Production Transcript for REWIND\_24GTI\_KNAPPTAVA.mp3

[00:00:31] >> The PGA Tour proudly presents the Grant Thornton Invitational.

[00:00:37] >> Well, this is a pretty good spot to spend a week as the golf season comes to a close. Tiburon is used to hosting championship level play. And that's what's on display here at the Grand Thornton. A mix of the best from the LPGA Tour and PGA Tour coming together in a team format. The temperature is in the mid-70s, very pleasant. But the competitors do have some wind to deal with on this Friday afternoon. And the rule staff eases the players, Morgan, into this event with today's scramble format. Sixteen teams equally split among the men and the women. The scramble kind of gets things going, and it gets a little bit tougher on Saturday with the foursomes. The modified four-ball on Sunday, we'll get into that as we move along in the week. And the winning team will split seven figures. Big purse this week. The only co-sanctioned event on the calendar featuring LPGA and PGA Tour players. It's Year 2 of the Grant Thornton Invitational from the Tiburon Golf Club in Naples. Today is the first of three rounds, and the 32 participants are playing a scramble format. So we should see some low numbers. Steve Sands, so pleased to be alongside Morgan Pressel once again. Let's get right back out there. Akshay Bhatia, Jennifer Kupcho at the 2nd.

[00:01:55] >> It is a day to be aggressive, especially with the wedge in your hand, just like that.

[00:02:00] >> Seven-under through 10 is that team. Patty Tavatanakit playing with Jake Knapp.

[00:02:05] >> Patty hitting her second at the 7th. The hottest duo on the course, Steve. Birdied all of the first six. Let's make that seven.

[00:02:13] >> That's an incredible beginning for those two. Sahith Theegala, he's playing alongside Allisen Corpuz. And didn't need Allisen on this one, Morgan.

[00:02:23] >> Well, they eagled the first hole on the par 5 to get their round off to a hot start, and will double down on 6.

[00:02:29] >> Back to the duo of Kupcho and Akshay Bhatia. Nicely done there from those two. Here's Akshay from off the green at 11.

[00:02:39] >> You just have to keep making birdies in that -- in this format. And that is exactly what this duo is doing. Tavatanakit and Knapp, seven for seven. How about eight for eight?

[00:02:49] >> That only seems about right.

[00:02:51] >> Incredible. And then, they stepped up to the 9th. This time, it was Jake Knapp's turn.

[00:02:58] >> Pressure is on, and he rolls it in.

[00:03:02] >> Nine birdies in nine holes for that duo. However, they are tied for the lead with Bhatia and Kupcho. Some great numbers out there here at the Grant Thornton Invitational. Off we go from Naples.

[00:03:19] >> And the Canadian pair, Henderson and Conners, they were very close to winning this last year. Just one back. That's what the Canadians would like to see. They'll have plenty of support here. Folks from up in Canada spend the winter down here. Out in 29. Here's Lexi, second to the 9th. Yeah, nicely done.

[00:03:53] >> Thompson and Fowler would make birdie.

[00:04:01] >> Just a generational talent. Morgan, this is kind of nice. You get over a putt with no mystery whatsoever. You know exactly what it does. You just saw your partner on the exact right line with a good read and just you know what to do here. No mysteries.

[00:04:15] >> Yeah. Just a little bit what you said there, John, though, trying to push, trying to force it. And although Lydia is very good, one of the things that makes her such an incredible talent is that ability to stay focused, stay in the moment, and really just pay attention to what's happening right in front of her.

[00:04:48] >> That one a run and it goes in. Nice teach from Jason.

[00:05:07] >> They should have the line here, Karen. Just got to get the speed right.

[00:05:12] >> Yeah. And, you know, having watched this team for a number of holes now, actually looks to be pretty comfortable on these greens. Made a couple of good putts already for them. And I think the fact that he does go first, as I was talking about earlier, is an indication that he probably is the better putter of the two. There you go.

[00:05:32] >> There you go. Yeah. Good birdie.

[00:05:42] >> Jason Day drove it over the green at 10. So here's his second shot.

[00:05:47] >> Straight downwind, but still 335 front edge. And this thing had to go about 380, I would say. Off a downslope, they're able to mark and place it. So he's got a good line. It's back into the breeze, so they should be able to stop it.

[00:06:08] >> Day and Ko would make birdie.

[00:06:11] >> Back out at the 17th with Bhatia in his third shot.

[00:06:18] >> You could go high or low, and I think Akshay is going low here.

[00:06:24] >>That was a lovely shot. That's not that easy to judge into the grain like that.

[00:06:34] >> Go to the 17th. And Pavon. Yeah. That's birdie for the French pair.

[00:06:42] >> Up at the 18th, J.T. Poston for his birdie. What a smooth stroke he has had over the years. And man, oh, man, he does it again.

[00:06:59][ Applause ]

[00:07:08] >> At the 14th, Patty Tavatanakit. Jessica, they started with nine consecutive birdies on the first nine holes.

[00:07:20] >> Brooke Henderson at the 14th, hitting her second at the par 5.

[00:07:27] >> Trying to chase something up there. Really flat-footed with that one.

[00:07:35] >> Oh, yeah. Just look at this shot.

[00:07:37] >> Just barely carries that really brutal bunker with a really steep flat face. This pair has known each other for a long time, since they were 13, 14 years old, Jeeno said. Yeah, she's used to making big putts here.

[00:08:07] >> Tom Kim had missed just moments earlier, but Jeeno got the job done.

[00:08:22] >> We saw the wonderful second shot at 14 for Brooke Henderson. See if she can cash it in with a three. Yeah, she does.

[00:08:31][ Cheering and Applause ]

[00:08:40] >> A tradition at the CME Group Tour Championship is for the -- for those head covers, which are designed by the Children from St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, and they are auctioned off. The players sign them. And really great memento for folks during the week. Very good head covers as well, I will say. Now, Lydia.

[00:09:03] >> This much hurt. Players are looking for a window. They want this ball to fly right through a window in terms of height. That's what they're judging everything on.

[00:09:15] >> Slide it down. Good looking shot here.

[00:09:18] >> Yeah. She's so good with her wedges.

[00:09:22] >> Well, Brooke missed this part. So Corey Conners now for the birdie. Get to 11-under par, two back of the lead. Should make it. Yes, he does. So they've still got the par-5 17th to come.

[00:09:46] >> Lydia Ko for eagle at the 14th. Oh, Lydia's got a chance here. Oh, man. What a great putt from Lydia Ko. And the defending champions move to 8-under par.

[00:10:37] >> Check in with Lexi Thompson and Rickie Fowler. And this for birdie at the 15th. So they get to 8-under par.

[00:10:52] >> Three years ago, Jake Knapp was a security guard at a nightclub restaurant in Costa Mesa, California. Now, here he is, a PGA Tour winner, playing in the Grant Thornton Invitational for the first time alongside Patty Tavatanakit. It has been a whirlwind few years for that young man who is now, Karen, up to 87th in the official World Golf Ranking.

[00:11:15] >> I mean, what a life experience. I mean, people just think that the PGA Tour professionals have a life of just waking up, growing up on the golf course, playing golf, and then, all of a sudden, they're making a fortune on Tour. But for a lot of people, they have a lifelike like Knapp where he's, you know, a security guard and, you know, fighting for everything he's got. And here he is, a winner now on Tour. And it's quite the story. And what a putt, too.

[00:11:39] >> Patty.

[00:11:39] >> What a sensational round of golf. I mean, that going out with nine straight birdies, got a little bit cold there on the back nine. But what a flourish to end the day.

[00:11:55] >> Jason Day preparing to play his second shot at the par-4 18th.

[00:12:20] >> Jason right now just trying to convince himself that that win is exactly what he thinks it is.

[00:12:25] >> That's where you've gone from kind of most of the day of doubting what you feel. And here, there's no doubting. It is there. A beautiful iron swing on the last hole. Duplicate it right here.

[00:12:43] >> Big full swing. I'm sure that was wedge. Asking for it to sit. Looks good.

[00:12:48] >> Oh, yeah, really good.

[00:12:58] >> Now, up to the green with Day and Ko.

[00:13:08] >> Yeah, another wonderful look right up the hill.

[00:13:13] >> Tomorrow's a day, Morgan, that format, where if you are sharp, you can really put a number up and gain a lot of distance on the rest of the field because it is such a difficult format.

[00:13:33][ Applause ]

[00:13:36] >> Safe to pick up the coin there after --

[00:13:39] >> Yup.

[00:13:39] >> -- nailing that one.

[00:13:40] >> Happened to him a couple of times today. Another birdie, birdie finish, this time, from the defending champions. And they will begin the second round four back.

[00:13:48] >> Good play.

[00:13:49] >> Thanks, Lydia. Well play.

[00:13:55] >> Knapp and Tavatanakit, 58 for their opening round, the only pairing to have each one on their respective Tours this season. The second round is next.

[00:14:10] >> Welcome to the weekend at the only event that pairs LPGA Tour stars with PGA Tour players. Grant Thornton wanted to bring this sport to a new level by bringing it together. That's the spirit of the week down here in Naples. It's an opportunity for fans to see the two elite tours measure their games against one another. There was some early rain today, but thankfully, not heavy and should be out of the area for now. Clouds still kind of hanging around. The temperature is a pleasant 80 degrees. Should be a lot of fun to see how the players handle the alternate shot format. Foursome's much more difficult. As we welcome in Karen Stupples watching the Canadian team today, Brooke Henderson and Corey Conners.

[00:15:00] >> And that's two in a row now for this twosome.

[00:15:05] >> This is Andrea Lee. She's playing with Max Greyserman. They were going well today.

[00:15:17][ Applause ]

[00:15:20] >> And from there, they would make birdie.

[00:15:22] >> Let's move over to the 7th.

[00:15:39] >> Now, Patty. Slightly up the hill here. Should move to her right. And she and Jake are both reading putts together as well. A lot of discussion from those two on the last hole and this hole. Last hole, Jake ran in a nice 10 or 12-footer.

[00:15:56] >> So it looks like --

[00:16:01] >> When it loses its speed, it looks like it wants to dart hard to the right. So you want to keep your speed up a little bit, especially with the greens a little bit slower with the moisture.

[00:16:09] >> I like those last words of wisdom from Jake. You've been reading them well. Trust it.

[00:16:15] >> Great putt.

[00:16:15] >> Nice putt.

[00:16:30] >> Just a third shot here for Henderson at 9.

[00:16:34] >> Well, as Corey didn't hit a very good second shot, but Brooke Henderson bailing him out here.

[00:16:41] >> As we go over to 13, Nelly has to get them to 11-under.

[00:16:54] >> This is nearly straight up the hill. Wonderful place to putt from here on 13. Definitely a birdie hole. Everybody standing on that tee feeling like it's a good opportunity to make up some ground. And they don't want to get too far behind, Tom.

[00:17:15] >> Yeah, I mean, the scoring will be low tomorrow. But, you know, as you say, you don't want to be too far back because the teams that are ahead of you obviously can also go low. Check in with the pair that won last year, Jason Day and Lydia Ko. It's a birdie putt for Jason Day.

[00:17:40] >> Yeah, this should just fall ever so slightly to his right here. Not much to worry about with speed.

[00:17:53] >> Yeah. Second birdie of the day for this pair. That gets them to 12-under. In the mix again.

[00:18:04] >> Now, back at 8 with the team that had the overnight lead after a 58. And Patty Tavatanakit trying to make another one here.

[00:18:13] >> Morgan, you referenced the last hole. A lot of time, that other player will take on the caddie roll and just say trust it, exactly like he did on the last hole. Give that other play a little bit of confidence when they get over it.

[00:18:23] >> Birdie number four on the day. Yeah, walk it in confidently. And the lead gets stretched to two, 17-under par now for Patty and Jake.

[00:18:39] >> Tom Kim with his second.

[00:18:51] >> Oh, yes. Great performance from Tom Kim there as they chase Tavatanakit and Knapp. Sun starting to peak through here in Southwest Florida.

[00:19:11] >> Up at the 12th, Jason Day. Looking for back to back birdies with Lydia Ko. He races that one in as well. Lydia, love the reaction as well. Team golf at its finest there. At the 10th, first time participant here at the Grant Thornton Invitational, Akshay Bhatia.

[00:19:37] >> One-nineteen total. Just a touch of help. He's got a little bank behind this hole he can use to spin it back.

[00:19:46] >> Oh, he does nicely. Really nicely.

[00:19:49] >> And that would move them to 15-under.

[00:19:54] >> Tom, you were not alone. I saw other Floridians in parkas this morning.

[00:19:57] >> Thank you.

[00:19:58] >> Especially puffer jackets.

[00:19:59] >> Thank you.

[00:19:59] >> Morgan, don't placate the man.

[00:20:02] >> This one, this one is quite thick. It's thick.

[00:20:04] >> It's a really warm jacket I will say.

[00:20:07] >> It's a really warm jacket.

[00:20:08] >> It does -- It works.

[00:20:09] >> When we saw you this morning in that, I don't know, snap that picture. But when we saw you this morning in that, my first thought was, what do you wear when it's actually cold out?

[00:20:18] >> It's not about the temperature.

[00:20:20] >> Woody's down there with his parka, right?

[00:20:25] >> Yeah. John's watching Jake Knapp make a putt. As you should be, John. We kid because we care, Tom. A lot of these players have never met each other before this week.

[00:20:46] >> Yeah. Including last year, Jason Day and Lydia Ko didn't know each other coming in. And she was really nervous about playing alongside him. They went on to win. Jeeno and Tom Kim did know each other, as we mentioned.

[00:21:01] >> Yeah.

[00:21:04] >> Both of them coming off interesting years for different reasons. This is Akshay Bhatia playing with Jennifer Kupcho. And they had an issue with the ruling, didn't they, John Wood? You've been out there for us.

[00:21:20] >> They did. They did. Akshay drove it left onto the cart pass. Jennifer had to take a drop. And it put her in a real tight spot, kind of underneath some trees on some pine straw. She played a beautiful shot to this point. Kind of punched it underneath some branches and rolled it all the way to this point. It's pretty straightforward pitch here for Akshay.

[00:21:53] >> Brooke Henderson for a birdie at 13. We saw that approach from Corey Conners.

[00:22:00] >> Great look here for Brooke.

[00:22:07][ Cheering and Applause ]

[00:22:19] >> Up at the 14th, the par 5, third shot for Tom Kim. And Karen Stupples is down there.

[00:22:25] >> He has 86 yards to go. There's a hint of breeze into the players today. But what this does is going to set up Jeeno with it with a putt for birdie. And her putter has been hot so far today. She has made puts on 3, 7, 8, and 13.

[00:22:42] >> Set up quite open to that one again as well. Lovely distance control. That should be another birdie for that team.

[00:22:52] >> They get to 16-under.

[00:23:00] >> Now, Jason Day for the birdie. Yeah. They're going to be in the mix tomorrow, I think.

[00:23:16] >> Back to the 12th, the always important par saves in this format, John.

[00:23:23] >> Yeah, just to keep momentum. Patty made a really narrow -- I'm sorry. Jake made a really nice one at the last. Looking to do it again.

[00:23:33] >> They read this and looked like they were pointing at the left side of the hole. I'm kind of behind it. It almost looks like it wants to go that way a little bit to me. But --

[00:23:44] >> These guys have basically gotten every read dead on today. I wouldn't doubt what they're going to do here.

[00:23:50] >> Only hiccup they made was at the fourth when they carted a five at the par 4.

[00:23:59] >> So important, Morgan, these momentum keepers.

[00:24:03] >> Yeah, especially at this point with that two shot lead. Want to keep the pedal down. This format's always important, I felt like, to keep the bogeys off the scorecard. Cards are always a great score. Excellent save right there.

[00:24:25] >> As we go all the way up to the 18th, and Max Greyserman right behind us.

[00:24:31] >> Hole location really accessible today, especially with softer conditions. Right in the front of the green. Oh, a beauty from Max.

[00:24:45] >> Daniel Berger now for a birdie at 17. Yeah, playing with Nelly Korda. They're going to need a really big Sunday to challenge.

[00:25:02] >> At the 16th, just off the green, Celine Boutier.

[00:25:06] >> Putting back up the hill here.

[00:25:08] >> Like with the Frenchman, Matthieu Pavon, and Celine takes care of business herself.

[00:25:20] >> Akshay Bhatia for the birdie.

[00:25:22] >> And that's a tough format, as we've discussed, and they have just been instructed. They are well behind. So they got to pick up the pace this group and makes it even a little bit more difficult. That'll help.

[00:25:33] >> Yeah.

[00:25:35] >> What a beautiful roll. He's got that line on the ball. You can see it just end over end.

[00:25:45] >> Patty Tavatanakit and Jake Knapp, this is a par putt.

[00:25:50] >> Another one straight down the hill. And you know, you're asked to speed up, and the routine has been fantastic in terms of results. But it is fairly slow. As much talking as they're doing back and forth, like to quicken the pace a little bit just to close that gap and get off the clock or at least get off the warning clock.

[00:26:11] >> I mean, this is the third hole in a row they've had to really grind for a par. That can only last so long. Some pretty solid golf, especially clutch par putts, but got to start finding some fairways and greens.

[00:26:29] >> This is an eagle putt for Lauren Coughlin at 17th.

[00:26:35] >> She made a fabulous putt on the other par 5 for birdie.

[00:26:38] >> Yes. Teaming up with Cameron Young, they're going to get to 12-under par.

[00:26:54] >> Now, Thitikul from the bunker at 16. Oh, nice touch. Look at this.

[00:26:58] >> Got a chance.

[00:26:59] >> Oh, it goes in. Amazing. Great finish a few weeks ago to pick up the 4 million. And now, holes it out there at 16. Gets a hug from Tom Kim. Three birdies in their last four holes. Have to take a look at this again, Morgan.

[00:27:18] >> What a perfect shot. I mean, just got right underneath it, hoisted it up in the air, falls in at the perfect pace. I have to say, I love their team outfits too. What a good looking team out here today.

[00:27:32] >> I don't know who she is.

[00:27:45] >> Brooke Henderson has had a lot of clutch moments in her young career. That's a good shot out of the bunker at 16.

[00:28:00] >> Patty T. putting for birdie on a separate herself. Oh, she walks in another one, Morgan.

[00:28:07] >> She walked in one earlier. I mean, that was, what, 3 or 4 feet at least short of the hole, but beautiful swing. Best swing we've seen in a long time from Jake, especially here on this back nine. And sets up Patty to roll in another putt. Her putting has just been beautiful. End over end right there. Yeah, it's about 3 feet out. Walking it in.

[00:28:28] >> Serious confidence.

[00:28:29] >> Such confidence.

[00:28:29] >> That's awesome.

[00:28:33] >> Two teams here have been helping each other read greens in today's format more than we've seen any other team. These two putts here see it time and time again, left a little bit short, goes slightly uphill at the end.

[00:28:50] >> Oh, this looks great. What a putt from Jennifer Kupcho. Closing out the second round in style. Getting her team with Akshay Bhatia to 17-under par to within three as we speak.

[00:29:03] >> That's a really big putt right there, obviously.

[00:29:07] >> Tom Kim and Jeeno Thitikul set the Grant Thornton Invitational 18-hole foursome scoring record with an 8-under 64. Two off the pace of Knapp and Tavatanakit. And the final round is next.

[00:29:25] >> The game's best return to Hawaii, where the 2025 race for the FedExCup begins with the PGA Tour's opening drive.

[00:29:35] >> Starting here, testing your game against the best players on the PGA Tour, it's what it's all about. This is the best of the best. It's fun being here, finding it's the best competition in the world.

[00:29:47] >> There's no place like starting in Hawaii. It's special.

[00:29:57] >> Such a beautiful part of the country. And the weather is cooperating on this Sunday. About 10 minutes from the Gulf of Mexico is the Tiburon Golf Club. This property is used to hosting big time events. And for the second consecutive year, it's home to the only professional tournament that has LPGA and PGA Tour players competing together. The temperature will top out around 80 today, but the wind will be a factor. It's really blowing out there.

[00:30:29] >> When I saw Brooke earlier, I said we're going really strong with the Canadian colors today. Of course on purpose. She holed a beauty on the 10th, from the -- just short of the 10th green for eagle. Birdied the last. They're trying to give it a push here, Steve. They've got some work to do as they've certainly played more holes. But --

[00:30:53] >> This is one of those formats, one of those kind of days and conditions where you want more holes to play or fewer holes to play.

[00:31:00] >> You want more holes to play because, in this format, essentially best ball with an alternate shot just off the tee, you're looking to make birdie. So the more holes you play, you would think the more birdie opportunities you are going to have.

[00:31:21] >> For an eagle, birdie, birdie start to this back nine.

[00:31:32] >> This is Nelly Korda playing alongside Daniel Berger. This one looks good. Oh, dear.

[00:31:44] >> I think she's been putting quite well this week, Morgan.

[00:31:51] >> Yeah. She has tremendous confidence, Karen. She has been walking them in from almost everywhere.

[00:32:04][ Applause ]

[00:32:09] >> This is the short par-4 13th. And this is Brooke Henderson, second shot.

[00:32:15] >> So these guys are three back, Henderson and Conners. They got a really push it here. Make a couple of birdies, maybe even an eagle at the next hole, the par-5 14th. They've got two par 5s to come, so they're not out of it.

[00:32:31][ Applause ]

[00:32:34] >> I thought it was going to be kind of a three team race, but with Henderson and Conners making two at 10, birdie at 11, really put them into the mix, so. He finished one back last year, trying to go one better this year.

[00:32:54] >> Oh, yes. This could be a late charge from the Canadians here on Sunday.

[00:33:00][ Applause ]

[00:33:08] >> Up ahead at 14, this par 5, third shot for Allisen Corpuz, playing with Sahith Theegala.

[00:33:14] >> A little bit shortsighted here coming from the left side to the left hole location.

[00:33:21] >> Fabulous shot.

[00:33:24] >> And Corpuz would make birdie.

[00:33:32] >> See what's going on at the 10th. You see the whole location on the front edge of the green. And Karen, it looks like Jake Knapp and Patty Tavatanakit are ready to go.

[00:33:42] >> He is. He's got 96 yards from this. But it is on quite a good up slope. So, it's going to add a little bit of loft.

[00:33:51] >> Ninety-six. Yeah, I like 90 a lot. Everyone just go full left.

[00:33:58] >> Yeah.

[00:33:58] >> OK.

[00:33:59] >> So they're taking, well, it sounds like 5 yards off for that wind, but you do have that massive upslope. But it's going to pitch on a bit of a down slope once it lands on the green if you land short of that flag.

[00:34:27] >> At the 14th, Sahith Theegala putting for birdie.

[00:34:34] >> Good place to putt from. About right edge, can be firm.

[00:34:39] >> Tom Kim in the fairway at 10.

[00:34:45] >> Ninety-two yards for Tom. Just got a lot of air under that one.

[00:34:50] >> He was really spending a lot of time working, dialing in those shots on the range this morning.

[00:35:03] >> Yeah, just about 70 yards here for Patty. And a good angle actually to this flag. Wide open. Doesn't have to negotiate any of the downslope.

[00:35:19] >> Oh, yeah. Knocked it in tight.

[00:35:25] >> It is two balls in play with world class players. You know, Morgan, I thought that might have Kupcho putt first, try to get that par in so Akshay would have a bit of a free run. As it is now, two tough par putts.

[00:35:46] >> Back at the 10th with Thitikul.

[00:35:50] >> Pretty good from this range.

[00:35:54] >> Really good. Now, within one.

[00:36:06] >> The one thing you can't do is step back. And this would be to do exactly that. If he misses, this is a par putt here for Bhatia.

[00:36:12] >> And as fast as those putts were coming down the grain, down the hill, downwind, this is exactly the opposite. Straight up the hill.

[00:36:27] >> We saw Jake missed his. So now, this birdie putt for Patty. Takes on some added significance. And she rattles it home. So, 24-under par is now setting the pace. Patty and Jake had the lead overnight by two, but it's been cut in half.

[00:36:52] >> Third shot at the par-5 14th for Brooke.

[00:37:00] >> Knock it cozy. Oh, good shot.

[00:37:02][ Applause ] Lexi Thompson's a long ways away, speaking of big time challenges for birdie right behind us, Morgan, at the 18th.

[00:37:17] >> Take it up close to the fringe here. Tricky putt. Well-judged for speed there.

[00:37:29][ Applause ]

[00:37:35] >> Rickie Fowler made the par putt. So Lexi and Rickie, their second Grant Thornton Invitational is now complete. And no doubt Lexi will receive a lot of love up.

[00:37:56] >> At the 16th, Mel Reid is playing alongside Cameron Champ. Oh, damn.

[00:38:03][ Applause ]

[00:38:17] >> And this duo different from what Karen was just talking about. Brooke told me they're exclusively playing her ball today, which surprised me a little bit that they weren't going to switch at all. Said that Corey's ball is a little bit too soft for her. And when Corey holed out last year on the 9th for eagle, that kind of sold him on her golf ball. Said, OK, I could play this ball too.

[00:38:49] >> And now, Jake Knapp for his -- well, for the par. They need to get it in here.

[00:38:57] >> Yeah, I don't see this one doing too much.

[00:39:06] >> Yeah. OK. Four is in. Tom Kim will still have a putt for a par here. The final round of the Grand Thornton Invitational.

[00:39:26] >> Jeeno Thitikul has missed her birdie opportunity. So, has this one to try and advance the team a little bit closer to the lead of Knapp and Tavatanakit. It's uphill.

[00:39:47] >> Getting to the point, Karen, where these need to start going in. Play aggressive golf from here on out.

[00:39:56] >> Oh, he walked it in with about 4 or 5 feet left. Now, Henderson and Conners. They keep trying to apply that pressure.

[00:40:33] >> To get to 24-under. Yeah, OK.

[00:40:38][ Applause ]

[00:40:44] >> The Canadian hopes. They missed out last year by just a single shot. Finished one back of Lydia and Jason Day.

[00:41:05] >> Oh, no. She had the line. If she just hit it. That's going to be very frustrating for Brooke.

[00:41:17] >> Tavatanakit now, her third at the par 5.

[00:41:21] >> And this is from 110. We've got a little bit of wind off the right. This is a good looking shot. She has been so dialed in today with her distances.

[00:41:30] >> Right over the flagstick.

[00:41:33] >> I think it's so interesting, Tom, watching all of these partnerships who don't really know each other all of that well really collaborate on the greens. Lauren putting a huge strength of her game.

[00:41:51] >> Well done.

[00:41:56] >> Back to the par-5 14th. And Patty.

[00:42:01] >> This is not a particularly easy putt. It's downhill. A little bit of a slide to it as well.

[00:42:07] >> She's been walking them in, Karen.

[00:42:10] >> Oh, just like that.

[00:42:12] >> Putting with so much confidence. And look at that.

[00:42:24] >> Tom Kim raced his eagle putt to this point. To stay within one now.

[00:42:28] >> Yeah, I don't see this being too much of a problem, though. Don't see a huge amount in this one either.

[00:42:48] >> That's birdie number six for that team. And another duo has reached 24-under. But Patty Tavatanakit and Jake Knapp, they began the day with a two shot lead. It is now one, but they do have the lead all to themselves. Corey Conners and Brooke Henderson gave it a good run.

[00:43:09] >> Valiant effort. They were way back to start the day, 10-under par in this format. Wonderful golf from the two of them.

[00:43:22] >> Second shot here for Kupcho. Bhatia is already on the green with a lengthy eagle putt.

[00:43:27] >> Tom, you ever had 125 in for your second shot on a par 5.

[00:43:31] >> Wow, that break they got. Oh, what a shot. Right over the hole. And she will have a putt an eagle. That could be the difference maker.

[00:43:47] >> With his partner in there close, this is a fast one.

[00:43:50] >> Looks really good. Oh, what a time to make a three.

[00:43:54] >> He was a little frustrated. He felt like he wasn't putting as well yesterday as he would have liked to. But what a time. And it never left the center of the hole, Tom. A little bit uphill there, then downhill, all the way to the hole.

[00:44:16] >> Yeah. Went in with some speed from that angle, didn't it?

[00:44:23] >> This putt for Patty, it's downhill, should move to the right. It's pretty close to the collar of the bunker. See, she had everything set up. But once she got over it, just realized that she might need to give this a little bit more break.

[00:44:57] >> A beautiful putt.

[00:44:59] >> Yesterday. Walking it in.

[00:45:01] >> Oh, looks great. Another long made putt from Patty Tavatanakit. And that team joins Kupcho and Akshay Bhatia at 26-under par. But remember, they still have the par-5 17th remaining, whereas Kupcho and Bhatia do not. Another look at this, Morgan.

[00:45:22][ Applause ]

[00:45:36] >> Akshay Bhatia.

[00:45:36] >> Just 156, pitching wedge. Looking dead straight at it. Needs to turn over a hair.

[00:45:46] >> Wow, what a misjudge there. Just flew it right over the flagstick.

[00:45:56] >> We now move up to the green with Bhatia playing his third from the water.

[00:46:05] >> And it didn't come out.

[00:46:06] >> He's got 191, but lie is not too bad. It's a little soft underfoot. Ball above his feet. Caught this one cleanly.

[00:46:18] >> It's going to be down towards that ridge on the left. It's going to stay there. So, OK. Oh, is it? No, it's going to go. It's going to go down below the level of the putting surface.

[00:46:38] >> Now, Tom Kim's in the fairway. What's happened to Jake Knapp's partner, Tavatanakit?

[00:46:44] >> Well, Jake was in the penalty area, so she had to take a drop and she's just pitched out. So she's played three.

[00:46:51] >> OK.

[00:46:52] >> She's working hard to make a par.

[00:46:54] >> Yeah. Tom Kim's in a good spot there in the middle of the fairway.

[00:46:58] >> This is position. He's got 186. Just catching a little bit of gust at the moment.

[00:47:09] >> Asking for it to go. Oh, good kick.

[00:47:15][ Applause ]

[00:47:26] >> Was pulled right off the get go.

[00:47:30] >> That'll be the first bogey of the day for Bhatia and Kupcho. Drifts them back a shot. So now, Jake Knapp and Patty Tavatanakit are in complete control.

[00:47:46] >> Tavatanakit and Knapp. This is a third shot. Get it up and down for a birdie, and it'll make the task a lot easier at 18.

[00:47:54] >> It would. This is not easy, though. I mean, if I think back a few holes to the other par 5, he had an into the grain chip where he hit a little bit heavy, and then he flighted the next one, too. His preference is to hit them lower, let him bump into the bank and let them pop up. Oh, this is a lovely shot.

[00:48:19][ Applause ]

[00:48:29] >> Up at the 18th, the other half of that defending championship duo, Lydia. OK.

[00:48:37][ Applause ]

[00:48:44] >> Taking the flag out.

[00:48:45] >> She's going to be -- Yeah, I think she wants to make it. I think she -- they know that they need to make eagle here.

[00:48:59] >> Give it a run. Oh, Tom, he's not even come close to hitting it.

[00:49:18] >> Now, the birdie putt for Knapp. This is going to give them a little cushion heading to the 18th.

[00:49:25] >> That would be rather nice. And it was good to see Patty come in and help with the read here, too.

[00:49:33] >> Yeah, good up and down.

[00:49:38] >> We were chuckling about Patty walking him in with Jake earlier. He said, I learned my lesson. I don't walk too many in. Learned my lesson the hard way, he goes. But she sure likes to early step.

[00:49:52] >> We stay with the lead group. And Knapp playing his second on 18.

[00:50:04] >> Two beauties in there from that team in the lead. Just exactly what they needed to do. Beautiful rhythm. Really straightened out his golf swing, and it looked beautiful today.

[00:50:17] >> He's trying to seal off this second edition of the Grant Thornton Invitational. We talked about the influence that Gordon, the grandfather, had on Jake Knapp as a kid and a young adult. Morgan, you can speak to that. Your grandfather had a huge influence on your career. It's an individual sport, but it's a team game at times, isn't it?

[00:50:35] >> Definitely. It takes a village. We all have those people, those mentors, those people who are really influential in our careers, especially at a young age. And you share the victories as well as the tough times all together. It really takes a village. Nobody gets the top alone. And what a fun moment for them to walk up to this crowd here at 18.

[00:51:19] >> Jeeno Thitikul and Tom Kim, designs on a win here at the Grant Thornton Invitational. But if this putt goes in, it'll be a solo second for this team.

[00:51:38] >> She's gotten two good looks at it, Karen. Three really.

[00:51:43] >> Well, I mean, if you give Jeeno even a hint of a good look, I think she's going to capitalize on it. We know this one slides to the right. She doesn't have to be quite as tentative as the other team, so she can give this one a good roll. Will move to the right, but I think just split that left edge and let it fall in the hole.

[00:52:09] >> And that is good for a solo second for Jeeno Thitikul and Tom Kim.

[00:52:16][ Applause ] Jake Knapp closes it out. Patty Tavatanakit raises her arms at Tiburon Golf Club. Congratulations to Patty Tavatanakit and Jake Knapp, the winners of the second edition of the Grant Thornton Invitational.

[00:52:36] >> This concludes PGA Tour coverage of the Grant Thornton Invitational.