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[00:00:46] >> The PGA Tour Champions proudly present the season-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup. Today from Duluth, Georgia, it's live first round coverage of the Mitsubishi Electric Classic. PGA Tour Champions and the PGA Tour rich tradition in the Greater Atlanta area, you go about, I don't know, 30 minutes north and you're in Duluth, Georgia. And for the 11th consecutive year, TPC Sugarloaf playing host to the Mitsubishi Electric Classic. Greg Norman design, opened in 1995, par 72, just over 7,200 yards. We've had some great champions over the year. The only two time winners, Steve Flesch and Stephen Ames. Stephen Ames, your defending champion here at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic. The conditions are ideal. There's been no rain in the area. Kenny Perry is off to a fast start. He's at 3-under par. Fred Funk, Ken Duke, Lee Janzen, all at 2-under par as action is just getting underway on this Friday. Paul Broadhurst playing his third at the par-5 10th, his opening hold. Broadhurst obviously emotional last week getting that win. It's his 6th win on the PGA Tour Champions. He's got a couple of majors, but when you haven't won since 2018, you know, you start to maybe question yourself a little bit. Steven Alker, short of the green at ten. So this is his third at the par 5, his first hole of the day.

[00:02:23] >> You can get some crazy lies on your third shot here at 10, but that is from a really nice position. That's a wonderful shot.

[00:02:33] >> Steve Flesch, who won this event twice, has his birdie putt at the 10th, and drops it in.

[00:02:39][ Applause ]

[00:02:50] >> Broadhurst looks at the hole while he strikes his putt, and it goes right in. So he opens his round with a birdie at the 10th.

[00:03:01] >> Mark Hensby over at the par-4 12th. This very fast.

[00:03:08] >> What do you call that dripping speed?

[00:03:11] >> Holing speed. Yeah.

[00:03:12] >> Holing speed. Trip it down there.

[00:03:15] >> Take it back over to 10. And Stewart Cink ready to play his third shot.

[00:03:21] >> Yeah. Stewart got well through the green. He must smash that 3-wood. Three-wood went, I don't know, from 285 yards at least. Anyway, it looks like he's got a lot of green to play with. He really doesn't. Kind of short sighted.

[00:03:37] >> Chipping cross-handed now.

[00:03:38] >> He's got the cross hand, left hand low, also going to drive it in there nice and low with a check up that little slope.

[00:03:48] >> Nice.

[00:03:48] >> I think that is pretty well done from there. That was not that easy of a shot.

[00:03:58] >> Well, all three players in this group missed the green with their seconds and have great looks for birdie.

[00:04:07] >> Yeah. Stephen Ames out of that bunker on that downhill light, a real nice shot.

[00:04:11] >> About 6 feet.

[00:04:14] >> Once you get on the proper kind of levels of these greens, there's not a whole lot of break around the cup, so can't do a whole lot. Good start there for Stephen.

[00:04:24][ Applause ]

[00:04:34] >> Retief had a beautiful little pitch shot in there. Nice and low with one of those little spinners. There you go. Good start for this group.

[00:04:48] >> Over at the 11th, Steven Alker for birdie. After a wonderful tee shot, scared the hole and just touches it down the slope and it drops.

[00:05:02] >> Nice start for Alker.

[00:05:08] >> Second for Rocco at 13. Not off to a great start.

[00:05:14] >> Well, there aren't many guys that can hit a shot like this, but Rocco can. He's going to throw it up and spin it. Yeah, that's well done. But watch. Still is going to run out. But that was a wonderful shot.

[00:05:25] >> Hey, you can't hit a better shot than that.

[00:05:28] >> Over at 13, after a nice bunker shot, Jaidee for birdie.

[00:05:33] >> Wow. Beautiful.

[00:05:35] >> Rocco Mediate for birdie at 13.

[00:05:44] >> Well, he's seen two putts similar distance, Parel and Yang, so no problem.

[00:05:54] >> Now, Alker's second at 13.

[00:05:56] >> Put a lot of spin on this. Another good one. Go in. Go in.

[00:06:06] >> Well, we've seen some incredible pitch shots.

[00:06:14] >> Alker for birdie at 13.

[00:06:16] >> Straight up the hill. Nothing in this. Good start for Alker.

[00:06:27] >> Tricky little second shot for Cink at 13.

[00:06:30] >> Yeah, a little bit. I mean, it's fairly straightforward, but the catch has to be perfect and you get that first check and spin and then just let it release down that hill. Contact and catch has to be spot on here, though. There's that little check and then release down the hill.

[00:06:55] >> Very good.

[00:06:55] >> That's going to -- That's not done yet.

[00:06:58] >> It's pretty well done. Really well done.

[00:07:00] >> Really good.

[00:07:00] >> Outstanding.

[00:07:06] >> It was fast.

[00:07:08] >> Alker for his birdie at 14. The amazing thing about Vijay is we all know about the foot and ankle problems that he has that will eventually need surgery, which will stop him from being able to play competitive golf. Think about the walk for 72 holes at Augusta. Nice birdie there by Alker. And plus the practice rounds and the preparation.

[00:07:35] >> Stephen Ames for birdie at 14.

[00:07:38] >> Yeah, Peter, you're right. If you can get it to this spot right here, this is about an easy a putt as you can have on this green. Not much break. Goes uphill a little bit. Might try to wiggle to the right, but not much.

[00:07:59] >> Yeah.

[00:08:00] >> Confidence stroke.

[00:08:01] >> Yeah.

[00:08:02] >> There's just not much room from the fairway, John. You don't want to be hit left of that flag.

[00:08:06] >> Might have had a little anxiety in there for a minute or so, but good birdie.

[00:08:11] >> Look at that card.

[00:08:15] >> Here's Alker for his birdie at 15 to get to 5-under.

[00:08:22] >> Wow.

[00:08:23] >> Great start for the leader in the Charles Schwab Cup standings. Stewart Cink for back to back birdies.

[00:08:31] >> And you have to be careful with this one. This has got some quick to it. It will move a little bit right to left.

[00:08:41] >> Beautiful approach shot in here. Take advantage.

[00:08:45] >> He knows what that putt does. He's played here a few times.

[00:08:51] >> Ken Tanigawa for birdie at 18, his ninth hole of the day. That gets him to even as he makes the turn. Heath Slocum has this for eagle at the par-5 18th.

[00:09:19] >> There you go.

[00:09:24] >> Hole location, you hit a good drive and then, you know, you flirt with that bunker down the right side, that ball will get close.

[00:09:33] >> Stephen Ames has a chance for birdie here at 15.

[00:09:37] >> Beautiful approach shot. Just a couple of feet. Be a little careful. Got some speed.

[00:09:46] >> Good three. Back to back birdies on two tough holes.

[00:09:53] >> Look at that. He pared 13, the one you would think should have no problem in 14, 15. That's the tough par 4s back here.

[00:10:07] >> Goosen for his par.

[00:10:10] >> Yeah. Exquisite pitch shot. OK.

[00:10:15] >> Let's see if Rocco, after that really cool shot into 17, can pay it off with the birdie.

[00:10:23] >> How about Roc's hoodie? Looks like he picked that up at a Grateful Dead concert. There's some merch. Leaving the show with some merch.

[00:10:34] >> Retief Goosen won on this property, went on the PGA Tour, has this for birdie at 16.

[00:10:42] >> Beautiful approach. Beautiful tee shot. Now, 6 feet straight up the hill. Might work to the right just a little bit if it loses speed. Yes. Gets in that left edge. Nice two.

[00:10:59] >> Miguel Angel Jimenez in a really nice shot into 15 for his birdie 14. The 2014 champion gets back to 1-under. Well, this is about as loose a round for Stephen Ames as we've seen in a long time, John.

[00:11:19] >> Yeah, no doubt about it. We have seen him very untidy today. He just hit some very loose shots. Like that bunker shot was not very difficult. It was a little bit closer than Stewart Cink, on an upslope. But he caught it heavy and kind of gathered to here. So, for birdie, trying to battle one back, he captures that one. Like I said, this is just a loose round of go for Stephen.

[00:11:56] >> After a beautiful bunker shot here, Stewart Cink straight up the hill. This to get under par, which would not have said back there after the 12th hole.

[00:12:14] >> Nice birdie for Stewart Cink. He stabilized things. He's at 1-under as he makes the turn and heads to one. Paul Broadhurst for birdie at the second. David Bransdon earlier today, using a 9-iron, made the 11th ace in the history of the Mitsubishi Electric Classic. The golf course is much drier and the players are taking advantage of it right now. Doug Barron, 6-under, leads, Paul Broadhurst by one, Ken Duke by one, and Shane Bertsch just a shot back, with Steven Alker at 4-under leading that group, including World Golf Hall of Famer Retief Goose. And it's setting up for a fun rest of the afternoon. And obviously, action coming up this weekend. Steven Alker, who won the season opener, the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, shares the lead with Paul Broadhurst here in Round 2 of the Mitsubishi Electric Classic. Today from Duluth, Georgia, it's live second round coverage of the Mitsubishi Electric Classic. In its 11th year, TPC Sugarloaf playing host to the Mitsubishi Electric Classic. Greg Norman design, opened in 1995. Par 72, just under 7,200 yards, and the golf course is playing firm and fast. But the best of the PGA Tour Champions taking advantage of the scoring conditions. And on a Saturday, what a great way to spend the day. Get some autographs from Hall of Famers and legendary players and watch some great golf. Good to see the kids out. John Senden has an awkward second shot at 13.

[00:14:06] >> Yeah. He can only see the top half of the flag.

[00:14:11] >> He's got to aim out to the right and then let the slope do its thing, right?

[00:14:14] >> He's got to put a lot of spin on it. That ball. It's not bad, but this is a hole that the players come to hear the 13th and think, "I've got to make birdie because everybody else is."

[00:14:34] >> Senden for birdie at 13.

[00:14:41] >> There you go. Come on. Easier hole location today here. Yesterday was on that front part of the green and almost impossible to stop it coming down the slope. Today, a little bit easier. Still, it's a challenge. Big, long green with tremendous amount of tilt.

[00:15:02] >> Take it back over to 13. Our final group getting ready to play their second shots. Doug Barron will be first.

[00:15:10] >> I think overall, it's left to right. When I got a foot where I got to fly it. Yeah, I think I just fly it 6 feet on there.

[00:15:17] >> Yup, you're doing it 6 feet on. Definitely left to right.

[00:15:20] >> Definitely has the easier of the three shots. Both Shane Bertsch and Steven Alker are in the bunker, basically right together. So, this is all about the catch. If you can -- You know, the catch can spin it, and then just let it release out.

[00:15:37] >> Yeah. It's just active hands here at the bottom, John.

[00:15:40] >> Yup. Got to hold that face open, let the grooves chew up that golf ball. Look like he kind of dumped it.

[00:15:46] >> It's going right.

[00:15:48] >> And he barely get it on the green on the left-hand side.

[00:15:53] >> I landed it right at the pin.

[00:15:57] >> Yeah. Would be disappointed with that.

[00:15:59] >> Gosh darn it. Such a terrible lie.

[00:16:04] >> K.J. Choi has a putt for birdie at 17. K.J., a bogey free 68 yesterday.

[00:16:14] >> Looking for a rare birdie here at the tough par 4.

[00:16:25] >> Bob, when you come to the TPC at Sugarloaf, you know that the golf course is all about these par 4s. There's so many good ones that if you want to win the tournament, you just have to eat up par 5s and some of the short par 3s as well, like 16 and 11.

[00:16:57] >> Shane now just a couple of steps closer. Give him 125 or so up the hill. Also on a nice line. Hang right there. Just that hole high. Good shot.

[00:17:14] >> Little better than Doug.

[00:17:17] >> Ahead to the par-4 17th, Lee Janzen, two off the lead, his second.

[00:17:24] >> Pretty big tee shot for Lee here at the par 4. And that sounded like it was maybe heavy, bit chunked.

[00:17:39] >> Lee Janzen here at 17. This is for par. That's going to be a drop shot for Lee. Seventeen always plays difficult.

[00:17:55] >> Steve Allan playing his fifth shot at 18. Well, that -- the green where that flag is gets pretty narrow. Here at the last hole.

[00:18:11] >> K.J. Troy Choi it a go at 18. K.J.'s just three off the lead. Come off that hill.

[00:18:21] >> It will.

[00:18:22] >> Yes, it will.

[00:18:22] >> Watch this. Here we go. It's like a video game, isn't it?

[00:18:29] >> There it goes.

[00:18:31] >> Kind of fun. Keep rolling.

[00:18:33] >> K.J. Choi, quick putt here for eagle. This would get him to within one of the lead. Stress free birdie for K.J. John Senden, his second at 18.

[00:19:02] >> Oh, he's a high ball hitter with a long iron. That's what he needs right now. That's where we thought most of the second shots would go middle of the green. That leaves you about a 40-footer.

[00:19:20] >> How difficult is this one for Doug Barron?

[00:19:22] >> Well, he's choosing to pitch the ball, put some spin on it, going to land on a downslope. Kind of stabbed in and that was really nicely done.

[00:19:38] >> Yeah. He make it.

[00:19:38] >> Still going to roll out a little bit. See how he slid the club under the ball, use the grooves, kind of threw that right hand under. That was a nice shot.

[00:19:50] >> Everybody seems to be going the wrong way, John.

[00:19:53] >> It can happen out here. You got to take advantage. Like you say, those parts par 5s, you have to take advantage of because there's some good par 4s and some tricky par 3s. Second shot golf course. So if you put the ball in, play your work is not done. Inside the right. Some speed.

[00:20:10] >> Good par for Doug. Steven Alker made bogey at the 7th. Then, he made birdie at 9, which is one of the hardest holes in the golf course. Nearly holed out for eagle.

[00:20:23] >> John Senden in for eagle at 18. This will have a little turn to it.

[00:20:28] >> While were putting this putt earlier today, I thought it would be a much harder putt than it really is. He's got it on an excellent line.

[00:20:47] >> Shane Bertsch.

[00:20:49] >> You can get that flag.

[00:20:52] >> Doug Barron.

[00:20:53] >> This flag right there saying, look --

[00:20:54] >> Laid up.

[00:20:56] >> Right there. It's right there.

[00:21:00] >> To the hole. All right.

[00:21:04] >> The way he spins, John, I think he could pull it back from just back of the hole.

[00:21:10] >> Yeah, he's got to be to the right then, because that slope is from right to left, 101. Driving it in there nice and low. Just a little bit of the flag. Got to control the spin.

[00:21:23] >> Good shot.

[00:21:24] >> Nice shot. Right underneath the hole.

[00:21:26] >> Bertsch had gotten it to 8-under after a birdie at 15, but bogeys at 16 and 17. So he's currently four off the lead of Broadhurst.

[00:21:36] >> A little bit. Mostly left to right.

[00:21:40] >> OK. It does feed to the left when it hits, doesn't it?

[00:21:46] >> Yes.

[00:21:46] >> I go on and just get my 80, all yardage in.

[00:21:53] >> OK.

[00:21:53] >> What's the front?

[00:21:55] >> Seventy, 80.

[00:21:56] >> OK. Got to take one little skip.

[00:21:59] >> Yes, definitely.

[00:22:06] >> I got Doug at 83 yards. Wind is down.

[00:22:12] >> Hold up, please, guys. Hold up. Thank you.

[00:22:24] >> I think it's a good yardage for him. He won't overspend this. Backspin would not be your friend right here.

[00:22:34] >> Spin.

[00:22:35] >> Off to the right.

[00:22:36] >> Spin.

[00:22:37] >> Asking for it to spin. It should. Nice, crispy shot. Should spin down that hill a little bit. OK.

[00:22:43] >> Well, I hit it 90 and I just chipped it. I just played short.

[00:23:10] >> Dog Barron for birdie.

[00:23:12] >> Really slick putt. Going to wander just to the right.

[00:23:19] >> So he'll settle for par.

[00:23:25] >> Even par 72 for Doug after shooting that 65 yesterday.

[00:23:30] >> The move of the day, Stephen Ames on moving day for the second year in a row in Round 2 of the Mitsubishi Electric Classic. Stephen Ames shot 64. He's your defending champion. He'll start a shot back. Steven Alker, two shots back. K.J. Choi and Doug Barron in that group at 7-under. Steven Alker, who won the season opener at the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, in contention here this week at the par-5 6th, playing his third. And Alker dialed in. He would roll that in for a birdie. That would get him to a 11-under par. Alker starting the day two off the lead. Stephen Ames, the defending champ, celebrating his 60th birthday today. Remember, on Friday, he holed out at the 9th for an eagle two. This is third at the par-5 6th, and it crawls in for another eagle for Ames. Happy birthday, Stephen. Trying to win the Mitsubishi Electric Classic for a third time and go back to back. We take a look at the leaderboard. Stephen Ames at 12-under, a one shot lead over Steven Alker. Paul Broadhurst, who won last week, just a shot back. The PGA Tour Champions proudly presents the season-long race for the Charles Schwab Cup. Today from Duluth, Georgia, it's live final round coverage of the Mitsubishi Electric Classic. We're in Duluth, Georgia, about 25 miles north of Downtown Atlanta in Gwinnett County. The 11th consecutive year TPC Sugarloaf hosting the Mitsubishi Electric Classic. This venue used on the PGA Tour for 11 years. At stake, the Mitsubishi Electric Classic Championship. Can Stephen Ames go back to back and win here for the third time in his career? Ames' second at the par-3 8th.

[00:25:29] >> Little downhill lies. Choosing to pitch the ball, which I like. Little check release out. This is pretty good as well.

[00:25:35] >> Yep, this is a tough stretch. Maybe the toughest on the course, 7, 8, and 9.

[00:25:41] >> Now, Ames for his par at the 8th.

[00:25:44] >> And not much to this 4 footer. Pretty straight. Just getting through the third hole or the eight hole with threes. That's all good.

[00:25:56] >> Horrible lie here for Paul Broadhurst at the 9th.

[00:25:59] >> Yeah, buried in the face. Just wants to chop it out. Has to guard against going through the green into the penalty area. That's just getting out on that downslope. It'll get on the green, but that's about all he had.

[00:26:12] >> You know, fearful shot there. Just get it out.

[00:26:16] >> Broadhurst for par.

[00:26:18] >> Twenty feet up the slope a little bit. It's all Steven Alker's pitch shot did towards the end. So he can use that with a little bit of a preview.

[00:26:33] >> Ran out of gas. So Broady is going to fall out of a share of the lead.

[00:26:40] >> Back to 11-under, his second bogey in the last three holes.

[00:26:46] >> He was perfect for scrambling for the week until that sixth hole. And then, right there, another tangle with the bunker, plugging it in the face.

[00:26:59] >> Yeah, Peter's had a couple unfortunate lies in the face of these bunkers.

[00:27:04] >> How about the green? K.J. Choi for birdie. That is a tough break. A bunch of missed opportunities here from guys to narrow the gap a little bit.

[00:27:31] >> Broadhurst's third at the 10th.

[00:27:33] >> One twenty-six, wind in out of the right. Got to fly it all the way there. Cannot miss it to the right. Fights it down a nice line. Easy. Right there, right there. Good. Great shot. Right at hole high. Beautiful.

[00:27:56] >> Stephen Ames on the tee at the 11th. And this hole today playing as the second hardest hole on the golf course. We'll follow this tee shot with tracer technology presented by TrackMan.

[00:28:12] >> Hole out eagle at the 6th, one other birdie, all pars. Other than that, this needs to go. Just clears on the left.

[00:28:21] >> Wow.

[00:28:22] >> That was dangerous.

[00:28:23] >> That was a confident swing, high --

[00:28:25] >> But dry.

[00:28:26] >> Yeah, right at it.

[00:28:32] >> Yeah. This Stephen Ames' putt won't have -- it'll have a little left or right in it, but not a lot.

[00:28:43] >> Yeah. He just got to start it to the right.

[00:28:47] >> That's funny. Ames' putt goes right, where Alker's hangs up. Again, these greens, John, as you mentioned earlier, they have tilt. They don't have a lot of undulation. Not a lot of up and down, but just a lot of wiggle left and wiggle right.

[00:29:02] >> Yeah, they're very reminiscent of, you know, greens at Royal Melbourne, that type where they're super fast, but they're tilted, and you need to know where it's tilted from and to. Not a lot of undulation, like you said.

[00:29:19] >> Doug Barron has plenty of firepower to get home in two here -- to get home in one at 13. If it lands on that front part of the green --

[00:29:31] >> It's going to stop.

[00:29:33] >> Yeah, that's --

[00:29:34] >> Doug Barron has this putt for eagle at 13. Just off the green right.

[00:29:43] >> Well, that tee shot worked out nicely. Was motoring up that right side and turned back toward the flag. Look how fast that is.

[00:29:54] >> I think he thought it would turn more right.

[00:29:55] >> It's a cool hole. Doug Barron hasn't made a birdie since the second hole. All par since.

[00:30:05] >> And it remains that way.

[00:30:11] >> John Senden has a long putt for birdie at 13.

[00:30:25] >> No matter how fast you think it is, it's faster.

[00:30:34] >> Obviously. Choi and Senden did not hit tee shots. That put them in a position to really attack here. Now, Alker will follow the tee shot with tracer technology presented by TrackMan.

[00:31:14] >> A little higher ball flight. Let's see if this chases out. It does. Will it get there? It's trying.

[00:31:23] >> Oh, yeah.

[00:31:23] >> There was a little bit of a slope right there.

[00:31:25] >> Now let's see if it goes.

[00:31:26] >> I'm not sure it has enough steam to get --

[00:31:29] >> No. That's where Miguel kind of stopped.

[00:31:31] >> It landed into that little upslope there short of this green.

[00:31:35] >> Little upslope.

[00:31:35] >> Yeah, it just killed it. That's going to be an interesting putt. We just saw Miguel Angel Jimenez three putt from that position.

[00:31:48] >> Perfect conditions on this final round Sunday. Paul Broadhurst, he started the day with a one shot lead, playing his second at the par-4 13th.

[00:31:57] >> Cannot see the putting surface in a fairly thin lie. So this ball going to have some spin of the good catch and it actually did. That's going to be short of the hole. I didn't think he could do this.

[00:32:07] >> No, I didn't think so either, John.

[00:32:12] >> Steven Alker has an eagle putt of great length. We saw Jimenez actually leave this short.

[00:32:19] >> It's not quite as quick down there as you might think.

[00:32:25] >> That's exactly --

[00:32:27] >> It's a tee shot kind of pitched in that slope like you said, Peter, and didn't really have it. It lost all its momentum.

[00:32:32] >> Yeah, you're right. Jimenez had this same putt. He left it, oh my gosh, 8, 9 feet short and he really missed the break. Went out to the right and then it hung out to the left.

[00:32:46] >> Yeah, we're putting a few of these. And yeah, it doesn't -- you think it's going to swing a bunch but really doesn't. It goes straight down the center of the green. A little bit of break but not much.

[00:32:57] >> I think this is going to kick it all this direction here. It just depends on how much air you want to give it. It's Troy Martin who's caddying for Steven Alker. Used to caddie for Stephen Ames. Spent about a year and a half with Ames and won I think three or four tournaments with Ames. And now, he's on Alker's bag. One of the most experienced caddies out here. Caddie for Jerry Pate, D.A. Weibring, caddie for me.

[00:33:33] >> He's got a set way out there, Peter. Let's take the ton of break early. That's kind of where it flattens out.

[00:33:46] >> It's kind of what Miguel did. But he's gotten it further down.

[00:33:54] >> Oh, man. Yeah, it broke 10 feet, 10, 12 feet.

[00:34:00] >> Broadhurst for birdie.

[00:34:03] >> Down the hill, breaking right to left. And just too much respect right. I think you're right, Peter. Especially on Sunday, finishing out a tournament, trying to win a golf tournament, you got to have somebody that matches your demeanor. Cool, calm, collected, same pacing.

[00:34:28] >> Stephen is 5-under today, and now his lead is two as he place his second at 14.

[00:34:33] >> Playing quickly and confidently, 168.

[00:34:38] >> Watch out. Watch how he turns on the head -- his head. He does not sway. Stays so centered.

[00:34:46] >> Seven-iron up in the air. Right on a good line.

[00:34:49] >> He just doesn't hit the wild shots, John.

[00:34:51] >> Look at this. He's just taking control of this golf tournament right here.

[00:34:57] >> Yup.

[00:34:57] >> Doug Barron on the tee at 16. We'll follow it with TrackMan technology sponsored by ServiceNow.

[00:35:17] >> Kind of what we've seen all week. Good shot right at it. Lands hard on that down slope and goodbye.

[00:35:24] >> Over at 16, Doug Barron off the back part of the green.

[00:35:32] >> Going to slam this. This is back up the hill, into the green. Just bounced right through the heavy fringe.

[00:35:46] >> Doug Barron trying to clean up this par at 16 to stay at 9-under. That keeps him right now in solo fourth.

[00:36:00] >> Goosen for his fifth birdie on the incoming 9 and misses that left. So Retief shoots 32 on the back, 4-under 68, is undoing the double bogey at the 9th. Goosen came into the week ninth in the Schwab Cup standings, currently in a tie for fifth.

[00:36:21][ Applause ]

[00:36:31] >> Only six birdies at 16 today, Boo Weekley, Brett Quigley, Steve Flesch, Scott Dunlap, Mario Tiziani, and Y.E. Yang.

[00:36:40] >> Important tee shot right here after that three putt bogey back there at the 15th.

[00:36:45] >> It sounded pure.

[00:36:47] >> That's the softest we've seen any ball land.

[00:36:51] >> It was up in the air, and the winds kind of kicked back into him. So the ball won't really chase through.

[00:36:59] >> Now, Steven Alker also coming off bogey, last to play at the 16th.

[00:37:05] >> Let's see what type of shot he wants to play in here. Went back in his face, a little out of the left.

[00:37:12] >> Eight-iron here for Steven. Just wants to clear that front by about 5 yards.

[00:37:24] >> Got it cutting a little bit too much. Never cut the slope.

[00:37:31] >> Alker trailing by three for birdie at 16.

[00:37:35] >> Yeah. He's got to get it way out to the right. And the first part actually has a little uphill, and then it goes downhill quick. Easy to leave that putt short. We were hitting that putt this morning, and there's a little uphill right before it gets going to downhill.

[00:37:49] >> A little different angle for Stephen Ames than Alker had, John.

[00:37:53] >> Yeah, a little bit. But he -- I think he got a little bit of a speed read on the first part of the putt here, Bob, because it does go uphill just a little bit before it goes down the slope and away from you.

[00:38:12] >> How good is this? How good is this?

[00:38:14] >> Yeah, goal answered.

[00:38:17] >> That's the definition of stressless golf. Good lag putt down there. You can one hand that one in.

[00:38:25] >> Till used two. But with two holes to play, Ames remains at 14-under, and at least for the moment, a three shot lead over Alker. Alker, who was bogey free after making birdie at 13, made par at 14, made bogey at 15, and has this for par at 16.

[00:38:55] >> This is no gimme right here. This is a good 6 feet. Not much break to it. Just all about speed. It got that face open there, and there's a couple of bogeys right there in the row.

[00:39:16] >> Doug Barron playing his third at 18, coming off birdie at 17.

[00:39:28] >> Oh, yeah. Great shot.

[00:39:38] >> Now, Ames is just going to get it out.

[00:39:41] >> Yeah. No other chance but to get it down the fairway about 100 yards.

[00:39:50] >> It sounded like he got a clean strike on it, but it might have caught that lip.

[00:39:55] >> Yeah, I thought I --

[00:39:55] >> Killed it.

[00:39:56] >> -- heard just a second quick sound.

[00:40:02] >> Doug Barron for birdie to post 11-under. Boy, he is -- How many putts have we seen Doug Barron have today that were doable?

[00:40:15] >> A lot.

[00:40:17] >> I mean, he finishes bogey free 69. But --

[00:40:21] >> He played with Jay Haas on Round 1, and Jay told me that Doug played a perfect round of golf.

[00:40:31] >> Ames only bogey of the day came at 15 after he went eagle, birdie.

[00:40:51] >> Identical putter, Paul Broadhurst.

[00:41:00] >> John Senden for eagle at 18.

[00:41:04] >> Right down the hill, but not as fast as we've seen. Back into the wind a bit.

[00:41:31] >> Broadhurst displayed his last seven holes 3-over after birdying 10 and getting the 12-under and a share of the lead.

[00:41:38] >> Yeah. Broady just not comfortable with his number at 254 all the way in. Just going to lay the ball up as well.

[00:41:56] >> Good angle there. Farther up and farther to the right will take the edge of the water out of play.

[00:42:05] >> John, Steven Alker is down by that drain. We've seen players down there in the past. A pretty good lie. What's he have in?

[00:42:12] >> Yeah, he's actually got a nice lie. It's fairly flat. He does have a drainage grate in front of him, but that shouldn't really bother him at all. He's only got 239 to the hole. Gives him 214 front and 223 to clear on line with the flagstick. So, the only problem is he's got some kind of wispy tall fescue in his line. But that shouldn't really be a problem.

[00:42:45] >> Don't tell me it's a 5-iron.

[00:42:48] >> No, he went to this little driving iron, 4-iron.

[00:42:52] >> Good. Hit that 5 yesterday way over there that it chipped it across the green into the water.

[00:43:00] >> This is very doable, honestly. There's not a breath of wind hardly at all out here, so.

[00:43:07] >> He's got to be thinking, just put it that back bunker.

[00:43:10] >> Back bunker would be a great miss.

[00:43:11] >> Yeah, long.

[00:43:18] >> It's up to the right-hand side. I think it might have to go a little bit.

[00:43:22] >> Oh my gosh.

[00:43:23] >> Bounce into the water.

[00:43:24] >> It just hit the grass. You could hear it.

[00:43:29] >> I think some of that fest, you caught a piece of it.

[00:43:34] >> It just took that much off of it. It was a risky move, but he's in a tie for third. No chance to win, so why not give it a chance?

[00:43:54] >> Stephen Ames. Doug Barron is in at 10-under.

[00:43:58] >> Guys, standing just to the right of the flag there.

[00:44:03] >> Perfect. Perfect.

[00:44:06] >> One twenty, right?

[00:44:07] >> Yes.

[00:44:14] >> He's got a bit of a backstop here, too, John. I think he could throw it long and stop it, maybe bring it back a bit.

[00:44:20] >> Yeah, he's got just under 120, 119. This has to be right of the flag.

[00:44:29] >> Good strike. Right of the flag.

[00:44:35] >> I don't want it.

[00:44:35] >> Yeah.

[00:44:37] >> Don't need anything special, do we? Seriously.

[00:44:45] >> Stephen Ames about to become the first multiple winner this year on the PGA Tour Champions. We've had seven winners through the first seven events. Ames won the Chubb Classic earlier this year. Broadhurst's third.

[00:45:00] >> Happy birthday to you.

[00:45:01] >> Yeah, from 100 yards.

[00:45:02] >> Shot.

[00:45:02] >> Happy birthday to you. Happy birthday, Dear Stephen. Happy birthday to you.

[00:45:08] >> Celebrating his 60th birthday, serenaded by the fans here at TPC Sugarloaf, Stephen Ames.

[00:45:31] >> Please welcome the final group of this tournament, Paul Broadhurst, Steven Alker, and Stephen Ames.

[00:45:40][ Cheering and Applause ]

[00:45:49] >> But this is just the kind of golf course that a player likes Stephen Ames is going to dominate. He's a good driver of the golf ball, excellent iron player, and he's found his short game. And that's with this golf course. So many strong par 4s, tricky par 3s. And after that first round, as the defending champ, I thought, "Well, he's not going to win. He's not going to have a chance." Shot that 71, and then eight birdies yesterday, and he just blitzed everybody.

[00:46:21] >> Think about it. His first nine holes of the week. He started on the 10th split tees. He made two double bogeys on his first nine holes on par 3s. And then, after a bogey at the 8th, at the most difficult hole on the course for the week, he holes out for eagle at the 9th to get him in at 71, 1-under, and then just absolutely spectacular. Just like last year, a bogey free second round 64, and he was 6-under through his 1st 14 holes today with eagles at 6 and 13.

[00:46:58] >> Yeah, that first nine he played, he had two doubles and a bogey and four birdies. So he only had two pars on that opening nine. Shot 1-over. And then 34 coming in, and here he is, going to be our back to back champion.

[00:47:14] >> Alker to play his fourth now.

[00:47:18] >> Just around 90 yards here for Steven. And, boy, just a limp to the clubhouse here for Steven is just kind of a head scratcher.

[00:47:32] >> Driving it in there low, one skip and hold. Good shot.

[00:47:36] >> Will have that first par. If you think about Alker in the season opener, the Mitsubishi Electric Championship at Hualalai, he played the final 45 holes at 24-under. And winning the opening event of the year. Right in the mix, Alker had a share of the lead with Doug Barron after Round 1 at 7-under. Shot 71 yesterday. He started today two behind Paul Broadhurst. But problems for Alker at 15, 16, and 17 with bogeys. But Stephen Ames has been pretty spot on. Obviously, the three putt bogey at 15, and then the missed par putt at 17. Two bogeys on the card today. But he got his first career win here, and he's about to get his eighth career win here at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic.

[00:48:49] >> Pretty big breaker here from right to left. Way out to the right.

[00:49:05] >> In for Ames. Finishes with a birdie.

[00:49:06] >> Yeah.

[00:49:08] >> Happy birthday, Stephen. You've done it again here in Duluth at the Mitsubishi Electric Classic.

[00:49:18][ Cheering and Applause ]

[00:49:26] >> That bad boy was carrying some pace.

[00:49:29] >> That was.

[00:49:31] >> I don't want to tell you what's behind that, carrying that type of pace. That was -- It hit the flagstick and clanked in.

[00:49:38] >> Yeah, you don't want any speed coming down this hill because we've seen some balls putt from the back of the green down to the hole and off the green into the water left. But, hey, it's your birthday.

[00:49:59][ Cheering and Applause ]

[00:50:03] >> TPC Sugarloaf has become Stephen Ames' playground. His third win on this property. Broadhurst for birdie. This would give get him into a share of second with Doug Barron.

[00:50:25] >> He saw how speedy it was. Going to get way out there to the right. OK.

[00:50:32] >> Paul was trying to become the first player in the PGA Tour Champions to win in consecutive weeks since 2017 when Bernhard Langer did it. Started the day with a one shot lead. Battles back and shoots an even par 72.

[00:50:49] >> That's impressive for those three buried lies that Broadhurst had to overcome today to hang in there to tie for second. Well done.

[00:50:56] >> Now, Alker for his par. He's made three bogeys in a row. And he does. Stephen shoots a 1-under 71, finishes at 9-under. Stephen Ames stacks another victory, his 6th in just over the last year. Shoots fun around 67 off that 64 yesterday. Paul Broadhurst, Doug Barron each finish four shots back. Steven Alker and K.J. Choi finishing a share of fourth at 9-under, with Retief Goosen and John Senden in a share of sixth. Great fan support here at TPC Sugarloaf. A great finish for John Senden. K.J. Choi made a run. But in the end, it was Stephen Ames dialed in a pair of eagles in this final round as he celebrates his 60th birthday with the victory. So, for Peter Jacobsen, John Cook, and our entire crew, Bob Papa saying so long from Duluth. Stephen Ames, the Mitsubishi electric classic champion.