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[00:00:38] >> Newport Beach has been a regular stop for the PGA Tour Champions, 27 consecutive years. And Newport Beach Country Club has played host for 26 of those years. This spectacular layout, a perfect setting for St. Patrick's Day. A little celebration here in Newport Beach. Thumbs up. The green bow tie and a lot of green grass. We had rain earlier in the week. About three inches fell between Tuesday and Wednesday. Lush conditions. We take a look at some highlights from earlier in the day. Bernhard Langer, one of 10 World Golf Hall of Famers in the field. This birdie putt at the 8th would get Langer to 5 under par. In quest of his 46th victory, Lanny Wadkins, Chris DiMarco has played well as of late. His birdie at the 2nd.

[00:01:26] >> Yeah, the putter is starting to work for Chris. Nice putt there and he's had a nice day so far.

[00:01:30] >> That'll get him to 6-under. He started his day at the 10th. Jim Furyk with a birdie at the 9th.

[00:01:35] >> Good read here by Furyk. Proper pace gets that in the edge.

[00:01:38] >> Retief Goosen is the defending champion. His third at the par-4 10th.

[00:01:43] >> Always a great short game. Great example right there of his capabilities around the green.

[00:01:49] >> That would get him to 2 under par. Miguel Angel Jimenez, his birdie at the 9th. Going with that left hand low.

[00:01:56] >> Yeah, that's a change for him from last time we saw him and stroke looks really nice, and then we see it again here at the 11th. This is kind of like an all-around good putt. Yes, it is.

[00:02:07] >> 5-under through his opening 11 holes. And Darren Clarke, his second at the 11th.

[00:02:14] >> Big drive here for Clarkey, and just a wedge coming in here on this short par-4, and that's the way you do it.

[00:02:21] >> Eagle for Darren Clark. Gets him to red figures in 2 under par. Players are going low on this Friday. Chris DiMarco, Scott Verplank share the lead at 6 under par with Bernhard Langer, Miguel Angel Jimenez and Tim Petrovic just a shot back. Justin Leonard playing his third up the fairway at 15.

[00:02:48] >> Right in the center of the fairway. This is another green that's been redesigned. It was very severe. And takes advantage. Beautiful shot there by Justin, right underneath the hole, can't be more than four feet.

[00:03:08] >> Bernard Langer on the tee at 15.

[00:03:10] >> It's now Langer on this par-5, wind helping from right to left here. Trying to turn this bottle over, trying to scoot it up the fairway.

[00:03:20] >> Outside chance given the recent rains to get here in two at the par-5.

[00:03:24] >> This hole playing as the easiest hole today. There have been three Eagles, 36 birdies.

[00:03:33] >> Much in this putt for Furyk?

[00:03:34] >> Yeah, not much. It's coming back down the hill. He'd really like to have this one. Made a mistake back at 14 and made a bogey. Moving in the right direction once again is Furyk.

[00:03:45] >> Yeah, nice up and down there.

[00:03:51] >> Langer talked about it after winning the Chubb Classic. He said, look at my age, 65 and a half, there are certain courses I will be able to still be competitive on and then there's others where I'm just not going to be if it's too long. This is a perfect course for him, Lanny, at 6,800 yards.

[00:04:09] >> Yes, it is Bob. And I mean Bernhard -- I mean, something happens with age. His swing has gotten a little shorter and he's lost yardage.

[00:04:19] >> Miguel Angel Jimenez, his second into 15.

[00:04:23] >> Well, he should be able to get there very easily in two. Langer was on there in two. Jimenez is a lot longer. And good shot there by Jimenez. He'll have that look right there for Eagle.

[00:04:38] >> Bernhard Langer on the tee at 16.

[00:04:55] >> And he stays in the right there, right in the center of the fairway. Nice shot.

[00:05:01] >> Mike Weir last to play at 16, his second.

[00:05:03] >> Well, he's in that right-hand side of the fairway. This fairway slopes from left to right. Ball just above his feet. Flighting this in, good-looking shot here from 174, just right of the flag.

[00:05:15] >> Yes, it was an excellent shot in there about three feet.

[00:05:22] >> David Toms for his birdie at 15. Furyk left his second below the hole. So Billy Ray, he's got a good look at birdie here.

[00:05:36] >> Yeah. This is just left center, after making the bogey back at 14, birdies 15 and now for back-to-back birdies here at 16 coming up the slope.

[00:05:57] >> Oh, that's really well done. That is not an easy hole and that's a great birdie three for Furyk.

[00:06:04] >> Scott Verplank for birdie at the 18th, coming off bogey at 17, a nice round for Scott. 6-under 65 in this par-71 layout, leaving him a shot off the lead of Chris DiMarco.

[00:06:19] >> Mike Weir after a wonderful second shot from 174 yards. Had two birdies here on the 16th.

[00:06:46] >> Stricker for his birdie. No problem. So that gets Steve to 5-under.

[00:07:00] >> Doug Barron has this putt for birdie at 18 to get to 6-under.

[00:07:09] >> Birdie putt from just off the green from David Toms.

[00:07:17] >> Kind of needs to make one at least coming from here to the house. Might have made this one. Yes, he did. Beautiful read, great pace for David. Now he's got a par-5 coming up.

[00:07:31] >> Jimenez for his birdie at 17. Look at that.

[00:07:34] >> That was a really good stroke by Jimenez. Beautiful. I like the pacing of his stroke right now since he's gone back to left hand low. Looks really good.

[00:07:47] >> Ernie Els now trying to complete the group hat trick for birdies at 17.

[00:07:52] >> Pretty simple look here for Ernie, and doesn't exactly rip it in but that's a clean sweep for that group.

[00:08:01] >> Pretty awesome.

[00:08:08] >> And Weir's going to be next and he's going to play a totally different shot. He's trapped the ball and he's got a decent line in that primary cut of rough just right of the green. Should run out after that line.

[00:08:23] >> Yeah, it should coming from the rough. That is really well done by Mike Weir. Excellent play.

[00:08:33] >> Langer, he's 6-under coming here, this to go 7. Probably just a left edge putt, Billy Ray. You know, I think he's got to maybe get it just outside that left edge. But Lanny, to your point, talking about getting off to a fast start with three rounds. That's some of the younger players that we see come out with great credentials on the PGA Tour Champions. They have to make that adjustment to basically, you know, it's a sprint, not a marathon. They're used to four rounds and it is really hard from a player standpoint, their mindset to be able to put the gas down immediately.

[00:09:07] >> Yeah, I mean with four rounds, you've got room to maybe have one okay round. You don't have that luxury out here on PGA Tour Champions. It's pedal to the metal, you know, go as low as you can every day because it's going to be a shootout. Good read. Thought he had a little bit high, and it caught the edge. Perfect pace, got it in.

[00:09:40] >> Amazing.

[00:09:41] >> What a shot.

[00:09:41] >> Father Time once again.

[00:09:44] >> Bernard Langer matches Chris DiMarco's 64, in at 7-under. Bogey-free round for the ageless wonder. Bernhard Langer, Miguel Angel Jimenez, Chris DiMarco will be in the final group on Saturday and round number two, all shooting 7-under 64.

[00:10:10] >> Doesn't get any prettier than Newport Beach, California. 27th year the PGA Tour Champions has been coming to the area and for the 26th year, spectacular Newport Beach Country Club plays host. Always tremendous fan turnout in the area, 45 miles south of Los Angeles, 85 miles north of San Diego. Aaron Rudolph 6-under today and just a shot off the lead of Miguel Angel Jimenez here in round two. They're going low in Newport Beach. Let's go back to the 7th and Bernhard Langer on the tee.

[00:10:46] >> And Billy Ray, he's got less than driver. I'm guessing, probably trying to take that left bunker out of play.

[00:10:51] >> And also probably the right. This tee shot plays back up the hill. The bunker on the right is 231. The ball's not rolling out much at all in these fairways, especially coming back up the hill. Just a light breeze back in the player's face. Coming off a bogey at the 6th.

[00:11:12] >> Nice shot right down the middle of the Langer.

[00:11:13] >> Very smart shot as usual.

[00:11:19] >> Back over at the 7th, Doug Barron has this putt for birdie. Doug currently two off the lead. Shot a 65 yesterday, 6-under par. This is a par-71. He was bogey free yesterday.

[00:11:41] >> Doug electing to go with the flag in. Different look. Always kind of surprised the guys do that. It seems like it's very busy up there with the flag in the hole. This putt's got to go a little to his left, and will probably be kind of quick right at the hole. Oh, it did go in. Beautiful putt there by Doug Barron. Nice birdie. That's a tough little hole location there at 7.

[00:12:20] >> A moment ago, Darren Clarke's second at the 8th.

[00:12:26] >> Really short shot. It didn't have much green to work with. That is some play by Clarkey. He lands it in the fringe to kill it a little bit. Really, really well done.

[00:12:35] >> Only the third birdie of the day at the 8th, which is playing as the second-hardest hole. Shane Birch, Vijay Singh, and now Darren Clarke with birdies at the par-3 8th.

[00:12:49] >> Fred Couples' second at the 9th.

[00:12:55] >> Hole location up the right-hand side of the green. Fred usually likes that. Yes, he does. Takes dead aim. Beautiful shot. In here by a couple.

[00:13:06] >> Billy Ray, awkward stance here for Miguel, isn't it?

[00:13:09] >> Really awkward stance. The ball sitting well below his feet and he does have to be concerned with the lip of the bunker. The only good thing is here, he's got 99 yards to the front of the green, 128 total. If he gets a little too risky here, he could actually catch the face of the bunker here. If he comes up and out of this, catches a bit thin.

[00:13:32] >> He's got great hands. If anybody can pull this off, I would bet on Miguel.

[00:13:35] >> He's got to be looking way right. There's a ton of green on that right hand side and that would take some of the lip out of play too if he hangs a little bit further to the right.

[00:13:43] >> He's literally toes deep in that scent.

[00:13:51] >> Sounds like the Zach Brown song.

[00:13:53] >> Good call. A solid contact right of the flag and needs to get down maybe just a bit.

[00:13:59] >> Oh, that's good shot. He's going to have a really quick but going to move a lot to his left, but nice play from where he was.

[00:14:11] >> Chris DiMarco has this putt for Birdie.

[00:14:13] >> It's back up the hill, moving to the right now. This would be back-to-back birdies and get DiMarco moving in the correct direction.

[00:14:29] >> Scott Verplank up here with about 6 feet left for his par at the 8th, uphill, might move a little from his left to right. Not much in it. Good putt. Nice save. Yeah.

[00:14:59] >> Over at the par-4 11th, second for Brian Gay.

[00:15:05] >> Hole location right over in the left side today. Just a wedge in hand. Need to take dead aim here. Normally this green is kind of firm, but just all the rain, it should be pretty receptive. Yes, it was. And he used the slope to bring it back down. He's going to have an uphill look now.

[00:15:23] >> Our first look at the par-3 17th.

[00:15:28] >> 177 today. Hole location over on the left-hand side. That green is a little slopey. Pretty good hole location even though it's not near the water.

[00:15:39] >> K.J., even with a bogey on his card, it's 6-under on his round today. How good is this, K.J.?

[00:15:47] >> Made it look really easy. What a great shot.

[00:15:51] >> So he'll have that for his third birdie in a row to get to 9-under and a share of the lead. Chris DiMarco on the tee at 8.

[00:16:00] >> He's got a little heater going on. Back-to-back birdies at 6 and 7 for DiMarco. But this is a bear of a par-3. 204 yards downhill. And just a light breeze. Not much to affect the golf ball, that's for sure. From the tee, it looks like a very, very small target on that left-hand side to try to get it close. Got a bounce and it's excellent. Really, really well played. What a shot by DiMarco looking for three in a row.

[00:16:28] >> That is fantastic. Brian Gay for birdie at the 11th to get to 7-under. So Brian Gay with another birdie. Bernhard Langer, difficult second shot at the par-3 8th. Wow. How good is that?

[00:16:55] >> Oh, he made it! Langer made it at 8!

[00:17:01] >> That was incredible. Almost impossible pitch. Coming over the bunker, the 1-plus. Billy Ray said he caught a great lie. And boy, did he take advantage of that. What a well-played shot. Even if it hadn't gone in, Bob, it was going to be just stone dead.

[00:17:19] >> Rocco Mediate for birdie at 17.

[00:17:26] >> There's a good read. Nice putt there by Rocco.

[00:17:32] >> Second shot for Fred Couples at the par-4 11th.

[00:17:37] >> Hole location left. And it should spin. It does. Great shot by Fred. John Huston on the tee at 13.

[00:17:47] >> Man, he can hit a lot of good shots and make birdies in bunches, Johnny Ray can. Ooh, there's another one right there. Look at that shot by Huston, right underneath the flag. Beautiful.

[00:18:02] >> Paul Goidos playing his third into 18.

[00:18:04] >> We've already seen the hole location right in the front right. Ooh, and Paul takes advantage. Green's still receptive. Don't recall these greens ever being this receptive here before.

[00:18:17] >> You already see a 65 then. And I would expect we'll see somebody shoot 64 today.

[00:18:24] >> You would think so. It's kind of there for the taking with no wind, Bob. And good shot there by Stricker. He needs to get it dialed up. Kind of just been stuck in neutral today.

[00:18:38] >> Rocco for birdie. Nice finish for Rocco. He shoots 3-under 68, leaves him 5-under. Third for Jimenez at the 10th.

[00:19:23] >> Look at this shot by Miguel. Could be a great save.

[00:19:26] >> You think? He took his time over that third. He didn't let the tee shot and the second shot distract him. He took his time, got the number, just dialed one in.

[00:19:37] >> Bernhard Langer out at the 10th has this for birdie.

[00:19:40] >> He's going to have to give it some room out to the right. It will definitely turn back left at the end.

[00:19:44] >> Boy, he gave it plenty of room and he buried it. Boy, did he put that out high. Great read and perfect pace by Langer.

[00:19:53] >> Dicky Pride for his birdie at 18.

[00:19:56] >> Yes, beautiful stroke there by Dicky Pride. Feels like half the field is within three shots.

[00:20:04] >> Bernard Langer has a putt for eagle, as I mentioned. Billy Andrade, Bob Estes, Sandy Lyle with the eagles today at 15.

[00:20:14] >> Pretty straight-looking putt right here.

[00:20:16] >> Cash in after that wonderful shot. I just kind of sense this ball is going to move just a little bit left at the end, Lanny.

[00:20:36] >> Keeps the pace up. It did move left at the end, Billy Ray. Good call. He put it right center, right edge, turned right in the middle. That was beautiful.

[00:20:44] >> Here it comes again. Birdie, eagle.

[00:20:50] >> There you go. He's had some good visuals here to see what's going on.

[00:20:55] >> Especially DeMarco's putt.

[00:20:56] >> Yes.

[00:20:57] >> Now you've got to think, okay, Miguel, don't overread this putt.

[00:21:06] >> The only thing I know, he does have a little tendency to pull these putts with this left hand low. Which tells me he's still getting a little used to it. Boy, he looks comfortable with it in his hands. Did he hit it? Yes, he did. Boy, that's the advantage of being the last guy to putt sometimes.

[00:21:40] >> Langer's third here at 18.

[00:21:42] >> Lanny, I'm going to tell you. The ability to have lift clean in place today, this is really going to help Langer. We've seen for years off tight lies, having to get it up, not his strongest suit, but also lift clean in place and also these Kukuya fairways is going to help him here.

[00:21:57] >> 100%, Billy Ray. I was thinking the same thing. Getting your hand on this ball made the shot a little easier. And he played it magnificently, just a tap-in Birdie for Langer to take the lead.

[00:22:12] >> So Langer after the bogey at 13, a Birdie at 14, Eagles 15, Pars 16, Birdie 17. And he's going to have that for Birdie at 18 to get in at 12-under. And this putt for Jimenez to get him into the final group tomorrow.

[00:22:35] >> Just about a right center putt. Very similar to the putt we saw Barron hammer through the right side. Got him maybe right edge, right inside with a proper pace. There you go. Miguel did it the way you're supposed to do it. Beautiful.

[00:23:06] >> 4-under 67 for Miguel. So that puts Jimenez in the final group.

[00:23:14] >> Is Langer shooting his age again?

[00:23:15] >> Yeah, well yesterday he shot under his age. He's 65 and a half. Today he shoots 66.

[00:23:27] >> Are we rounding up?

[00:23:33] >> Bernhard Langer with that 5-under 66 will carry a one-shot lead into the final round over Miguel Angel Jimenez. Doug Barron, Couples and Gay just two back.

[00:23:50] >> PGA Tour champions have been coming to Newport Beach for 27 years. For the 26th year, spectacular Newport Beach Country Club playing host. Always great fan turnout here in the Newport Beach area. Par-71 playing 6,800 yards. Take a look at the leaderboard here in Newport Beach, California. Bernhard Langer even today, a one-shot lead over Ernie Els, K.J. Choi, Doug Barron. Couples and Jimenez along with Dicky Pride just two back.

[00:24:21] >> For the 7th, it's our final group. Bernhard Langer on the tee at 7. Billy Ray, what's the key to the tee shot here?

[00:24:28] >> Well, you gotta fit it in between the two bunkers on the right and left. It's 231 to the bunker on the right, 266 to the bunker on the left. Yesterday, Langer played less than driver here off the tee. And Lanny, to your point, with this colder weather and the rain coming down, golf course playing much longer.

[00:24:43] >> It really is, Billy Ray. And I think that's one of the reasons Langer went with driver right there. Just to put a shorter club in his hands going into this green.

[00:24:53] >> Rob Labritz hit this for par two years ago. Medalist at PGA Tour Champions Q School. 30 years as a teaching pro in Westchester in New York.

[00:25:12] >> It turns. Oh, it did, all the way around.

[00:25:15] >> We've seen a few of those.

[00:25:17] >> Yes, we have. Yes.

[00:25:19] >> So Labritz with a par save and then some. Langer has this for par to avoid back-to-back bogeys. And Lanny, that's a great statement. He's only won 45 times out here.

[00:25:35] >> Yeah, I think he does okay with the with the heat, Billy Ray, you know, probably thrives on it. He's in the mix so much. I think it would feel strange to him if he wasn't feeling some pressure.

[00:25:47] >> Yeah, there is no doubt in that, he relishes situations like this. And he's the type of player that can make adjustments on the fly.

[00:25:58] >> Got to hit this putt solid going straight up the hill. Actually, kind of a quick stroke, and he got in the left edge. Wasn't his best, but it's in now. That's all that counts.

[00:26:10] >> Langer avoids back-to-back bogeys, remains in front by one. Out to the 9th, Darren Clarke for his birdie.

[00:26:18] >> Pretty good look right here, just outside the right edge. Proper pace, yes. One of the few people to get it up around the hole here with their second.

[00:26:32] >> Over to the 11th, second for Mike Weir, playing with Ernie Els and Tim O'Neill. Mike at 7-under. Just one bogey on the scorecard today. No birdies.

[00:26:51] >> Location pretty accessible here at 11 today. Good shot there by Weirsy.

[00:26:58] >> Second for Darren Clark at 10.

[00:27:00] >> Trying to hit a high draw and picks it really nice and clean. What a play. That was gorgeous.

[00:27:10] >> Over at the 9th, Fred Couples looking for his first birdie of the day.

[00:27:13] >> Can he get something going? Yes, Fred.

[00:27:17] >> So Couples gets to within one. Only the third birdie of the day at the 9th. Stricker second into 11. Normally a wonderful wedge player. Look for this to get really tight. Oh, it just grabbed on him a little quick. So another hole right here Langer hit, I think, less a driver yesterday, Billy Ray. He's got driver today.

[00:27:47] >> Well, he certainly does. And we've touched on it. Temperature's dropped enough where the ball's not traveling, but also the wind is up. One good note about the weather, the sun is starting to shine right now, but still a light rain falling.

[00:28:01] >> I know you're happy about that.

[00:28:03] >> I am certainly happy about it.

[00:28:04] >> Not really affecting us a lot in here right now.

[00:28:07] >> I bet not. Very confident swing there by Langer. Wow.

[00:28:16] >> Popped it out there pretty good. Got it almost to Jimenez.

[00:28:19] >> He did.

[00:28:19] >> That's impressive.

[00:28:25] >> Second for Ernie Els at the 12th.

[00:28:28] >> Hole location just five from the left. And Ernie went flag hunting. That's really well done. He's got a bout six, seven feet.

[00:28:39] >> K.J. Choi, his second at 11.

[00:28:43] >> Several shots come up short here. And K.J. gets it back a little bit, but still a little underneath the hole.

[00:28:53] >> Fred Couples on the tee at the 11th. Coming off his first bogey of the week.

[00:29:00] >> Tee shot at 10. Let's see if he straightens it out here at 11. He does. Right down the gut. Beautiful tee shot. Just a little wedge left into this short par-4.

[00:29:10] >> Clark for Birdie at the 12th.

[00:29:16] >> Good Birdie there for Clarkie.

[00:29:18] >> He's at 9-under, he's only two off the lead.

[00:29:27] >> A lot can happen on this second now, Bob. No question now. Billy Ray, what's Langer got here?

[00:29:32] >> He got very fortunate. You see the trees in front of him, but he's got an opening. All he has to really do is keep it down and maybe turn it just a bit from right to left. But he has a clear view of the right-hand side of the green. And the lie which he caught there is very good. There's a clump of grass just to the left of it, but that's not going to present any problems whatsoever. And by my gauge, on the left-hand side, it's right at 157 yards. He really didn't have to do much with this shot. Like I said, he got a very good break.

[00:30:22] >> Yeah, a little further, just right behind that tree that's to his left. This is doable. Gotta get good contact, though.

[00:30:32] >> Certainly good contact here and a very good line, too, as well.

[00:30:36] >> Wow, look at this.

[00:30:38] >> It releases out pretty well. That is an excellent play by Langer.

[00:30:41] >> And certainly taking advantage of a good break with the tee shot there.

[00:30:49] >> Bob Labritz for Birdie at 13.

[00:30:54] >> Nice shot in here and beautiful putt.

[00:31:02] >> Now, Doug Barron for his second.

[00:31:05] >> Just a short little pitch of 69 yards, backing off.

[00:31:13] >> Telling him to start over. Lanny, I think what you have to be concerned here with these shorter shots from the 60 and 70-yard range is just enough moisture that's on top of these greens that if you come in too low, you'll get a big skid.

[00:31:26] >> Yeah, and he's got to carry far enough to take that bunker out of play. He'd like to land it about a third of the way from over the bunker to the hole. He's the only person who's got it up near the hole, though, Billy Ray.

[00:31:39] >> Yeah, you heard him say, get down, get down. It's just visually intimidating. Such a small target, even from short distance, it's hard to go ahead and force it back there.

[00:31:50] >> Lengthy birdie putt for Bernhard Langer for the outright lead.

[00:31:55] >> Up the hill, moving right to left. He gave it a rip.

[00:32:00] >> Yes, he did. First person to see him really get it up the hill and firm.

[00:32:05] >> Langer regains the lead, even for the day.

[00:32:11] >> Steve Stricker for birdie at 14.

[00:32:12] >> Coming from the front of the green, up and over, moving left to right. Yes, looked good the whole way. What a great putt. Stricker within two. Look out.

[00:32:29] >> Now back at the 11th, Doug Barron hit the best over three shots into the green. Has this for birdie.

[00:32:36] >> Yeah, wonderful second shot you talked about, Bob. Now this putt inside right in front. No other way to make this one.

[00:32:47] >> Doug Barron matches Langer with birdies at 11.

[00:32:54] >> Up at 18, Padraig Harrington finishing up his day. Curls that birdie putt in. So Harrington with a 5-under bogey free 66 is in at 10-under along with Scott McCarron, who shot a 65 bogey free today. Back to our leader, Bernhard Langer at 12.

[00:33:21] >> Still doing some calculations. Been throwing up some grass and I don't think there's enough wind to really affect this shot. Lanny, it's a little help from the right, but just a light breeze.

[00:33:30] >> Yeah, the flag's hardly moving, Billy Ray.

[00:33:39] >> Chance to make things easier on himself right here. He's got a club he likes, I'm sure. Stuff one here and up that lead to two.

[00:33:48] >> I think he might be in between clubs just a bit, 137. You might have to take -- it looks like 9-iron here. It's going to take a little bit off of it, I believe.

[00:33:58] >> Not really choked up much.

[00:33:59] >> No.

[00:34:01] >> Look like about a three-quarter swing. Just a little deep, but not much. That's an excellent shot.

[00:34:13] >> Now Barron, 124 yards coming off the birdie at the 11th.

[00:34:45] >> There again, another big first hop, but spins it down to the hole. Great shot by Barron. He's hit two in a row close.

[00:34:53] >> Rob Labritz second into 15.

[00:35:01] >> Tee shot down the right-hand side for Labritz and trying to chase it up there. And he does. He's going to have that for Eagle. What a great shot.

[00:35:11] >> Doug Barron for Birdie to match Langer at 12-under.

[00:35:14] >> He has a straightforward putt here up the slope. Another one that you can't get the whole way. All right.

[00:35:21] >> Doug Barron with back-to-back birdies. He moves to 12-under. Up at 18, Rocco Mediate having a nice week, has this for Birdie.

[00:35:42] >> Every dollar counts.

[00:35:46] >> So that gets him to 8-under. Let's see if Rob Labritz can make Eagle here. This would get him into a share of third. There's the first eagle of the day. And it belongs to Rob Labritz at 15. He's at 11-under. Second for Steve Stricker at 16.

[00:36:12] >> Big tee shot by Stricker. And stay right there. Spun back.

[00:36:23] >> Up at 18, Dicky Pride has this for Birdie. Dicky Pride got off to a fast start. He's 4-under through his first seven.

[00:36:36] >> Rob Labritz left his first putt from about 60 feet way short. This for a two-putt. Yes, Rob Labritz.

[00:36:46] >> He got to 15 in two with no issues.

[00:36:53] >> Couples has this for par.

[00:36:59] >> So he stays at 9-under. Stricker for Birdie.

[00:37:09] >> Yes. Stricker's going to come up, what, just one short?

[00:37:15] >> Yeah.

[00:37:16] >> Wow. Made just one Birdie on the front, bogey free 4-under 67 for Steve. And another strong week for Stricker. It's a big par putt here for Rob Labritz. Stay at 11.

[00:37:30] >> Good for Rob.

[00:37:31] >> Look how many par putts he's made at 17 and 18.

[00:37:35] >> Yeah, great putt. That'll go a long way for his confidence. What an outstanding week. Maybe his best finish on PGA Tour Champions.

[00:37:47] >> Ernie's got to get to at least 13-under here.

[00:37:51] >> Ernie just, I think he's just changed his grip back from claw to -- well, maybe not. He's taking another look. He might be reassessing. He had a claw grip last hole, missed that short Birdie putt, and now he's gone back to left hand low here. It's a little indecision here for the big man.

[00:38:21] >> There you go, Ernie. The 2020 Hoag Classic champion gets to 12-under and a share of the lead.

[00:38:35] >> Ernie is in the bunker I would hate to be in right now. This is about 45 yards from the front edge of the green. This is a really, really difficult shot. He's actually going to try and pick this clean. I don't think he's got any other play. That's incredible. That is absolutely a marvelous shot there from Ernie Els. Just fantastic.

[00:39:14] >> Let's go over to 16, Billy Ray. What's Bernhard have in?

[00:39:16] >> Well, he's got a lie. It's going to be hanging a little bit just below his feet, but Lanny, as you said, going out to the right makes this approach shot much longer. 181 yards. You really have to stay inside this shot here and stay in, so you don't want to come up and out of this shot and lose it to the right. There is some helping wind though from left to right. And you said it, Lanny. This hole, you sit back there in the fairway, look at it and go, okay, I can get at this one. But Bob touched on only seven birdies up to this point.

[00:39:46] >> Yeah, you kind of wonder why, Billy Ray. The hole location is right back there where it's gettable. It's 22 on, so it's not like it's crowded right against the front edge.

[00:39:53] >> Yeah.

[00:39:53] >> It's 9 to the left. Almost looks like it's in center of the green.

[00:39:57] >> You know, I'm sure a majority of the putts here, because you don't want to go long definitely, because it breaks off sharply behind the green, have come up short.

[00:40:10] >> That was pretty good looking.

[00:40:11] >> Yeah, it's a really good line. If it's enough to get back there.

[00:40:15] >> Good shot. He's got a look probably 15 feet or so.

[00:40:20] >> It's one of the better ones we've seen in the 16.

[00:40:30] >> Up into the 18th. Ernie Els has this putt for birdie to post 13-under. Ernie 5-under on his round today. Made four birdies in his first seven. Didn't make a birdie again until 16.

[00:40:46] >> And I would bet this gets no worse than playoff if he can get this in.

[00:40:53] >> Remember he missed the short birdie putt at 15.

[00:41:02] >> Ernie Els birdies 18.

[00:41:03] >> He may not have a hot putter all the time, but when you need to make it, the big man can get it done. What a great couple of putts coming down the stretch for Ernie Els. Bogey free 65 for Ernie.

[00:41:23] >> If you've got to make birdie, what are you doing, putting or chipping? From right here, I would probably say I would have to chip this ball. If I want to make it, I just don't want any guesswork how it comes off this first cut right here.

[00:41:35] >> I think Miguel's got a chip for sure. Barron simply because he only needs one.

[00:41:40] >> You know, I'd be surprised, but I looked -- at least Jimenez's ball doesn't have a lot of green in it. Doug Barron's ball only has about 8 to 10 inches of fairway to go through before he gets on the green, but it is into the grain. Looks like it's sitting down a little bit. It's into the grain, going to pop up in the air.

[00:42:05] >> Stayed on the ground nicely.

[00:42:06] >> It did.

[00:42:06] >> But he didn't get it.

[00:42:27] >> Nobody's gotten near this green in two in the last couple hours, Billy Ray, that we've seen. And is it still the same conditions out there?

[00:42:33] >> No, it's not. It's starting to rain a bit harder right now, so it's not helping.

[00:42:37] >> Oh.

[00:42:37] >> And the wind is back in and the temperature's dropping. As we worked our way around this inward half.

[00:42:54] >> On Friday we had two Eagles and 42 birdies at 18. Yesterday, no Eagles, 38 birdies. Today, no Eagles and only 14 birdies.

[00:43:10] >> So it's a big boy par-5 today. 545 yards back uphill and into the wind and rain.

[00:43:16] >> And no roll once the ball pitches into the upslope of the fairway.

[00:43:25] >> Wow, that may be bunker.

[00:43:27] >> That's going to find the fairway, Lanny, but that is well back.

[00:43:34] >> I'm sure he'll never admit it, Lanny, but you wonder if he started thinking, maybe today's the day I set the record.

[00:43:41] >> He may have. I mean, I gotta tell you, he looked as good today as I've seen him in a long time. I really expected him to come out and play another solid spectacular round of golf. Wasn't sure he was going to win because there were so many great players up at the top, but I didn't think I would see what I've seen the second nine from him today.

[00:44:03] >> It's only 228 to it.

[00:44:05] >> I can't hit it with about 224 in the rain.

[00:44:08] >> Okay. Okay. It's more like 248 to the right one.

[00:44:11] >> so I like just right of those two bunkers. Right of the 10th there.

[00:44:20] >> Of the two tenths, which one do you like?

[00:44:21] >> I like just the left edge of the right tenth.

[00:44:23] >> Love it. Love it.

[00:44:28] >> He talked about the number to that bunker on the right where we saw Ernie Els get it up and down. I don't think he can get there, Lanny. It's back uphill, 248. The rain has stopped, but I believe the bunker on the left can cause an issue. Need to keep it up the right. He started that well out to the right. Yeah, well done.

[00:44:55] >> Jimenez, second.

[00:44:57] >> Well, still not out of it. Two back.

[00:45:06] >> Needs three. Don't think he could get there.

[00:45:17] >> He said 110. We've got Billy Ray gave me 108, so Doug Barron at 108,110 yards. Needs to get this, Bob, inside 15 feet to have a legit look.

[00:45:30] >> Okay, I love it.

[00:45:30] >> So do I. Be aggressive.

[00:45:53] >> Heck of a play by Barron. He's got it near about four or five feet. Beautiful shot. Got a fist pump from Doug. Don't want to get too excited early. You still got to go up and make the putt.

[00:46:08] >> That's a good, good move by Ernie. He's already conceding that putt to Barron, which is exactly what he should do.

[00:46:14] >> So now he's going to take the driver out and he's going to go through a warmup. Langer to play his third. I don't think he'll ever admit it, but you wonder if even Langer, who's as disciplined as they come, who is precise, if at some point when when he had that lead on the back 9 today was thinking about history.

[00:46:38] >> He may have been. It would be hard not to, Bob. It really would be. With everything he's accomplished, that would be something that would be just, you know, something he probably never would have imagined.

[00:46:53] >> I don't think anyone thought that Hale's record would be tied or broken.

[00:46:57] >> No.

[00:46:58] >> Ernie's now got the big stick out.

[00:47:00] >> Yeah, he needs to hit a few of these and get really nice and loose. Because I mean, if they do go to 18, the advantage is Ernie's way longer than Barron.

[00:47:10] >> Playoff is 18, 18, 17. And then play on out. Jimenez needs to hold this shot to match Els at 13-under.

[00:47:48] >> Kind of like his whole day, just a little off with judging. I'm sure, Lanny, in the air that he thought he traveled past the hole and it would spin back.

[00:48:02] >> Gotta give Barron credit for the thing he did to give himself a good number coming into this green, one that he didn't have to hit too hard. He can control the spin on the wedge. Green was receptive. It was really a well-played shot.

[00:48:22] >> Miguel Angel Jimenez came into this week in 13th place in the Schwab Cup standings. So if he can make this birdie here, gets him to 12-under, gets him into a share of second. And more dollars.

[00:48:48] >> Yeah, really hasn't made much today. He's kind of fought the putter. Looks like to me, he's just not swinging the putter back far enough, having to have too much hit at the bottom. That was actually a little better right there.

[00:49:02] >> Got it on line. Did he hit it? So Jimenez is going to shoot even par today after making seven birdies yesterday. Shoots 67.

[00:49:28] >> Langer for his birdie. Bernhard third in the Schwab Cup standings coming into this week. Steve Stricker is going to remain in the top spot.

[00:50:01] >> Probably a little lack of concentration there for Bernhard, I would imagine.

[00:50:10] >> Disappointment. Won the Hoag Classic in 2008, and looked pretty good.

[00:50:29] >> And now Doug Barron, I would say four feet.

[00:50:35] >> The 53-year-old from Memphis has this part for birdie, which would match Els at 13-under.

[00:50:43] >> I don't think there's much in this. It's not downhill. It's probably pretty flat and maybe right center at most, I would think.

[00:50:51] >> Barron for birdie. To get to 13-under and force a playoff.

[00:51:04] >> Pushed it right. Just pushed it out to the right. That opened up.

[00:51:16] >> Frustration from Doug Barron. He misses the birdie putt, which means Ernie Els has won the Hoag Classic for the second time. Barron finishes with a 1-under par 70 at 12-under, and Ernie Els the Hall of Famer joins Fred Couples, Jay Haas and Hale Irwin as the only multiple winners in the 27-year history of the Hoag Classic. Ernie is your winner. Ernie Els with a bogey free 65, wins it at 13 under par. And Lanny, he stayed steady. Didn't let that missed short birdie putt at 13 affect him, which it could have.

[00:51:55] >> No, he didn't. And then, yeah, the one he also missed at 15 that was short birdie putt there. That was when he switched from the solid claw grip. He went back at 16 left hand low. He buried it at 16 and buried it at 18. I still can't get over the quality shot he played from the bunker at 18. That was unbelievable.