**2024 PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS LEARNING CENTER SHOW #3**

VO > The PGA Tour Champions Learning Center.

OC > Let's Go.

VO > PGA Tour champions players made their way across the globe for the third event of the season trophy. Hassan Good.

OC > Just stop.

OC > Get out of here! Get out!

VO > Boarding their chartered flight from Miami to Morocco, a nine plus hour trek.

OC > How are you doing?

VO > On this February date? Word February dates served to passengers as they settled in for the journey.

OC > Hello. How are you?

OC > Yes, please.

OC > Honey, look there’s dates. It your favorite get two.

OC > I’ll pass on those.

OC > No thank you. That's very kind of you. Thank you anyway.

OC > You’re welcome.

OC > Thank you very much.

OC > So I'm going to have a date and a walnut and a sleep.

OC > I love a good date.

OC > I don't like a good date, so I am good.

OC > Date.

OC > It looks like something that come out of a coon butt. Gonna tell you right now. I will try anything once. What they gonna say? We ‘re gonna have fun…

VO > For many players like Miguel Angel Jimenez, it has been a career of international travel and tournaments. The mechanics, breezy approach to golf and life serving him well. Players in this field setting foot on another continent, Northern Africa and the capital city of Rabat. Let's move now from the grind of travel to the glory of the game.

VO > This man, Argentinean Ricardo Gonzalez, offered a life changing round Saturday in Morocco. Following a bogey on 12, Gonzalez goes on a birdie tear. Here's one on 15 to tie for the lead at nine under. Denmark's Thomas Bjorn on 15. This for par and it does not go Bjorn now trails by one. Back to Gonzalez now at 16 and his second shot is a beauty. Sticks it and posts a fourth consecutive birdie. His lead now two at ten under par. But there was a lot of fight left in the veteran Bjorn playing on a sponsor's exemption. The Great Dane just muscles this and drives the green at 17. That results in a birdie at the par four and he is again just one back then at the last Bjorn stands over a birdie try to tie for the lead. No opening the door for Gonzalez who walks right through despite a three putt at the last it didn't matter.

VO > And there it is Ricardo Gonzalez. Earned a spot here based on his money list position on The European Senior Tour and beats an accomplished field here in Morocco.

VO > A closing three under par 70 to hold off Bjorn by a shot. The 54-year-old, who has played mostly in Europe, is an instant member of PGA Tour champions with an emotional victory at ten under. More on that in just a moment. But first, a word from our winner.

OC VO > Three little birdie…very happy and very emotional. Everything is inside my body. And I work I wo so much to be here. And this is my my trophy. No, this I like that I like too much, especially the last four or five holes. It’s very good. It's like Argentina, a lot of trees. And I need to focus on and say to my son and on 13 I say…play like at home and and and do that. I feeling so so good so good.

VO > With the victory Gonzalez steps instantly on two PGA Tour champions a $320,000 check, full membership on the tour, a two year exemption into the season opening event at Hualalai as well as entry into all five of this season's major championships on the over 50 circuit. Welcome, Ricardo Gonzalez, your winner in Morocco.

VO > Richard Green, earned his way onto PGA Tour champions through Q School in 2022. He made his debut as a member in Morocco last year and went on to finish tied for third. It was an early indication that Green could compete on this tour. He ended up finishing 15th in the Charles Schwab Cup standings. Green has already started the 2024 season off strong, but he is still hungry for that first victory.

OC VO > The result last year was fantastic through the year. I was really pleased with the way I played golf and, you know, hoping to sort of emulate the same sort of golf this year, you know? And, you know, it's wonderful to be out here with all the guys and the guys that I've looked up to all my career. And, you know, you know, even though, you know, Stephen Ames and Ernie Els and Alker, Steve Stricker had a great year last year and and they're winning. And, you know, I'd love to to get into their position. And I know how hard it is to beat them. So, I'm going to be working just as hard, if not harder, to try to get myself into that position to win again and see how we go. I proved to myself last year that I can that I can compete out here. And, you know, it's winning winning's definitely on the cards. You know, you can never I can never really for foresee it, you know, something you just got to go out and work hard for and and try and do your best in your preparation and, you know, hit every shot as good as you can and hope for a great result. And and that's what I'll do. And hopefully find myself in a in a position to win on Sunday again, like I did in Richmond last year. You know, I felt like I was as close as I was going to get last year, you know, as close as I got, anyway. You know, without really going that step further. But I mean, that's just that's just the game, isn't it? It's like it's a bit of luck in that in that in that final. Instance, if. you need the game to go your way a little bit sometimes and it didn't that that week, but you know hopefully someway this this week or this year and hopefully somewhere along the line I'll do alright.

VO > Coming up, when Brett Quigley is not collecting wins as he did in Morocco in 2020, he's collecting cars and does them dirty. We go mudding with Brett and his newest ride where it's all about spinning your wheels.

VO > In February 2020, Brett Quigley claimed victory at Trophy Hassan. However, weeks later, the COVID 19 pandemic altered the landscape of competitions worldwide, including those on PGA Tour champions. It wasn't until last year that Quigley secured his second trophy, winning the Constellation Furyk and Friends. Beyond his success on the course, Quigley finds joy in collecting watches and Legos and cars. We recently spent the day with Brett to learn more about his latest automotive acquisition.

OC VO > We've got possibly one of the coolest cars, trucks, vehicles ever made. The INEOS Grenadiers. Awesome, absolutely incredible vehicle built after the Land Rover 110. I think I've been on the waiting list for over two years. Great story. A couple of buddies are just talking about that. They love the old-style defender Land Rover, but it's not very practical. It's not new, it's not new brakes, new engine, new whatever. They decide to do it from scratch. And this is what they've come up with, and I don't think they could have done it any better. I used to own a Defender 110 My Christmas has come a little early here. I've got a shell blue Grenadier field master, and I've got the key right here to this vehicle that is mine. And I'm really excited to show you the best part about this entire thing. Hop in here. It's a nice big step. We wait for it. I love that sound. I mean, look at the toggles, look at the switches, the design here, a little bit of a throwback, looks a little bit like an airplane cockpit. Some toggles again up top here. Two great sunroofs here. Or you get those, you can pop them up, take them out. I mean, just everything they've thought of everything in this vehicle. And it's modern enough. They've used BMW Engine, a lot of other parts that are readily accessible throughout the world. For me, cars are art. I mean, the automotive automobile's an amazing thing for me. I grew up with the posters on my wall desiring like Porsches and just old cars, Camaros from the early seventies, late sixties, Mustangs, any of those cars. It doesn't make sense to have more than one car. I've had at times more than one car, but I'm working on pairing it down. Maybe this will be the answer to all my prayers and just have one car. So, what's cool to is these these things will pop up, as you can see, or you can take them completely off, which will be fun. There's storage sack in the back there and keep it and just go almost convertible, but kind of the best of both worlds. So, if you get a little bit of rain, you won't get to it. But I like everything about owning a car. I love the way they look. I love the way they smell; I love the way they sound. And then any of the switches here, I mean, just listen to that. Absolutely love the sound. I mean, they they just nailed it. They got it right. When I come home after a couple of weeks on the road, I like cleaning cars. It's kind of my therapy, but it's it's kind of my I would say my decompression, my therapy. After some time on the road. A little bit of path to there's the BMW six-cylinder turbo and it's got some if you need to catch a light or and get out of the way of somebody and not exceed the speed limit just get up to speed limit is perfect. Whether you have like a goal zero power source, automatic refrigerator or a cooler and center console. So, it's going to have the ability to to handle all of this stuff, which is absolutely incredible.

VO > You can live in this.

OC > Absolutely. And maybe when the girls get out of high school, Amy, and I'll just be traveling the country in this thing, a little rooftop tent and instead of travel around like maybe ten or so, guys have busses. I might I might have to try this out for a couple of weeks. I might have to convince Amy to do it, though.

OC > Hey, I'm Brett Quigley. I'm a PGA Tour champions player, and I'm here with Thomas and he's going to explain in a little bit what we're going to do today.

OC > I'm Thomas Corsi. I'm with Pullman INEOS Grenadiers. We're going to take the INEOS Grenadiers out today. Got a little rain, got a little mud. We're going to get out there and see what they can do.

OC VO > Yeah, we're going to test the suspension this morning. Certainly, even on the flat roads with all the whoopsie doo here in the morning. Is their big smile on my face? Water up over the side.

OC > That was worth the whole day right there.

VO OC > After a great morning, driving through a bunch of water, some marsh, some fields, every which way, but loose, I'm ready to do a little more driving, but maybe some driving that I'm a little more comfortable with. Got a glove and a club and see if I can hit a few out here. And this is a pretty nice field to be hitting some drives into it. I like and it's wide enough, that's for sure.

VO > Still ahead on PGA Tour Champions Learning Center Tales from the Road, Fred Couples chronicles a time when he had to have last minute acupuncture shortly before a pro-am in South Korea. Freddie and Joe LaCava will have you on pins and needles.

VO > Last week, golf demonstrated its reach with tournaments spanning the globe. The PGA Tour champions teed off in Morocco while PGA Tour players were competing in Mexico. Later this week, the Korn Ferry Tour will compete in Argentina while golf remains consistent across borders, the diverse cultures surrounding the sport offer unique experiences as we learn in this edition of Couples Chronicles, Fred Couples and Joe LaCava discovered this firsthand at an event in South Korea three decades ago.

OC VO > Way back in the early nineties. I get invited to go play in Korea at the SK Telecom Classic, which is a very small tournament over there. But K.J.'s the leader of the pack and he somehow invited me. So, we fly over there, Joe comes. He doesn't go to every European event or in Asia very often, but I talk him into going. So, we get there, and I meet the person in charge, and I think it's a husband wife running the event. So, the next morning we wake up, Joe and I go have breakfast and they leave a little earlier and we eat a little bit more. And I get up like this to leave the table and my back goes out. So, I look at Joe, but I don't say anything. So, I go to my room. We have to be ready in about 45 minutes and I can't move. I call Joe as my agent and I said, Joe, you have to call them. I cannot move. So, I call also. And she says, I just had breakfast with you. You're kidding me, right? I said, No. So now Joe will take over the story because I wasn't really sure where we went or what I did, but Joe saw it all.

OC VO > Well, yeah, you hit it right on the head. So anyways, this actually is a big tournament over there because K.J. Choi is the headliner at the time and he's the best Korean golfer of all time. And Fred had just won the Masters, so he was kind of like the hottest guy in golf. And like Fred says, we're having breakfast, Everything's kind of normal. But, you know, before that, we flew somewhere to L.A. and then L.A. to Seoul, South Korea. So, it was a very, very long flight. And Fred seems okay at the time. And like you said, the people left, so they don't really see what happen When he came out of the chair, and I could tell he was kind of bothered by it. But I've actually seen that reaction before. So, I said, okay, he'll it'll be all right once he gets moving and get out to the golf course and maybe a few golf balls. And then obviously this is pre cell phones. So, he calls me and my room and says, I can't I can't move. I can't. I can't do this. You got to tell. I don't remember the lady's name. You got to get a hold of her and tell her I can't go bop, bop. So, we both kind of get a hold of her. And she says, absolutely not. I said, what do you mean, absolutely not? She goes, absolutely not. He cannot not play today. I said, I got news for you, lady. I said, He physically can't play. What do you want me to do? You want me to drag him around in a golf cart? I mean, I don't know what to tell you. She's goes, no, he has to play today. You know, that's a fact. And she goes, we’ll pick you up out front at 9:00. Both of you be ready. And she was pretty tough. And I thought to myself, you know, once I'm okay for a while, then when somebody starts to bust me around and then I got an issue. So, I don't want her telling me what I need to do or what Fred needs to do. My guy can't even walk, let alone play golf. She goes, I have someone he can go see. I promise you this lady will fix him up. And I said, well, I find this very, very hard to believe. I will call his rooms, you know, I'll call his room. So, she called the room. Somehow, she saw Fred in there, maybe, you know, somehow crawling basically down to the lobby and get into the lobby and then kind of going from there. So, now it's nine or ten in the morning, a van pulls around. Fred really can't sit. You know, he can kind of he can walk gingerly, but he can't really sit. He knows sitting is not going to be good for him. So basically, I think you end up in the back of the van. Right?

OC > Right, I lay down. Yeah.

OC VO > Yeah. He laid down in the back of the van, still going to the place. And the lady is adamant that Fred's got a plate. So, I said, okay, whatever. So, we're dodging this going downtown. We're in Seoul. South Korea is a million people honking. There's people everywhere, whatever. So, we kind of all of a sudden, you know, 10 minutes into the journey, we pull overlooking like double park and we get out and she's like, we're here. I’m like what do you mean we are here? And so, we're not near the golf course. I figured maybe it's going to be someone at the golf course is going to help Fred out. So, she goes, we're here in the middle of downtown Seoul, South Korea, and I think most what is going on here. So, we go into this like back Dungy room that smells it's nasty. And there's a bunch of people in there and there's people running around and there's people on tables getting work done the whole nine yards. And I'm thinking myself, what have we gotten ourselves into? And so, they tell Fred and then the ladies and they're all talking Korean, so we don't have any idea what's going on. And in fact.

OC > No English for 45 minutes.

OC VO > Right. And the lady who's running the tournament is now going into Korean mode. So, she's going back and forth with the one lady obviously is basically saying, you know, my job or my butts on the line, you need to fix this guy. I'm guessing that's what they were talking about. And there's like, I said, there's people everywhere. So, they throw Fred up on the table, you know, 15, 20 minutes later, there are as God’s my witness there's I don't even know what you call when you do acupuncture, but there's 15 or 20, maybe 25 little needles sticking out in every part of your body. I mean, there's two or three lined up on the nose. There was eight or ten on the forehead, a couple in the ear, some in your lower back and some, I think in your ankle and feet.

VO > A lot of feet. Yeah.

VO OC > Yeah. A lot of times feet. I'm probably more than 20 or 25. And so we're sitting there for like 15 or 20 minutes and these two ladies are still going at it. And like I said, as people run around like a hospital, basically more or less. And Fred kind of, you know, finally gets up from the chair and kind of gives me one of these and gives me one of these and goes, you know what? My back actually feels pretty good right now. And I'm like, well, no, your back feels pretty good right now. I said, they have needles in your nose, in your ears and your feet. Yeah. I said, you heard everywhere else. And but your back, of course it works. And so long story short, you can take it from here.

OC VO > No, I ended up not playing that day. And as Joe was saying, we'll go, we'll end it. But I was playing with the SK Telecom bigwigs. I didn't play. I went out to the course. We said hi, could not play, but the next day I played, and I actually played okay, and they gave me, I want to say it was phyton or phytin. I know the logo, and this is 30 years ago, and I still have some in my drawer because they gave me, I had so many little patches on my hands when I was playing. But it was just incredible that where we went, no English, people working on me and I was as nervous as I've ever been, but they helped me out. So, it was kind of a fun trip. How ‘s that?

OC > There you have.

VO > While acupuncture has its roots in ancient China, its practice has become widespread and certainly recognized as more conventional treatment. Fred shared that he has since relied on acupuncture procedures several times to alleviate his back pain. And that's that in Rabat, another international stop and one more event down on PGA Tour champions. It's the Cologuard Classic next month in less exotic but also lovely, Tucson, Arizona. I'm Vince Cellini. As always. We thank you for watching.