --

[00:21:57] >> Has waved them up. That's the Power group.

[00:21:59] >> Oh, what?

[00:22:03] >> Wow. That was down in the hole at one point.

[00:22:09] >> To 6.

[00:22:10] >> And the leader, Arron Oberholser.

[00:22:12] >> One-fifteen, he's been one of the best wedge players on tour of the last three years. From 50 to 125 yards.

[00:22:24] >> Oh, yeah.

[00:22:28] >> Russell Henley, we saw the approach at 6, Trevor. And he's trying to tack on another one.

[00:22:33] >> Just a little break from his left-hand side. Can he keep his foot on the gas? Oh, man, just brushes it right in there with no problem at all.

[00:22:44] >> Over here at 17, Joel Dahmen putting on a show. As Curt mentioned earlier, they shorten up this hole today. It's drivable. We saw Seamus Power hit an iron off the tee. We saw Joel Dahmen be aggressive. And he almost hooked it for a 1.

[00:23:04] >> Two-time defending champion Viktor Hovland.

[00:23:10] >> Front left here at 16 today, the hole location.

[00:23:15] >> Viktor Hovland.

[00:23:16] >> Want to make another birdie.

[00:23:29] >> Saw Joel Dahmen make a 2 at 17. It's a short drivable par 4. How about a 3 to close it out?

[00:23:36] >> Wouldn't this be a fast finish?

[00:23:38] >> Come on.

[00:23:41] >> Birdie, eagle, birdie to finish out this round.

[00:23:44] >> He's almost embarrassed --

[00:23:45] >> Yeah.

[00:23:46] >> -- it went in.

[00:23:48] >> Four-time winner Martin Laird, his second shot.

[00:23:54] >> He only missed one green in regulation. This was actually a moment ago.

[00:23:59] >> That's a birdie for Laird.

[00:24:01] >> We've been saying this all week, Aaron, Russell Henley for birdie.

[00:24:10] >> Yeah. I'm sure he loves the sound of that. He's been taking his time on this one too. He's been doing this a lot. When I watched him the last nine holes yesterday, really taking his time looking at putts everywhere, all sides.

[00:24:24] >> Keep going.

[00:24:25] >> Rollout.

[00:24:26] >> One more.

[00:24:26] >> He does. Drips over the front edge. And he reaches 20-under par.

[00:24:31] >> It's fun to watch, guys. Here's Matthias Schwab at the 14. Trivia question for you, who's the only player on the PGA Tour from Austria to win?

[00:24:44] >> Sepp Straka.

[00:24:45] >> There you go. Matthias is trying --

[00:24:47] >> Yeah.

[00:24:47] >> -- to do just that.

[00:24:49] >> This was just a moment ago at 11. Will Gordon, just a little sand wedge for his second shot, 106 yards.

[00:24:59] >> Huge divot.

[00:25:00] >> Easiest par 4 on the golf course. Almost another hole out.

[00:25:05] >> Let's go to 16. And Schwab also in the rough. Oh, man, I was going to say no problem for him there. Will Gordon, left side of the fairway, Billy Ray.

[00:25:22] >> Yeah, good look here too, especially coming off that birdie back at the 11th. Coming in very high from 172 for Gordon.

[00:25:32] >> What a beautiful shot that is.

[00:25:36] >> I told Will back on the fairway, I said, just hit a number of those shots like you hit back at 11. He said, I think I'm coachable after this shot I hit here. So, he's got a good, good look here. Two in a row. All right.

[00:26:02] >> Yeah. Just like day one, Will birdies the 12, and he moves into solo second.

[00:26:11] >> Merritt at 18.

[00:26:13] >> Trying to finish with three birdies in a row. And 4 threes in a row. Yeah.

[00:26:18] >> OK.

[00:26:20] >> Well done.

[00:26:24] >> Russell Henley's third at 12 from beyond the green.

[00:26:27] >> Boy, that was excellent.

[00:26:28] >> That was in a --

[00:26:29] >> That was buried in that Bermuda grass, Trev.

[00:26:34] >> He's just going about his business. This is just like -- It doesn't even look like he's stressed even when there's stress, or there should be stress.

[00:26:40] >> He does. He just doesn't look like he's feeling anything right now. It's just playing golf.

[00:26:56] >> OK.

[00:26:56] >> Thirty holes.

[00:27:00] >> Now, Gordon's ready.

[00:27:03] >> Yeah. Just off the edge of the green. You know, you were talking about the conversation when Gordon lost his card, had to go back to the Korn Ferry. And talking to him about it, he said he never panicked. And that's the time that he really matured as a player during that time.

[00:27:16] >> Gordon moves to 17-under.

[00:27:18] >> Back here at the easiest hole on the golf course today, the 13th. And Henley.

[00:27:22] >> Yeah, this is pretty simple pitch shot here, Curt, coming right up the green.

[00:27:27] >> Up ahead a couple holes, Harry Higgs drove it up by side the green, hit a nice pitch shot from the rough to here, and has this for birdie. And a good one there for Harry. The Top 10 here would get him into the next event.

[00:27:42] >> Doesn't have full status out here.

[00:27:45] >> And Will Gordon is playing with Patton Kizzire. He has this for birdie.

[00:27:50] >> Yeah, trying to flip the script here to get back on track. He's currently at 16-under par.

[00:27:58] >> Boom. That will do it I guess.

[00:28:00] >> Wow.

[00:28:01] >> Yeah.

[00:28:02] >> Perfect speed, that putt, wasn't it?

[00:28:04] >> Yeah. And only 4-back now.

[00:28:07] >> A moment ago, Brian Harman at 16, just short of the green. Did he? Yeah.

[00:28:16] >> It's great look down at the par-3 15th, right up against the Caribbean.

[00:28:27] >> Henley is on the tee.

[00:28:48] >> I like the 8. I heard him say 8.

[00:28:50] >> And I like the strategy as well, Arron. I would make the hole location the right edge, the border on the right side.

[00:28:59] >> It's great call.

[00:29:00] >> Don't want to let this ball wander right at this hole location here.

[00:29:05] >> Target right edge of that stands, back at the stands.

[00:29:11] >> Trying to bleed right, winds holding it out.

[00:29:14] >> Yeah. But as the leader, that's just well done right there.

[00:29:19] >> Henley's got this for birdie at 15.

[00:29:21] >> Yeah. Slow putt coming back up the hill into the wind.

[00:29:27] >> Speed's been good today, Curt, for the most part.

[00:29:29] >> Yeah, he's looked really relaxed out there. I mean, good.

[00:29:34] >> Why not?

[00:29:34] >> It is just a clinic being put on by this guy.

[00:29:41] >> It's like a Saturday Nassau with his buddies.

[00:29:43] >> It's believable. He's 22-under. He hasn't made a bogey. Leading the field and driving accuracy. And played a little safe, but the putter has been so good. Gets another one.

[00:30:03] >> Russell Henley is marching towards his fourth career tour victory. Now, bogey free through 54 holes, and holds a 6-shot lead over second place. The final round is next.

[00:30:15] >> It's the dawn of a new season. Familiar faces. And new names. Big tournaments. And great locations. The race for the FedEx Cup has begun.

[00:30:52] >> Golf has a rich history in Mexico dating back to the 19th century. And Mayakoba has contributed to what has become a sporting passion in this nation. Since 2007, El Camaleon Golf Club has played host to the PGA Tour. Due in large part to rain early in the week that created soft conditions never before has yielded such a low scoring. Twenty-three-under par is the tournament record. Russell Henley is already at 22-under par.

[00:31:23] >> Russell Henley has put on a commanding performance. He's built a 6-shot lead. But coronations on the PGA Tour are not easy. And Russell has a lot to contend with today as he tries to finish off a fourth career victory, including Scottie Scheffler. Scottie maxed this week's low ran of 62. With that birdie at the 18th, he began at a 13 shots back. He's now alone in second, just 4 behind. Russell par the first four holes. Then at the par-5 5th, second shot using a hybrid, and look what happens. He put it in the penalty area. So things are tightening up atop the leaderboard. Just a moment ago, here's his fourth at the par 5. Let's see how he handles it. Russell Henley on the green at the 5th trying to remain bogey free for the week, Curt.

[00:32:18] >> He is. That was a heck of a pitch shot there. And of course, Billy Ray Brown will be with this pairing.

[00:32:23] >> And this is going to be huge, Curt, if he's able to save par after the second shot in the penalty area here at the par 5 on the move early.

[00:32:31] >> First bogey of the tournament for him.

[00:32:34] >> At a par 5.

[00:32:35] >> Yeah. And --

[00:32:36] >> He only had 245, Curt, to the front, 260 total. Obviously, majority of the field making birdies and eagles here at the 5th, but not the case here for --

[00:32:45] >> Well, the --

[00:32:45] >> -- Henley.

[00:32:46] >> The field is going to look up now and say, "You know what, we have a chance."

[00:32:54] >> Tee shot at 8 from Viktor was fabulous.

[00:32:58] >> Spoke after yesterday's round that he's a little upset with his putter here so far this week. He feels like the ball striking has been there.

[00:33:06] >> And the leader.

[00:33:09] >> Now, Henley is second shot 122. Back to the flag, and I will tell you, Trevor, pretty impressive the swing that he made on the tee there. And response incredibly after that bogey.

[00:33:21] >> Yeah, fantastic bounce back.

[00:33:25] >> To 7th,

[00:33:26] >> Seventh green, Brian Harman has this for birdie.

[00:33:29] >> And a couple of Top 25s this fall so far. And having a good week here at Mayakoba.

[00:33:35] >> Kind of a big spot here for Russell Henley, isn't it, Billy Ray?

[00:33:40] >> I would say so. And it's not the easy putt either. Even though it's about 5 feet, it will move a little bit to the right, maybe inside left of this putt, Trevor.

[00:33:51] >> Birdied this hole the first three days. How about that?

[00:33:53] >> How about that?

[00:33:54] >> All four days he's made a birdie here at the 6th.

[00:33:57] >> And it's made even more impressive considering he had to do it in a bounce back fashion after bogeying the par-5 5th, his first bogey of the week.

[00:34:06] >> Now, Viktor Hovland is on the green at 10 for birdie.

[00:34:09] >> Let's see if he can wake that putter up finally. There you go.

[00:34:17] >> Good stroke there from the two-time defending champion.

[00:34:21] >> Important putt here from just over 20 feet here for Henley as he works his way across that slope.

[00:34:29] >> It's been a phenomenal week. Again, he's made 23 birdies, one bogey, which was today back at the 5th.

[00:34:35] >> He has par-5 2 that was reachable. So, you would think at the start of the day, he would be counting that at least as a birdie.

[00:34:43] >> How about that?

[00:34:46] >> How about that, Curt?

[00:34:47] >> Walk one in. What a birdie putt that was right there.

[00:34:53] >> We stay with the lead group.

[00:34:56] >> Will Gordon did make his, Billy Ray. Now, it's Russell Henley's turn.

[00:35:00] >> You know, I look at putt, Trevor, and we saw Gordon's ball just from just a tiny bit different angle than what Henley has right here, and that ball moved left. As I looked at the putt of Henley right now, I got this ball maybe staying straight, maybe going just a bit to the right at the end because the back portion of the green runs away from the player. So, the puck from Will Gordon definitely could influence the putt here for Russell Henley.

[00:35:24] >> Yeah. Maybe that's why players are struggling to read this kind of in a little bit of a valley down there and it could go either way.

[00:35:31] >> It's such an art to reading greens.

[00:35:34] >> Got a beautiful view here. Oh, right in the middle.

[00:35:38] >> Man, what a fantastic read. That ball did not move at all.

[00:35:49] >> At 11, Thomas Detry for birdie. He's having another good week. He finished solo second in Bermuda last week. And a good putt there. So, it's actually his first full year on the PGA Tour, has been playing the DP World Tour in Europe. And Henley will be first from the middle of the fairway.

[00:36:09] >> And you said it, Curt, middle of the fairway. And, Trevor, what you said early on in the show after that bogey he made at the 5th, if he puts the ball in the fairway, it will pay dividends. And he's doing just that coming off three straight birdies. Hundred and sixty-seven yards, just a little breeze from his left.

[00:36:35] >> So actually playing just slightly over par. Seven players have made birdie here.

[00:36:48] >>Now, Curt, he's got to start a little bit left of the hole trying to fade it back a very good line. How about that?

[00:36:54] >> Yeah, that is really well done. And another great look for his fourth birdie in a row.

[00:37:04] >> Here's Morikawa, his third at 16.

[00:37:07] >> Really tricky hole location here at 16 in the back right. Oh, what a shot.

[00:37:16] >> Great shot.

[00:37:17] >> He's going to be able to save part at the tough par 4.

[00:37:20] >> Very nicely done there from Collin. Final hole on the front side.

[00:37:30] >> Good look down at the 9th green. It's not a huge target, is it?

[00:37:33] >> Not at all. But this is left in a perfect spot here for Russell Henley. Trying to put another log on the fire here. Back uphill, move it a little bit to his right at the end. Has he got enough?

[00:37:46] >> What?

[00:37:47] >> He hasn't missed many makeable putts, that's for sure.

[00:37:50] >> Gosh, that was hanging on the edge there.

[00:37:54] >> It was.

[00:37:56] >> As we go back down to the ground, and 16, Taylor Montgomery.

[00:38:00] >> This guy can putt. He can play full stop.

[00:38:05] >> Amazing start to his rookie season out here on the PGA Tour as he makes another bomb.

[00:38:09] >> There we go.

[00:38:11] >> For start so far this season, third, ninth, 15th, 13th. There's a name to watch for the rest of this season.

[00:38:19] >> Terrific beginning to this campaign a bit.

[00:38:23] >> Fifteen.

[00:38:23] >> Harry Higgs has this for birdie.

[00:38:25] >> Harry got here --

[00:38:26] >> On a sponsor exemption this week. Well, that's good birdie there. It's been kind of an up and down week for Harry.

[00:38:33] >> At the 10th, Russell Henley, still has that 6-shot lead.

[00:38:40] >> Yeah. Fortunately, break here, the ball sitting up a little pitch that will come back downhill. It's on a definitely good line.

[00:38:49] >> Great touch.

[00:38:51] >> OK. So well done.

[00:38:53] >> No stress.

[00:39:00] >> Took you around the golf course there a little bit during that playing through. Now, we've landed on the 18th green with Collin Morikawa.

[00:39:09] >> Been a really solid week for him highlighted by that 8-under 63 in the Second Round that gave him a little momentum. Played really solid this weekend. No bogeys so far today on the card. Makes this, he'll shoot 5-under here in this final round. I look for him to have big season this season, Steve. Spoken about putting a ton of work in back at home in Vegas. Not feeling as comfortable with his game last season, and wants to rectify that.

[00:39:59] >> Russell Henley had no trouble putting it in the fairway though.

[00:40:02] >> I'm not sure there's a skinny enough fairway here at Mayakoba that he can't hit right now the way he's driving the ball.

[00:40:15] >> And just 115 yards left, Curt. I'm sure though he's been hitting these shots, he might actually might go flag hunting here.

[00:40:21] >> I don't know why you wouldn't. Greens are still receptive.

[00:40:29] >> Bringing this ball in very high.

[00:40:38] >> Back here at 11, Will Gordon, almost the same line.

[00:40:42] >> Yeah. Mark was just about a foot and a half to the right of Russell Henley.

[00:40:50] >> Let's see how he bounces back after that three putt bogey at the par-3 10th. This go a long way.

[00:41:00] >> Good attempt.

[00:41:08] >> And Will Gordon --

[00:41:10] >> I think in reading his interviews this week, I think he learned a lot about himself and his game having to go back to the Korn Ferry tour. Just feel like he's matured. He's -- You know, it's more for him. I think it's more about sort of the mental game rather than the actual swing, or putting, chipping, whatever, the mechanics. It's more about how he handles his emotions and how he goes about his business out here now.

[00:41:36] >> Got a good opportunity today. Might not be to win, but second place here. Still valuable. Yeah, we'll stay right here for Henley.

[00:42:06] >> Back here at the 13th, Brian Harman. This is a pretty good look for eagle. The way he putts, you never know.

[00:42:18] >> Harman would make birdie.

[00:42:21] >> Troy Merritt has this for birdie. Having a good day. Getting to 18-under. And he does. So he is in that battle for second place right now. Brian Harman's at 19-under.

[00:42:40] >> Viktor Hovland. This was a moment ago. The last guy to win on the PGA Tour on the same course of the same event three straight years. Steve Stricker at the John Deere Classic, TPC Deere Run 2009, '10, and '11. Victor made that one for a birdie at 14. The last went on tour for Russell Henley was at that event in your hometown, Billy Ray, five years ago in 2017.

[00:43:13] >> Yeah. Quite the performance for sure.

[00:43:16] >> You're going to be a host for us next week, Billy Ray.

[00:43:18] >> Certainly so.

[00:43:19] >> Cannot wait for that.

[00:43:20] >> Point us in the right direction and recommendations.

[00:43:23] >> I can point you in that direction. Sometimes, you tend to get off a little direction.

[00:43:28] >> Well, what time -- Oh, actually, what day are you going to invite us over to the house, Billy Ray?

[00:43:31] >> Every day I was told.

[00:43:33] >> Every day?

[00:43:34] >> Yeah.

[00:43:34] >> Every day that ends in y.

[00:43:35] >> There you go.

[00:43:37] >> This is one of the longer putts you can possibly have on this golf course, 16 Joel Dahmen. Putting it from Cancun.

[00:43:45] >> And there's a ridge right there that he's coming over. How about it? Oh, no way.

[00:43:58] >> Will Gordon just hit a bomb out there.

[00:44:01] >> Yeah, no doubt. Just 198 yards all the way to the flagstick, Curt. And this would be a perfect time here to hit one closer to getting back on track.

[00:44:13] >> Can't be more than a 6-iron.

[00:44:16] >> It's exactly what it was, Curt, 6-iron coming in very high. That's a great line here.

[00:44:24] >> Yeah, right over the top.

[00:44:25] >> Wow.

[00:44:25] >> It's a great shot. Another look at birdie here from long range.

[00:44:36] >> Well, there you go.

[00:44:45] >> Will Gordon could sure use an eagle to go in here at the 13.

[00:44:49] >> No doubt. And getting to 19-under. It's makeable, putts down through a little valley. A little different change of green. Down green the first half of the putt, then back in the green the last.

[00:45:04] >> And only 1-under on this round. This has a chance if it turns. Henley for birdie.

[00:45:15] >> You know, just coming off that little slope to his right to affect the ball coming down toward the hole moving just ever so slightly left.

[00:45:25] >> Still in charge. Up by 5. OK. Well played hole. That gets him to 18-under. That's one shot back of Brian Harman at 19-under.

[00:45:47] >> Well, Viktor Hovland is not going to win for the third straight time here at Mayakoba. He's still having a good week. Hole location at 17 today over on that left-hand side.

[00:46:03] >> Right about there. Look at this shot.

[00:46:07] >> Hovland would make that for birdie.

[00:46:10] >> We talked about him being shortsighted, Billy Ray. What's the look like from your vantage point?

[00:46:13] >> You know what, it would look by the most people the ball sitting down, but it's not. It's actually kind of in the area where the lie is very good, Trevor. There's like a mini grass get caught between the clubface and the ball, and the green and grass is going with him. I like for him to get this one really close. I mean this is absolute perfect lie for the shot he wants to get here.

[00:46:33] >> Got a great view of the lie here.

[00:46:44] >> Big par putt here for Russell Henley.

[00:46:47] >> Yeah, not much in this putt. Actually can't give the hole away.

[00:46:52] >> Every single time he's had a question posed, he's answered it.

[00:46:59] >> Brian Harman I remember carving it around those trees a little bit earlier. Here's the long birdie try at 16.

[00:47:07] >> Let's see if he can do as well as what Joel Dahmen did. Almost identical.

[00:47:14] >> Yeah.

[00:47:15] >> And now we're back here live with Henley for birdie.

[00:47:18] >> Curt, it's been interesting today to watch the approach shots of Russell Henley. Majority despite today's have been back up the hill like that one there.

[00:47:26] >> It's just his speed. He's done everything really, really well, or he wouldn't have this big lead. But his speed on the green has just been phenomenal all week.

[00:47:34] >> Henley would finish that off for par.

[00:47:37] >> A moment ago, Matthias Schwab, he's had a solid week. He has a birdie putt at 18.

[00:47:42] >> Yeah. But a roller coaster final nine here. He's made four bogeys and two birdies up until this point. Oh, there you go. That's a good finish.

[00:47:51] >> Yeah.

[00:47:55] >> Brian Harman trying to make another birdie here at 17 to give himself some insurance over second place. It's going to break. Did he hit it? Didn't quite hit it.

[00:48:10] >> This is Troy Merritt trying to join those guys at 18-under. And does.

[00:48:17] >> So the group gets bigger.

[00:48:21] >> But he has put enough separation between himself and the rest of the field, that all is maintenance for him right now. Just fairways and greens.

[00:48:31] >> Nice to fly it just over that ridge then feed down to the hole.

[00:48:34] >> He's got a perfect glide forever. This is going to have some spin coming out very low.

[00:48:40] >> Didn't spin on him.

[00:48:46] >> Back at 16, and Russell Henley's par putt.

[00:48:49] >> And we spoke Will Gordon's timely putting, but this man has been spot on throughout the week.

[00:48:55] >> Yeah. Just the one bogey all week long.

[00:48:59] >> Yeah. That came earlier today at the 5th. Tentative there.

[00:49:08] >> So that's going to drop him to 23. Harman is at 19 with a birdie putt to get to 20.

[00:49:14] >> This is a big putt here for Brian Harman.

[00:49:20] >> Sure is. Can he put just a little extra pressure on Henley? He's given enough speed.

[00:49:28] >> Yeah.

[00:49:31] >> Pretty good effort.

[00:49:32] >> Yeah. He'll remain at 19-under, which currently is solo second.

[00:49:36] >> That got it just a bit less in that 125, in which they're trying to play it.

[00:49:43] >> He's trying to guard from it going left.

[00:49:46] >> Yeah. Ball kind of swerved it out to the right.

[00:49:57] >> It's like he went up there, Billy Ray, and tried to get a feel for what that last 10 or 12 feet was going to do.

[00:50:02] >> Well, you look at that, that's exactly what pretty straight that now three quarters of that linked to this putt, then it's going to actually move back to his left.

[00:50:22] >> I mean, the speed has been so phenomenal.

[00:50:27] >> Henley would make the comeback for par.

[00:50:32] >> Now, Arron, he's up at 18 green with his iron.

[00:50:34] >> An outside chance left to right across the green up the hill. Come on. Poor guy hasn't made a thing all day.

[00:50:48] >> What is Russell Henley's strength in his game? They'll tell you his iron play. And that's exactly right. He's been in the Top 6 strokes gained approach for the last three seasons. You couple that with the way that he has driven the ball this week, leading the field and driving accuracy. So he really has allowed through that great driving his iron plate to shine. And it has been such a great performance. And when he has made little mistakes on approach, he's 18 of 20 scrambling. And he has just obliterated this field here. He stayed nice, and cool, and calm. When he made that mistake back at the par-5 5th, what did he do? Bounced back with three straight birdies and put his foot on the gas and told all the other guys behind him, just sent them a message saying, "Hey, I'm not going to fold here."

[00:51:37] >> Right.

[00:51:37] >> "I'm going to take care of business." And it's been fun to watch.

[00:51:41] >> Billy Ray, that last win five years ago came in your hometown of Houston. He has never won as a father. Robert and Ruth were born after that victory.

[00:51:50] >> Now, this will certainly be a special victory for the whole family here. What a play there.

[00:51:56][ Applause ]

[00:52:06] >> But it all comes down to Russell Henley. Started the week with a pair of 63s, shot 65 yesterday, had a six-shot lead coming into this final round. And in dominating fashion, Russell Henley picks up his fourth career win on the PGA Tour. What a performance.

[00:52:34] >> This concludes the PGA Tours coverage of the World Wide Technology Championship at Mayakoba from El Camaleon Golf Club in Riviera Maya, Mexico.