**2024 PGA TOUR CHAMPIONS LEARNING CENTER SHOW #7**

VO > PGA Tour Champions Learning Center.

VO > After stops in Hawaii, Morocco and both U.S. coast, PGA Tour Champions was deep in the heart of Texas for the third playing of the Invited Celebrity Classic, and the invited celebrities were out in full force.

OC > Hi everyone. Welcome to Learning Center. I'm Vince Cellini and what a great event at Las Colinas Country Club. As PGA Tour Champions, players mixed with actors and athletes themselves playing in the modified Stableford scoring system. So, who emerged as the star of stars, our Bob Papa and World Golf Hall of Famer Lanny Wadkins called the action, and they give us a recap.

VO > PGA Tour Champions third playing of the invited Celebrity Classic Irving, Texas law school in his country club Saturday second round was a washout 36-hole event and Paul Broadhurst. He got things done after birdie at one, made bogey at two and then at the par five third hit a beautiful second shot in.

VO > Yeah. Downhill par five. He can reach us into a hybrid in here for Broady. And great shot. He's going to have a look at Eagle from really inside ten feet. Just a great play. Great way to start your day.

VO > And he rolls in the putt for Eagle. Gets him to eight under. Remember Y.E. Yang and Thomas Bjorn playing in the morning had already posted eight under. So, the guys in the afternoon wave knew what the number was. Then his third shot at the par five seventh.

VO > Yeah, laid back pretty good ways. But then a wonderful short iron in here to get back to this hole location. This is really well done. That's a cute little putt, but he makes it.

VO > Then he backs it up with a birdie at the eighth.

VO > Yeah, 22ft down the hill down grain and just dripped it over the front edge. What a great roll that was.

VO > So, Broadhurst makes the turn four under 32. All pars until he gets to 15. And he rips this one in for the outright lead.

VO > Yeah that was really quick. And this iron play was impeccable on the second nine. And then the final tap in here for par at 18.

VO > Two putt par for Broadhurst as he picks up the victory at the Invited Celebrity Classic, his first win since 2018 at the Ally Challenge. Paul Broadhurst gets the win, moves to second in the Charles Schwab Cup standings. Good effort by David Toms with that six under 65 he finishes a shot back this week. So, Paul Broadhurst gets his sixth career win on the PGA Tour Champions, winning the invited celebrity Classic.

OC VO > It's a strange feeling going out, knowing no, not knowing what you've got to shoot. And you know the way this morning's guys set score, so you got to go out. But you know you never sure what David was doing in front, and I just kept plugging away really just, did some work back home with my, mind man. And he seems to work, you know, just stayed in, stayed in the, the moment didn't get ahead of myself, which I've done a little bit in the last few weeks, you know, starting tournament really well on the, on the Friday and then felt a mix of the weekend. So yeah, I'm pleased that, you know, held it together today and felt that I played really well around the back nine.

VO > And it's been a few years. Did that make it a little bit tougher?

VO OC > Absolutely, you know, you never know when your next win is going to be. You know, it's been what? 2018. I did win in Europe on the Legends Tour in 21. But, you know, to win out here again is, pretty special.

VO > Congratulations, Broady. And with the victory, Paul Broadhurst jumps up 14 spots to sit just behind only one player leader, Steven Alker, Ricardo Gonzales, Steven Ames and Alex Cejka all take one step back to round out three, four and five. The standings have been a jumble given the unpredictable outcomes. After just the seventh event of 2024.

VO > Still to come on Learning center on the road with Bernhard Langer. The road to recovery the PGA Tour Champions legend on his injury and when he might be back in competition. All access when we return.

OC > In terms of wins, Bernhard Langer is the greatest player in PGA Tour Champions history. He has been a mainstay on this tour, but noticeably absent after suffering a serious injury. Langer ruptured his left Achilles tendon back in February, but like any previous obstacle in front of him, the 66-year-old is working toward a solution. And you can bet Bernie won't be in a pickle for long.

OC VO > I was here in the Woodfield Country Club in Boca Raton, where I live, and, part of my training is doing other things, other sports, not just fitness centers. So, I played, pickleball with some of my friends and warmed up very well. I actually went to the gym an hour before, make sure I'm stretched and loose, and we normally play an hour and a half. So, with about ten minutes to go, my opponent lobbed me, and I did a few steps back, jumped up, hit it. As I landed, I heard this loud noise and pain in my leg and, went down on the ground. And, first I thought I hit something walking backwards, but as I looked around me, there was nothing there. And I realized, most likely it's a torn Achilles tendon because I've seen a friend of mine shooting hoops, and the same thing happened to him. And I was extremely fortunate that accord over Doctor Michael Truman, who was the head surgeon at, Saint Joseph's Hospital in New York, was playing pickleball there. And Doctor Tilman came and said, okay, give us a bit of space. Let me see what happened. He was like an angel, you know, perfect timing, because if he hadn't been there, I don't know what might have happened. And so, I had an MRI appointment that he made two hours later, which is unheard of as well. I had a boot on my foot four hours after the injury to protect it. The very next day I had surgery was fantastic down in Miami. Amazingly enough. three days after surgery, I was told to go to rehab, to PT which, you know, it's very different nowadays than maybe what they did 20 years ago. And I talked to the my PT as well. And he said, yeah, what, you know, we're doing this much different than 20 years ago, we're much more aggressive with rehab, with recovery. He said, the big thing is to keep the calf muscle strong, because if you lose some of that, it's going to take that much longer, to recover later. And that's why we started immediately certain exercises for the calf muscle. So, a few weeks ago was mostly doing this was my right leg because I wasn't non-weight bearing with my left. Now I I'm fully weight bearing. I can do both legs. Things are looking pretty good. The surgical side is healed very well. I started chipping and putting about a week ago, and I'm going to progress to, you know, a little longer shots as we go on. You know, my hope is to be back on the Champions Tour or just playing competitive golf in probably another, 6 to 8 weeks from now, something like that. Maybe less. So, this is one of the exercises I've done in the past, and I'm, I'm able to do that now. It's a 6-pound ball. I can use an 8-pound ball eventually and mimic, mimic the golf swing where you stay in your posture really through the shot. My goal was to be back for the Insperity Tournament in Houston. Various reasons, I’m with Insperity, one of their ambassadors. I'd love to be there. And even if I don't play, I might still be at the tournament, but I'm hoping to play. It's a fairly flat course. Good thing is, also, I can take a cart, so that is my goal. That's what I'm training for and working out for and trying to achieve. At the same time, I realize that not very long from now, and everything has to go perfectly for me to to be competing in Houston. If it's not going to be the Insperity in Houston, definitely end of May or June, if not before.

VO > Bernhard Langer won the U.S Senior Open last year.

VO < Number one on the all-time list.

VO > His record 46th win which qualified him to play in this year's U.S. Open at Pinehurst. But he might not play due to the difficulty of the course.

OC VO > Think Pinehurst may may be out of the picture. you know, I have to make a decision here sooner or later whether I enter play or not. And right now, my turn is to not play. First of all, it's going to be very difficult anyway. It's going to be a very, very long golf course. I played there before. The greens are like this. And, you know, with me coming in with very long clubs, I can't stop the ball on the green. I have to landed at the very front to hopefully stay in the middle of it. And so, it may be better for me, to missed one. Plus, I couldn't take a cart. I would have to walk. And so, it may be better to, to give that one to miss. I got short legs. I got screwed up a bit. And then again, it trains mostly the quadricep muscle up here, which I need for walking and, sitting, bending and all that kind of stuff. When the injury happened the very same day, four hours after the injury, I got this boot just to stabilize, my leg. So, this is, you know, reinforced on the side, so I wouldn't, hurt myself more. Then a day later, after surgery, I got this really heavy. It looks like a ski, but it's rock solid all around. You know, you can you can hit anywhere. you won't get to the ankle or the foot. And that's the idea. Plus, it has a heel lift. You can see how high it is here and how low. And the first few weeks I had to sleep in this, which was very uncomfortable because it's it's hot as well. It has this inner lining to protect you from the hard cover. And that wasn't much fun. And then there's another boot I got a little later. So, you can see here the the heel lift that we taped in there, made the heel higher and nothing towards the toe. This is much lighter, much softer, more comfortable. And then a week ago, I was told back to no more boots. So, now I'm in regular tennis shoes. But I have to wear this ankle brace that just goes around my foot, and it stabilizes the ankle on both sides. Doctor orders and I'm trying to follow it as good as I can. My PT made me sit down in a chair, and I was used to crutches or holding on to something, and he says, get up. And, well, what do you mean without holding on to some? Yeah, get up. And initially I had a mental block. I'm thinking if I'm going to get up and put weight on this, who knows what's going to happen. So, I said, give me a pull to start off. So, he gave me a pole held on. You know, a little bit of weight on the pole. Feels okay. Next time the last weight on the pole feels okay. Okay, here, take the pole. I'm going to try. And I got up no issue. And that was an amazing feeling that I can actually stand again because I didn't stand for weeks. I'm an avid snow skier and that's dangerous. I love soccer and that can be dangerous. I do a lot of other things that I really enjoy. I've given up a few of those because of my age, but I still like to live life and not. I had to give up a lot of things in my whole career to be successful and I'm not willing to give up everything to play golf. And so, this can happen. It can happen anywhere. And it could happen when I play with the grandkids. So, looking back now, two months later, it's been a blessing in disguise. I get to spend a lot of time with my wife, with my four grandkids, so it's not all bad. I'm trying to see the bright side. Did you run away?

OC > Yes.

OC VO > I think I can still be very productive for a few more years. I still think I have a lot of good golf in me. I love to compete. I enjoy the camaraderie on the Champions Tour and be a part of The Masters and, you know, various other things. I actually had big plans this year in the sense of, playing my last, tour event on the European tour, which will still happen, I think, because it's in July, and by then I should be fully recovered. As I said, I'd try to look at the bright side of things and make the best of it, because it doesn't do any good, you know, sitting around complaining and having negative thoughts. I'd like to be positive and, heal up as quick as I can. And as I said, I still think I have some good years left in me. And, I still hope to have a few W’s left in me as well.

VO > From the top of the mountain to making the climb Paul Stankowski on the grind of PGA Tour Champions, where he is using his platform to help a wonderful cause. We'll tell you how you can help as well.

VO > It was a Hall of Fame weekend for a pair of PGA Tour Champions players. In little Rock. Glenn Day was part of the 2024 induction class of the Arkansas Sports Hall of Fame. The 58-year-old day is a PGA tour winner and has long supported charities in Central Arkansas. Also gaining Hall of Fame status was Steve Stricker, part of the 2024 induction class for the Wisconsin Athletic Hall of Fame, the reigning PGA tour Champions Player of the year was one of three men to be so honored.

OC > We're spending time with Paul Stankowski, who's coming off a strong 2023 with 15 top 25 and 24 events last season. So, I'm just wondering, like what that meant to you then and what the expectations were coming into 24 for you?

OC VO > I had my goal was just to play. Right. last year I've, I've gone from nonexempt to a little more exempt to now fully exempt. But last year I had really good status. And, I was really hoping I'd have an opportunity to, to compete. and and I did. I got into everything but a couple of events. And it's, it's interesting because from an expectations standpoint, when I started, when I turned 50, I didn't know if I could compete anymore. I quit for five years. And so, I had a couple of nice events and I thought, okay, I can do this. And every year I've gained more and more confidence, and a little more comfortable. Right. Playing with these guys again, getting in contention and, and, so, yeah, starting last season, my goal was to get exempt. Like, I thought, if I can become fully exempt out here and be the coolest thing ever. Right. And mission accomplished. We did it. I'm so grateful. And so, you know, this year, it's it's a different story now. I know I'm in everything, and and I can pick my schedule, which is easy. I just had to go through the schedule and I'm going to play all of them. because at some point I'm not going to get a tee time out here. So, I'm like, I'm going to take advantage of it. I'm going to play and have fun. And, and so far, we're having a blast.

OC > Yeah, it was fun to watch. You just kind of ride it all the way through and into the playoffs. And it was a fun season for you. Now, away from golf, I mean, I know your address, the logo on your hat. Direction 61:3, a nonprofit you're involved in. And doing some reading about it. It's really, it's very cool because I think it addresses an area and some people that are that are often forgotten. So, what can you tell us about it?

OC > Absolutely. Well, my wife, about a year and a half ago, just thumbing through a local our local community newspaper and saw an ad for Directions 61:3 and she was intrigued by it. She never heard of it before. And so, she made a call, and she started volunteering a little bit, and it, they deal with, housing, aged out foster kids, foster youth, and something I never knew anything about it. You know, I've heard the term foster care, and, but I've never been involved in it. Didn't know anybody who who foster kids. And so that was her little thing to to do to be involved, give her something to, to do. And, and, then we were invited to go meet with Myron, the director, just to meet with them, and one of the other guys who's on the board and to see if we could, you know, want to be more involved. Right. And so that was first time I actually was introduced. And then, through there, learning more about what they do. it really wrecked me. You know, the thought of these kids at 18 years old, unless their, you know, they do have a family somewhere that wants to bring them back in their homeless. 55% of the kids that come out of foster care that age, out on their 18th birthday are instantly homeless. And and I'm.

OC > What happens to these kids?

OC VO > Those kids well end up a large percent in jail. in in the prison system, or trafficked, sex trafficking and and, I just, I want to do whatever I can do to try to stop that. Slow the, the the, the bleed there into the, into those systems. And so, I didn't have a headwear deal, and I said, Myron, I'm going to where can you give me a logo? I'm going to put it on a hat, and I'm going to wear it, and I'm going to see if we can figure out a way to raise awareness. And so, I started a little, fundraising campaign, if you will, and people can follow me my season and pledge per birdie. and, you know, my hope through this, through the through the season is to raise 100 grand. And that would fund, the house for a year. And I thought that'd be kind of cool. So, I'm starting small, but so that's. Yeah, that's called birdies for youth. And, and I'm excited about it. So, it's, this is fun. We're brand new into it. it's started a few weeks ago, and it's going to go all the way through the end of the season. But I've never been involved with, anything like this before. You know, usually you sell stuff on your body to to make money to pay for pay for the game. Right. But this I you know what I want to I want to do this for them, and that's, it's fun, you know, it's cool. Now, like a couple weeks ago, I made a birdie late in the day, and I wasn't playing very well, but I'm like, there's another birdie. Like, I'm just. I'm going out blazing. I'm going to try to make as many birdies as I can this year in Eagles and, and because it's all for a great cause. It's something different. Golf. Golf at the end of the day was just about me making money and winning trophies. Well, this is a waste of time. And so, to finally have something to give back to, and try to, like, help people that, I just can't imagine it's like not having family and not having anywhere to go and then finally having to go live with somebody that you'd never met before because this the, the system put you with a certain family and, the heart behind direction 61:3, is really cool.

OC > Well, I always pull for you. Now I'm really pulling for you.

OC > Thanks brother

OC > For this. Thank you.

OC > I appreciate it.

OC > Thanks Paul.

Yeah, thank you.

OC > All right. Not bad, actually, that’s Larry the cable guy. Getting her done.

VO > And that is our time on this edition of PGA Tour Champions Learning Center. The tour moves on to the Peach State this week for the Mitsubishi Electric Classic in Duluth, Georgia. Until then, I'm Vince Cellini. As always, we thank you for watching.

VO > Paul Broadhurst, he's in the winner's circle. The 2024 invited Celebrity Classic champion.