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[00:00:38] >> The Mitsubishi Electric Championship, the first of 28 on the PGA Tour Champion schedule for 2024, and for the 28th consecutive year of the Four Seasons. Hualalai playing host Jack Nicklaus designed. Par 72, just over 7,100 yards. The fame, Par-3 17th sitting right alongside the water. So much drama at this venue over the years. Steve Stricker is your defending champion. We've got six World Golf Hall of Famers in the field here this week. And one of them sits atop the leaderboard, Vijay Singh, at 5-under par. Vijay on fire today. Went out in 31. Clean scorecard for Rocco Mediate.

[00:01:32] >> All right. David Toms, who won twice last year on the PGA Tour Champions, getting ready to hit his second shot.

[00:01:38] >> He's still up there. He's still up there.

[00:01:41] >> With this final group.

[00:01:42] >> Gone? Yeah.

[00:01:44] >> So they're asking, are they still up there? They are gone. Explain why. A lot of --

[00:01:50] >> Right there. Yeah.

[00:01:50] >> Well, you'll see from the camera angle behind David Toms, you can't see anything. So it's a very awkward second shot here at the 7th.

[00:01:57] >> Yeah.

[00:01:58] >> David, 243 front, 276 hole.

[00:02:01] >> And you have to be careful, Cookie. There is lava in play to the right of the green. That's the one place that is a no-no with your second. We've seen players hit it there over the years and come away with some very large numbers.

[00:02:14] >> That is for sure really awkward second. You really have to pick a target and just swing freely. It's up the left side. Will it get to the greet?

[00:02:24] >> Oh, yeah.

[00:02:25] >> Yeah, good shot.

[00:02:25] >> Yes, it did. That's a heck of a play by David Toms.

[00:02:28] >> Wonderful second there.

[00:02:30] >> Kind of cut it off that left bunker and got a good kick. Very well done.

[00:02:39] >> Steve Stricker now coming off a birdie back there at the 6th. Three birdies, a bogey, two par. Two thirty-one front, 264 hole. Cannot see anything up there. And he's maybe just right -- left center of the fairway.

[00:02:54] >> You do have the one tree in the background that is just around the back of the green. You know that. So that's kind of a target you can work off of.

[00:03:02] >> Yeah. That tree is as far right as you want to go.

[00:03:08] >> Yes.

[00:03:08] >> This is flamed out to the right. This could be trouble. That needs a kick. It was short enough. It got on that bank.

[00:03:15] >> Oh, yeah.

[00:03:15] >> Now, it's going to be great.

[00:03:16] >> Heck of --

[00:03:16] >> That's going to get all the way to the back part of the green.

[00:03:26] >> Toms for birdie at 7.

[00:03:28] >> Yeah, 3 feet, just right of center. Good birdie there. Came a little missed opportunity back there at the 6th, but good birdie there. Two birdies and no bogeys for David Toms.

[00:03:43] >> Vijay Singh has birdied the par-5 10th. He's at 6-under now. Now, Steve Stricker to get to 3-under. Steve shot 60 in Round 2 last year at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, setting a tournament record. And now, back to back birdies for Strick. And he's currently at 3-under.

[00:04:05] >> Stephen Ames has this putt for par at the 9th.

[00:04:09] >> Ninth is a big par 4. And that's stealing one right there. That'll feel as good as a birdie for Stephen Ames.

[00:04:24] >> And Steve Stricker has a great look for birdie at the 8th.

[00:04:30] >> What a pearl of a tee shot down that hill.

[00:04:34] >> That was as good as I've ever seen here, Cookie.

[00:04:36] >> Absolutely.

[00:04:37] >> That was gorgeous.

[00:04:38] >> You're just trying to get it somewhere on the green and out of trouble really here at the 8th. So to have a 7-foot birdie putt is quite a bonus.

[00:04:47] >> Harrison Frazar, Lee Janzen are two of the players. And the other, Dicky Pride, who have made birdies at the 8th today.

[00:04:59] >> Going to go out on a limb and say, I bet they weren't inside Stricker. This is awfully -- an awfully high quality shot in here for him. Those other guys hit some good shots, made some putts. Twos like stealing. That is some shot Steve Stricker hit here.

[00:05:16] >> Yeah. Most of these putts up here at Hualalai inside 10 feet don't have a ton of break. But this one actually has a little bit from right to left.

[00:05:22] >> They've got their edges, aren't they, Cookie?

[00:05:24] >> Yeah.

[00:05:25] >> They're just outside the edge. Just inside the edge. So --

[00:05:27] >> Yeah.

[00:05:27] >> -- you're always doing something. They move, but they -- it's very subtle.

[00:05:34] >> This ought to be right on about the right edge. Oh, that didn't move at all. He put that right center.

[00:05:40] >> Wow.

[00:05:41] >> Third birdie in a row.

[00:05:44] >> OK.

[00:05:56] >> Cink now for his par, John.

[00:05:58] >> Yeah. Coming off that three putt par back there at the 7th. Desperately needs this. One birdie on his card so far today has left some opportunities out here so far. Not much to this.

[00:06:31] >> I mentioned he finished 24th at the Sony last week on the PGA Tour.

[00:06:39] >> Steven Alker at the par-5 10th.

[00:06:43] >> Good tee shot for Steven. Just a long iron coming in here. This hole location and hole are gettable today. Yes, they are. Look at this shot by Alker.

[00:06:54] >> Yeah. There have been six eagles at 10 today, 22 birdies.

[00:06:59] >> Mentioned six World Golf hall of Famers in the field here this week, including Mark O'Meara. His tee shot at 17.

[00:07:06] >> Hole location, front left, right over the bunker. He went right at it. Good shot, Mark.

[00:07:14] >> Excellent swing. Just 150 yards there at 17 today. Now, David Toms just off the right front going with putter, Cookie.

[00:07:25] >> Yeah, I think that's the wise play. Maybe only Raymond Floyd might pitch this one, but it's only a foot off the green. Beautiful colors surrounds around here in Hualalai. The Paspalum is just outstanding.

[00:07:37] >> It really is. It's a wonderful surface to play off.

[00:07:39] >> That little slope right there will kick it left.

[00:07:42] >> He was putting it way out there.

[00:07:45] >> He got a pretty good read off of -- And there you go.

[00:07:48] >> How about that putt for David Toms?

[00:07:51] >> Had a nice read off of Steve Stricker's pitch shot. Took advantage of it.

[00:08:05] >> Scott Parel up at 18 for his birdie.

[00:08:08] >> All the way across the length of the green. Just trying to get the pace correct. Oh, and he did. Beautiful putt. Great way to finish by Scott Parel. Gets him all the way to 5-under. I guess he's going to come out and make up for last year and get this year started off with a bang early.

[00:08:27] >> Stewart Cink had this a moment ago for his eagle. And we'll watch this, and then see if Stewart can record the 7th eagle of the day.

[00:08:38] >> Oh, yeah.

[00:08:38] >> Oh, yes.

[00:08:38] >> There you go.

[00:08:43] >> Brett Quigley on the tee at 17.

[00:08:46] >> Likes to hit a little draw. Should love this hole location over on that left-hand side, 150 yards. Take that flag on. He does. Beautiful.

[00:09:03] >> Ernie Els on the tee.

[00:09:05] >> Ernie also hits a little draw. In fact, Ernie can move it both ways. And he'll take this thing right on.

[00:09:11] >> Yes, he will. Beautiful shot.

[00:09:15] >> Now, David Toms for his birdie at 14.

[00:09:20] >> He had about 100 feet, Cookie.

[00:09:22] >> That he did.

[00:09:23] >> And pretty good putt from where he was.

[00:09:24] >> It was. And I putted that putt this morning and I did the same thing. Hit it, you know, 5 or 6 feet by. But that's about as good as you can, too. So maybe inside the left. No, more than that. Nice two putt birdie.

[00:09:38] >> Stricker. I look for this to be left of the flag.

[00:09:42] >> Yeah, 120. Let's see what he wants to do. You think he might hold one off and just kind of hit a straight ball or left of the flag? It's on a pretty good line.

[00:09:53] >> Yes.

[00:09:54] >>How about it.

[00:09:54] >> How about this? Right of the flag. Stricker went flag hunting. Good for him. Wonderful shot.

[00:10:04] >> Stephen Ames for his birdie at 18.

[00:10:08] >> Maybe left edge.

[00:10:11] >> Oh, yeah. Good putt.

[00:10:13] >> That's one year of his game that's really improved.

[00:10:20] >> Yes.

[00:10:20] >> Stricker for birdie. Missed a short one at 15.

[00:10:23] >> Yeah, not much to this. This is dead straight, about 7 feet. You're not going to miss two of those in a row. Right underneath the hole. Not much to this. Got to keep the speed up, though.

[00:10:50] >> He did. Needed that one. Little good -- Nice bounce back there for Stewart Cink.

[00:10:57] >> So Cink gets to 5.

[00:11:11][ Applause ]

[00:11:27] >> Take a look at the leaderboard. And Vijay Singh with a bogey-free 7-under par 65. Steven Alker birdied his last four and five of his last six to match Singh at 70under. Then you got Stricker, and Els, and Choi, and Quigley just a shot back. Stewart Cink, Rocco Mediate, Scott Parel, Mark Hensby will start the Day 2 off the lead.

[00:12:00] >> The PGA Tour Champions proudly presents the season-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup today from the Kona Coast of Hawaii. It's live second round coverage of the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. Gorgeous look from above. The Four Seasons Hualalai has played host to the Mitsubishi Electric Championship, a record 28 consecutive years. This Jack Nicklaus design opened in 1993. It's par 72, just over 7,100 yards. Looked at the fame par-3 17th. The wind is the great defense for this golf course. We've seen some great low scores here after Round number 1. Can they go low again today? Steven Alker currently sits at 9-under par. He's got a one shot lead over the defending champ, Steve Stricker, who shot 60 last year in Round 2. David Toms 4-under today, making a move up the leaderboard. Ernie Els, 1-under.

[00:13:11] >> Vijay Singh will have this putt for birdie. Vijay made a birdie at the 2nd, and then a birdie at the 4th, and then at the par-3 5th, rinsed his tee shot, wound up making a double to fall back even for the day.

[00:13:26] >> Yeah. Big putt here for Vijay this point in time, as Steven Alker is getting the 10-under par.

[00:13:35] >> Yeah. Vijay needs to get back going forward. He's already gone in reverse. This needs to go down and then maybe sneak another one in. He's got 10 coming up, so he's looking at birdie here and a look for eagle at 10 is what he's after.

[00:13:50] >> Has to keep the pace up here. He does. That was --

[00:13:52] >> That was a good battle right there. Not a very good tee shot, left bunker. Good up and down.

[00:14:02] >> That was good work there for Vijay. Like you said, Cookie, not a particularly good tee shot. So he fought hard to get out of there with a birdie four. His son Cass, right there. They won the PNC a couple of years ago together.

[00:14:23] >> Might be a lot of fun.

[00:14:24] >> And you had a chance to win that.

[00:14:25] >> Well, I won that with my youngest, Tucker. And we've actually played with Vijay and Cass. And Cass can vomit. I think Vijay as long. My goodness.

[00:14:36] >> Alker for birdie. And that gives Steven now the outright lead at 10-under. Now, back over at the 8th, Ernie Els playing his second.

[00:14:48] >> A little more the trajectory I would have expected. Oh, it boom for Ernie Els. That was kind of the shot -- type shot I was expecting Stricker to play. Although Stricker got closed. Ernie hold it. Wow, what a shot.

[00:15:06] >> Rocco Mediate had a 67 in Round 1. Has this for birdie at the 9th.

[00:15:11] >> Yeah, this is a lot of fringe to be putting. And that's really well judged. Wow. Ball rode really nicely through all that Paspalum.

[00:15:26] >> I guess that was the right play.

[00:15:30] >> Back over at the 8th, Steven Alker trying to stretch that lead.

[00:15:33] >> Yeah, pretty good breaker from right to left. And wow, what a great birdie.

[00:15:37] >> That's like stealing right here and lapping the field with birdie at the 8th, Cookie.

[00:15:44] >> So Alker gets to 11-under, two shot clear of the field.

[00:15:50] >> Yeah. Steven Alker is on point so far in this front nine.

[00:15:53] >> And I know this is only Round 2, but suddenly now, this brings a little pressure on Vijay here to make this par putt.

[00:16:01] >> No doubt about it. Kind of little loose the last three or four holes. So, got the tough 9th coming up, and then the very birdiable 10th. Not much to this. It's going to keep the speed up. Does go back uphill just a little bit.

[00:16:22] >> Nice save. Vijay is working hard, but he's hanging tough.

[00:16:26] >> Harrison Frazar over at the 10th, has this for eagle. Earned a spot in the field by winning the Dominion last year during the playoffs. And that is a nice start to his second nine.

[00:16:38] >> Yeah, after that bogey at 6, that gets him moving back the other way, which is good. He's staying in touch with the leaders just a couple back.

[00:16:52][ Applause ]

[00:17:19] >> So that gets Alker to 12-under par.

[00:17:27] >> Stephen Ames trying to finish up with a birdie here at the 18th. Went out in 4-under.

[00:17:34] >> But all par since.

[00:17:36] >> Might go a little right at the end.

[00:17:38] >> Oh, it catches the edge. Beautiful putt.

[00:17:41] >> So Stephen with a bogey-free 5-under par 67 today. Leaves him at 7-under.

[00:17:50] >> Defending Champ Steve Stricker for birdie at the 12th.

[00:17:54] >> Didn't really take this flag on. Left himself about 30, 35 feet. Oh, yeah. Oh, yeah. Here comes Strick.

[00:18:03] >> Vijay has this putt for birdie at 11.

[00:18:05] >> Really quick downhill, down grain, and right in the middle. Good putt.

[00:18:09] >> Yeah, that was a well-played hole. That was different than he's been doing, Cookie. That was a good tee shot. Wonderful second and a tough little putt there for Vijay.

[00:18:17] >> Yeah. Hit a really good tee shot and only had 123 in.

[00:18:27] >> Choi for his par.

[00:18:34] >> Yeah. Not much to this right here. Just head steady.

[00:18:52] >> Let's go over to 17. Alex Cejka has this for birdie.

[00:19:01] >> Oh, yeah.

[00:19:02][ Applause ]

[00:19:11] >> Two thousand eighteen champion Jerry Kelly for birdie. And Jerry pours that in. Jerry with a pair of 3-under par 69s. Jerry hasn't made a bogey so far in the 36 holes. Just not a lot of birdies.

[00:19:33] >> Yeah. Disappointing par there for Vijay from where he drove it and not hit the quality wedge shot that he wanted.

[00:19:41] >> John Cook, this is as good a look for birdie as you're going to see here at 13.

[00:19:45] >> Really trying to find something in this putt. And I really didn't see anything getting up there. So, pretty straight, no more than 5 feet.

[00:19:57] >> Normally, pretty solid from this distance. Still is.

[00:20:03] >> Tidy round of golf going.

[00:20:05] >> And it's looking easy, isn't it, John?

[00:20:09] >> That it is. He's just flushing the golf ball, making some putts.

[00:20:13] >> Right down the fairway. No stress on anything. He just looks completely in control.

[00:20:17] >> Now, Toms for his par.

[00:20:26] >> Good two putt there.

[00:20:38] >> Stricker down for his birdie at the par-5 14th.

[00:20:41] >> This will get steamed within one of the lead of Alker.

[00:21:02] >> No problem.

[00:21:05] >> Two putt birdie for Strick.

[00:21:15] >> Harrison Frazar, who earned a spot by winning the Dominion last fall.

[00:21:21] >> Yeah. This is the part that's most improved for Harrison, yes, it is, is the putter. He has improved his putting, and boy, is it showing up big time now.

[00:21:30] >> Look at this back nine he's got going.

[00:21:33] >> Hello. That is some nine holes he's got.

[00:21:35] >> He's got the turkey, three in a row. Harrison Frazar, 13-under and a share of the lead at Hualalai. Now, Steven Alker for his eagle at 14.

[00:21:48] >> Yeah, just on the back edge of the green. Can't have a whole lot to this. Does go slightly downhill. So he's got to be a little careful of speed. But --

[00:21:56] >> It's got to be quick, Cookie.

[00:21:58] >> It has to be.

[00:22:04] >> About 15 feet. Pretty good chance to make this one.

[00:22:28] >> Gave it a run. Yes, he did. Hello. How easy is this round looking for Steven Alker.

[00:22:34] >> Yeah. This is just a clinic right here.

[00:22:36] >> It's unbelievable how well he's playing.

[00:22:50] >> Somebody like David Toms needs to make this. He does. And gets into 10. He's still going to find himself way back heading to tomorrow the way Alker is going.

[00:23:22] >> Let's see if Justin can roll this in. Good finish for Justin. Gets him to 10. He's going to be within shouting distance if he's got a loud voice.

[00:23:50] >> K.J. for his birdie here at 15, John.

[00:23:54] >> Yeah, really nice second shot in there. Right at hole high. Not much to this. Give him 8 feet. Coming off a nice two putt birdie at the 14th. Could go in the right direction.

[00:24:17] >> Drips it in.

[00:24:18][ Applause ]

[00:24:30] >> Stewart Cink for birdie at 18. All around good putt.

[00:24:39] >> Stewart with a 3-under par 69. That leaves him at 8-under.

[00:24:44] >> Playing here for the first time. Finished -- Tied for 24th at the Sony Open on the PGA Tour. Harrison Frazar to get in the clubhouse at 14-under. I mean, it's a sum round. Eight --

[00:24:59] >> Birdies, an eagle, and just the one bogey. He shoots 63.

[00:25:12] >> Scott Parel has this putt for birdie.

[00:25:16] >> Scott was in contention a lot, Lanny, and had some wins and just --

[00:25:21] >> Had a terrible year last year for him.

[00:25:37][ Applause ]

[00:25:40] >> So nice finish. You kind of like the Hawaiian rep in the Georgia Bulldogs.

[00:25:45] >> I know. Yeah, I was thinking the same thing.

[00:25:50] >> Ernie for birdie at 18.

[00:26:00] >> Get him to 11. Just five back. Yes. There we go. Ernie made a putt.

[00:26:16] >> Yeah. Five-under 67 for the Hall of Famer.

[00:26:21] >> Alker is going to clean up. Get out of the way here.

[00:26:27] >> Tidy round of golf. Eagle and seven birdies.

[00:26:32] >> Bogey-free 63 for Steven Alker. And he'll head into the final round tomorrow with Harrison Frazar and Steve Stricker in that last group. And both of those players will start the Day 2 shots back.

[00:26:48] >> A chance for Vijay to get one shot closer. Get this to 9.

[00:26:53] >> After that nifty little cross-handed 47-yard low spinner, that was a heck of a shot.

[00:26:59] >> Yeah. Cookie, I was playing with -- Tucker and I, my son, were playing with Vijay and Cass in the PNC, and we're going along there. And on about the 13th hole, Vijay hits his cross-handed shot, and Tucker went, "Dad, Vijay just hit that cross-handed. What's he doing?" I said, "Playing really good golf."

[00:27:19] >> That he is.

[00:27:22] >> What a great way to finish.

[00:27:27] >> Bomb of a drive, 47-yard cross-handed pitch, one hopper check, birdie.

[00:27:34] >> And he's not the only one playing cross-handed this anymore. I mean, there are a couple of guys, regular tour, got in one US Open a couple of years ago. Chips and plays cross-handed around the greens.

[00:27:47] >> You're right.

[00:27:47] >> There are some guys that, you know, picking up on Vijay stuff.

[00:27:51] >> Steven Alker in search of his 8th win on the PGA Tour Champions in only his 54th start. He'll start the final round with a two shot lead after a bogey-free 63 today. Of course, defending champ Steve Stricker is right there. Harrison Frazar playing here for the first time. Ernie Els will start today five back. And David Toms and Justin Leonard, six back.

[00:28:20] >> PGAT Tour Champions kicking off the 2024 season and doing it in style in paradise at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, Kona Coast. Steven Alker, a runner up in each of the last two years, started the day with a two shot lead. He has a two shot lead over Steve Stricker and Harrison Frazar. Alker with birdies at the 1st and the 5th. And Ernie Els, who's coming off an eagle at the last hole, the par -5 7th on the tee at the 8th, 204 yards today.

[00:28:56] >> Two hundred and four yards downhill, hole location right in the left front. Do not want any part of that left bunker.

[00:29:06] >> What a good shot.

[00:29:09] >> That may be a hair deep, but that's still a wonderful play there by Ernie. Really nice shot.

[00:29:17] >> Take you over to the 8th. And David Toms has this putt for birdie to get to 14-under.

[00:29:22] >> Coming up the slope, moving right to left. He can be aggressive with this. Never got it high enough. David fighting the putt a little bit. Not quite as smooth as we saw him at times last year.

[00:29:34] >> John Cook, as Steven Alker eyeballed this putt for eagle, you know, sometimes when you win, you get some breaks. And he might have just gotten the break he needed.

[00:29:43] >> Yeah, absolutely. And that happens when you're winning and you're in a good spot. That ball bounces the way that you want it. And he's fortunate. He knows it. He was talking about it, kind of laughed about it.

[00:29:56] >> And you know --

[00:29:56] >> And kind of shrugged it off.

[00:29:57] >> And, you know, Cookie, according to -- From what Bob said -- Oh my goodness.

[00:30:02] >> Why don't he just make a three?

[00:30:04] >> How about that? I'm sitting there thinking, I don't know that I ever wonder. I didn't have an exceptional break somewhere. Those things happen when you win golf.

[00:30:13] >> Don't apologize for it.

[00:30:15] >> No, don't apologize for it because you get bad ones. And here's a guy that just -- That went from seven or eight to three.

[00:30:36] >> And Stricker and Harrison Frazar, who tied for second, and another three shots to the leader. So these guys have just -- Their -- With their play today, they've taken everybody else out of play.

[00:31:06] >> Like you said, drive the ball on the fairway. Don't give away the threes. And no three putts.

[00:31:11] >> No. And out here, you've got to think, I've got to birdie all the par 5s.

[00:31:14] >> Correct.

[00:31:15] >> So, if you were leading this tournament, one of my goals would be not to have a five on my card.

[00:31:20] >> That's the one thing that's kind of --

[00:31:24] >> Yeah.

[00:31:25] >> -- held Ernie back. He's got three wins, but with his talent and his swing and his game.

[00:31:31] >> He misses way too many putts like that, Bob. No question.

[00:31:39] >> Now, let's go out to 9. Steven Alker. And a lot of the players use it. We saw --

[00:31:44] >> Yeah.

[00:31:45] >> -- Steve Flesch in there this morning. We saw Dicky Pride, you know, using the cold plunge.

[00:31:51] >> I've seen guys at the workouts. I go work out in the morning and see them there. Justin Leonard said he missed you this morning.

[00:31:57] >> Well, I was there. I was on the bike first and I did about three circuits of weights. So I had a really nice workout for about an hour and 15 or so this morning.

[00:32:07] >> You have it?

[00:32:08] >> Yeah, it's good. Not exactly buffed out anymore, but I'm getting there. Trying.

[00:32:19] >> Steven Alker, just under 170, 169. A little bit of wind into him. This is a little tiny 7-iron.

[00:32:26] >> This hole is there for the taking from where he drove it.

[00:32:28] >> That should take a little to the right. Get onto the green. It should.

[00:32:33] >> Yes.

[00:32:33] >> OK.

[00:32:34] >> And another green. Oh, getting better. Now, Makeable.

[00:32:40] >> Steve Flesch was in the cold plunge this morning. He's got this for birdie.

[00:32:44] >> He and his son Griffin, who's caddying for Fred Couples this week, pours that in.

[00:32:52] >> Nice day for Steve.

[00:33:04] >> One sixty-two Harrison.

[00:33:07] >> Little 8-iron. Trying to play a little shot in here.

[00:33:12] >> Boy, he's got great speed.

[00:33:15] >> Yeah, way up in the air on a nice line.

[00:33:20] >> Oh, I guess. There you go.

[00:33:22][ Applause ]

[00:33:48] >> Let's see. Harrison, oh, yeah. Good work there. That wasn't much at all there.

[00:33:52] >> No, 130.

[00:33:53] >> Yeah. Well played.

[00:34:18] >> The one thing that has happened, he and his wife Nikki, are about to be empty nesters. And that -- you know, all of a sudden, well, let's just go play golf, you know?

[00:34:28] >> Yeah, that's a good point right there. Yeah.

[00:34:33][ Applause ]

[00:34:41] >> Now, back over at the 9th. Alker for par.

[00:34:44] >> Steven remains at 21-under, heading to the gettable 10th. His lead is 3-over Harrison Frazar, 4 over Stricker.

[00:34:56] >> There's a big putt here for Harrison. You know, this par 5, he, you know, driving normally, a mid-iron. Twenty-five feet now for birdie. Hate to come out of here with par.

[00:35:11] >> Yeah. This -- If he makes par here, it feels like bogey. I mean, you know, you're losing one to the field the way this hole has played this week.

[00:35:20] >> And he had a nice opportunity at the 8th, and he didn't make that one either.

[00:35:27] >> He's 4-under on his round, making the turn.

[00:35:29] >> Yeah.

[00:35:29] >> It's not like he's not doing anything.

[00:35:31] >> No.

[00:35:31] >> He's -- Yeah, he's lost. He's having a nice round so far, but you know, he's got a no hitter going on this hole.

[00:35:40] >> How about it?

[00:35:40] >> Great eraser.

[00:35:41] >> Until then.

[00:35:42] >> Big, big putt for Harrison Frazar.

[00:35:44] >> How about that?

[00:35:46] >> So that gets Frazar to 19-under. And he's now two back. Alker still has a lengthy birdie putt. Stricker has a short birdie putt. Stricker taps in because of the line of where Alker's ball is going to come from. So Steve gets to 18-under.

[00:36:15] >> Hold your tickets here. We got a new story.

[00:36:17] >> Yeah. So Alker --

[00:36:18] >> I think that was the wrong club on the second shot, Cookie. Instead of 5-iron --

[00:36:22] >> No doubt. Yeah.

[00:36:23] >> Five-iron, 6-iron would have been just right.

[00:36:27] >> At the par-3 12th, David Toms for birdie.

[00:36:34] >> Nice roll there. That putterhead released beautifully.

[00:36:40] >> So that moves him to 14-under.

[00:36:44] >> Chance on solo fourth right now.

[00:36:48] >> Jerry Kelly over at 16. You know, Jerry is going to be excited to watch his packers play the Forty Niner today.

[00:36:55] >> Oh, good putt. Right up the slope for Jerry.

[00:36:58] >> Now, Jerry went 36 holes without making a bogey. Made his first bogey of the week at the second hole, and then look at what he's done since then.

[00:37:09] >> Seven birdies to get to 12-under.

[00:37:23][ Applause ]

[00:37:26] >> He's right there. I mean, he's -- That would have got him within one lead. Then things started getting a little tighter.

[00:37:37] >> But don't you have to stay in the moment, right?

[00:37:39] >> Yes, 100%.

[00:37:42] >> Stricker with more than he bargained for for par here.

[00:37:46] >> Yeah, about 2.5 feet, 3 feet.

[00:37:58][ Applause ]

[00:38:11] >> And good putt there by Fred Couples.

[00:38:14][ Applause ] This is David Toms at 13. Up the hill, moving a little right to left. No problem.

[00:38:31] >> David was nearly a winner here 2019. Tom Lehman chased him down.

[00:38:37] >> Take you back to the 12th. Frazar is still away for par. And I wonder if there's any kind of carryover from that short missed birdie putt at the last to get to within one.

[00:38:47] >> Yeah, I don't think so. I think it was just a mistake with the approach shot. He really cannot put it in that right bunker and he knows that.

[00:38:54] >> Yeah, he didn't have any play at all, but what a battle and a great three.

[00:38:58] >> He's in grind mode. This is good to see. It's good stuff for Harrison just to grind this thing out and stay in touch.

[00:39:08] >> Yeah. He really, on that second shot out of the bunker, had nothing. Didn't have a very good lie. The narrowest part of the green.

[00:39:14] >> Yeah.

[00:39:14] >> Like you said, he had to take a real chance to get it close. But out of there with a three.

[00:39:21] >> How about the read for Stricker?

[00:39:22] >> Yeah, perfect. They were 8 inches away from each other. So, Steve got a great preview for this putt.

[00:39:38] >> Stricker currently three back.

[00:39:52] >> I'm going to say he pretty much needs this one.

[00:39:55] >> He needs something to happen. And that did not happen. Good try. But once again, Alker is sitting here with a chance to extend his lead.

[00:40:07] >> And we talked about it. There's no real danger coming down the stretch here. There's --

[00:40:14] >> No, there's some lava out there, Cookie. But you've got to hit really bad shots --

[00:40:18] >> Yes.

[00:40:19] >> -- to get to it.

[00:40:20] >> Yeah.

[00:40:20] >> And with --

[00:40:20] >> Today -- And with today's hole location, it's 17.

[00:40:23] >> The 17. Exactly.

[00:40:24] >> The lava is not even in play.

[00:40:25] >> Not even in play. No.

[00:40:26] >> He hasn't missed a shot in two days really. So --

[00:40:29] >> Yeah.

[00:40:29] >> I'm not seeing that happening. So there's no real danger, no real issues for him. Might make a bogey. Haven't seen one yet from him. He got a good opportunity right here to extend that lead.

[00:40:50] >> Well, Alker has only made one bogey this week. And that came on the 8th hole of Round 1. And he shot 1-under on his opening round, then shot 30 on the incoming nine and shot a bogey-free 63 yesterday. And boom.

[00:41:06] >> Boom, baby.

[00:41:07] >> Wow. He is playing his own little tournament right now. Just staying focused on what he's trying to accomplish.

[00:41:16] >> Stricker won last year at 23-under. If you're wondering, the 54-hole low is 25-under, set by Loren Roberts in 2011, the year that our man John Cook won the tournament at 22-under.

[00:41:32] >> Scott McCarron trying to finish his day up with birdie. Currently at 4-under.

[00:41:39] >> Got it all the way back to the back of the green and buries it. Nice putt.

[00:41:44][ Applause ]

[00:41:49] >> Mark Hensby has this putt for birdie. You know, when guys win for the first time on the PGA Tour Champions, obviously, they're excited to win. But one of the other things that they always say in their post-round interview is now I've earned a spot at Hualalai.

[00:42:02] >> Yeah, yeah. And they're excited to get here. Hensby had a nice win in a playoff in Dallas last year, but really hasn't done anything since.

[00:42:09] >> Darren Clarke has this putt for birdie at 16.

[00:42:14] >> From -- Yeah. From this angle, this is pretty much uphill. He can give this one the full treatment.

[00:42:19] >> So far, he's bogey-free today. Darren, 3-under on the front. So far, 3-under on the back. He'll stay 3-under on the back today.

[00:42:42] >> David Toms has this putt for eagle.

[00:42:48] >> Which would get him to 17-under. So that short one.

[00:42:56] >> Yeah. Easy birdie. Easy birdie.

[00:43:03] >> He's currently in sole possession at fourth place.

[00:43:08] >> Stewart Cink is making a run. He's birdied four of his first five on the second nine to get to 14-under.

[00:43:18] >> So Toms now at 16-under.

[00:43:24] >> K.J. Choi has this putt for birdie.

[00:43:26] >> Get in. Get in.

[00:43:33] >> Good putt there for K.J. coming across it pretty flat around that hole at 17. I can see some holes -- some putts made there. How about this little run of birdies for K.J.? Nothing --

[00:43:44] >> Hasn't made a par on the back nine.

[00:43:45] >> No, nothing resembling a par on the second nine at all.

[00:43:50] >> Over at the par-3 17th, Scott Parel.

[00:43:53] >> And he rolls that in for birdie. Two behind Toms for solo fourth.

[00:44:01] >> Rocco Mediate celebrated his 10-year wedding anniversary yesterday with wife Jessica. Has this for birdie.

[00:44:09] >> All the way across the green. And yes.

[00:44:12] >> Five hundred sixty-seven for Rocco. Finishes at 12-under.

[00:44:21] >> Up at the green, another birdie opportunity for David Toms. This would be four in a row.

[00:44:33] >> Why not? Now, the putter wakes up.

[00:44:41] >> Over at 16. Hall of Famer Vijay Singh has this putt for birdie.

[00:44:46] >> Down the slope, moving left. Yes.

[00:44:49] >> Vijay and Steven Alker shared the lead after Round 1 at 7-under par. Vijay not able to get anything going yesterday. Shot 70 as the sun pass on the bag, though. And a little high five. Vijay, Alker with a four shot lead, playing the 15th.

[00:45:18] >> Frazar for birdie. Moving to solo second.

[00:45:21] >> Yeah, not much to this. Nice little wedge shot in there.

[00:45:31] >> Right edge. Gets it out there. Good read, good touch. Beautiful. That's a well-played hole for Harrison. Staying in touch, keeping a little bit of heat on him. Might need to run it to the house to get him.

[00:45:49] >> Take you back to 16. John Cook, Steven Alker getting ready to play his second.

[00:45:54] >> Yeah, he's got it back there pretty far. He's 159 yards. Nothing really guarding this hole location. There's a little bit of a slope he can use to the right.

[00:46:05] >> Kind of surprised they used this hole location, Cookie. It's way out in the open.

[00:46:09] >> Yeah. It really is.

[00:46:10] >> I thought they'd tuck it over in the left front right against that bunker today.

[00:46:13] >> Trying to cut it into this right hole location. Good looking golf shot.

[00:46:18] >> Yeah. Another excellent play by Alker. Another look at birdie. He's just got an uphill look with no speed issues at all from there.

[00:46:34] >> Stricker to match Frazar for 20-under.

[00:46:39] >> And a tie for second.

[00:46:45][ Applause ]

[00:46:53] >> Only misstep for Stricker was the first hole. Hit his tee shot off to the right. Steven Alker to try to get to 24-under.

[00:47:04] >> Yeah. Fifteen feet here. Not much break.

[00:47:07] >> That was always right. That had to go a little right. And he started it actually kind of right edge. Not sure if that was the push or a misread.

[00:47:19] >> Well -- So par for Stewart Cink, 66 today.

[00:47:38] >> Yeah, his lowest round of the week.

[00:47:43] >> Now, back at 17. Steven Alker has this for birdie to get to 24-under par.

[00:47:49] >> And just to confirm, Troy Martin said, that's a little right of where were aiming. We were aiming about 12, 15 feet left, but a good strike nonetheless. Now, it's 5 feet for birdie. Get to 24-under par.

[00:48:04] >> They're even going in the edges for him. Good putt. Nice two. As if there was any doubt.

[00:48:22] >> So now, Stricker for par.

[00:48:26] >> To stay in a tie for second with Frazar.

[00:48:39] >> Yeah. It looks like to be about 3, 3.5 feet. Not much in this. Pretty flat around this hole right here. Maybe right center for Strick.

[00:49:00] >> Yup. Nice three. Not what he was looking for, though.

[00:49:07] >> You kind of wonder if the two shots that Frazar and Stricker hit right in front of Alker didn't make Alker shot a little simpler coming in here too.

[00:49:21] >> Frazar with a par. So he stays at 20-under, four back.

[00:49:30] >> Now, Alker for his birdie. And John, we've seen so many guys from this angle missed the putt to the right.

[00:49:38] >> Yeah, we know this putt. We know this putt. I actually made this putt to get in the playoff with David Frost because I knew this didn't break. Doesn't break at all.

[00:49:46] >> That was in 2013, where then John birdied the second extra hole to beat David Frost. John was bogey-free that week. Fifty-six holes with no bogeys.

[00:50:02] >> Stress. No stress.

[00:50:07] >> Did he hit it?

[00:50:08] >> Why not?

[00:50:10] >> Did he hit it? Did he hit it? Yes, sir. Steven Alker with a birdie on the last hole. Finishes at 25-under, wins the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai. And he matches Loren Roberts low 54 total set back in 2011 at 25-under.

[00:50:44] >> His 8th win in his 54th start.

[00:50:47] >> That was some performance this weekend for Steven Alker. That just never looked like anything but a win.

[00:51:02] >> Frazar for birdie and solo second.

[00:51:03] >> Good for Harrison. An extra $100,000 or so for him.

[00:51:04] >> In his first time ever here at Hualalai too.

[00:51:06] >> Yes. Yeah.

[00:51:06] >> Now, Stricker for his par. So the defending champ gave it a run. He shot 20-under. But Alker was just better shooting 25-under par.

[00:51:22] >> And good for Harrison Frazar. Being put in the last group with two of the leading players out here and to hold his own all day, that was a great performance by Harrison. Congratulations to him getting this year started as well.

[00:51:37] >> One more look at Steven Alker sealing the deal with a birdie at 18. After runner up finishes in his first two trips around Hualalai, Steven Alker will now enjoy the ceremony as he is the champion here in 2024, a bogey-free 9-under 63.