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[00:00:26] >> The PGA Tour proudly presents the FedExCup Fall. And now, coverage of the 2024 Hero World Challenge.

[00:00:37] >> And it is hard to believe as welcome you to the 25th anniversary of this Hero World Challenge, the 9th year it has been staged at the Albany Golf Club in the Bahamas. Gorgeous day today. Temperature in the mid-70s. And this the tournament Tiger and his father Earl began back in the late '90s to benefit his foundation. And it's a year in celebration of that, as well as a gathering of some of the best players in the world, three of the Top 6 in the world, including Scottie Scheffler, who you see there in a tie for 5th. But it's Cameron Young who is setting the pace three better now than Brian Harman. Sam Burns, Aberg playing here for the first time as well. Just a loaded star studded field. Patrick Cantlay's back in the field, 2-under, four back, along with Russell Henley, who's playing for the first time. Robert MacIntyre, one of those eight first timers as well. Along with Aaron Rai. And there's Straka who just got into the field late. Great scoring conditions. And as we mentioned earlier, Scottie Scheffler off that historic seven win season last year, which included an Olympic gold medal. This is how Scheffler, who last played competitively at the President's Cup, began his round. Opening hole, gets it within 3 feet there. And there is the claw grip, Smylie, that we saw for the first time today.

[00:01:55] >> It's a big surprise, in one in which we're curious to see how far he's going to extend that claw grip out on the greens.

[00:02:00] >> In the meantime, we mentioned Cameron Young filling it up, but he's got to get himself some good looks. And he does so here with his second at the short par-4 7th.

[00:02:08] >> It's a hole when you get on the tee, it's one you just got to find a way to make a three.

[00:02:13] >> Birdie there for him from 5 feet, 8 inches. And then, from long range here at the 8th from 16.6 feet.

[00:02:19] >> Yeah. And he's cross handed now as well. Rolling it today. Made some nice midrange putts.

[00:02:23] >> And we just saw the two putt birdie at the 11th for Cameron Young. Three clear in Tiger's 25th Hero World Challenge.

[00:02:32] >> Jason Day staring down this birdie try.

[00:02:47] >> There we go.

[00:02:48] >> And that is his first birdie on the front side. So maybe a little bit of momentum as he makes the turn.

[00:02:53] >> Yeah. And a good bounce back after the bogey at 8. On the tee here at the 12th, Robert MacIntyre. He is a long way away from Scotland here in the Bahamas for the first time ever. Living dangerously and paying it off.

[00:03:14] >> Now, MacIntyre just to clean up his birdie. What a dreamlike year it's been for MacIntyre, winning his homeland of Scotland. To the par-5 11th.

[00:03:25] >> Where Sungjae Im has this birdie putt.

[00:03:32] >> And Im gets the 2-under par.

[00:03:36] >> We'll pick up with Aberg just off the 11th green, playing his third to the par 5.

[00:03:47] >> Aberg putting for birdie at the par-5 11th. Gets to 4-under par.

[00:03:58] >> Here comes Sungjae Im at 13.

[00:04:03] >> Another consistent year for him this year. Oh, man, what a great shot from Sungjae.

[00:04:16] >> Jumping ahead to the par-4 14th with Kim putting for eagle. This would put him to 1-over par for the tournament if he can hole it.

[00:04:28][ Applause ]

[00:04:35] >> Players were all notified off the tee. Rick Wild, our scoring official, let them all know when they teed off this morning what the situation was and to be aware of it. So it was very clear to them what it was.

[00:04:46] >> All right. Here's Cameron Young now, the leader. John?

[00:04:48] >> Yeah. Same basic distance as the other team, but a much better angle. As Mark said, this back right hole location opens up the green just a little bit, 179, 7-iron. Just a touch of hurt. Starting at the flag, turning over towards the center of the green.

[00:05:07] >> And that's safely on. And we talked about Spieth and Stenson going on that tee, but the wrong hole, Curt.

[00:05:14] >> Right, exactly. They made that mistake a couple years ago here. So they didn't want that to happen again.

[00:05:21] >> Cantlay lines up this eagle putt at the 11th.

[00:05:24] >> And got home in two. No trouble. This has a chance. Boom.

[00:05:28] >> Rattles that one in.

[00:05:30] >> That helps the scoring.

[00:05:31] >> Yes, it does. Doubles them up from 2 to 4-under par now.

[00:05:35] >> Currently being led by Cameron Young at 7-under.

[00:05:38] >> And --

[00:05:39] >> Putting from the exact opposite direction. So he took a look at Sepp's putt as it came up the hill. So his putt should move a hair to the right. Smylie, just looking at Cameron and the fitness dedication he made in this offseason, I think he may have a big year ahead of him.

[00:05:54] >> Definitely. So I think the one thing with Cameron Young, he just needs to be a little bit more kind to himself. He's got all the game, but so often last year, he just looked like he got in his own way.

[00:06:05] >> Smylie, you think that's one of the reasons why he hasn't won yet?

[00:06:07] >> I definitely think so. When you get expectations as a rookie, as high as they were playing so well in the majors, being so close, you know, you can be very tough on yourself.

[00:06:15] >> That's birdie number 8 for Cameron Young. And the lead is back to three.

[00:06:22] >> Back to the 14th tee here at Albany. And Ludvig Aberg staring down this short par 4.

[00:06:33] >> You'll see the longer players hit 3-wood today. The wind is off of the left, total of 295. Only 15 on, so about 280 to the front with a little bit of elevation down.

[00:06:48] >> Talked about that knee surgery which Aberg had in September after the Tour Championship to kind of clean up some meniscus. Had the longest layoff that he can ever remember not touching a club.

[00:06:59] >> What helps when you hit shots like that. He's got some strength back in his legs.

[00:07:04] >> Skipping ahead to the par-4 16th with MacIntyre playing his third from just off the green. MacIntyre close to a finishing birdie, but not quite.

[00:07:21] >> Robert MacIntyre in his first trip to the Bahamas, finish up in his first round here at the Hero for par. Safely in. Pretty good day for Bobby Mac. Sixty-eight, just four back.

[00:07:34] >> Aberg over at the tough par 4, 164 yards left.

[00:07:39] >> Just got to take enough club to get it over that greenside bunker short.

[00:07:52] >> This is 14. Thomas for birdie after it just stayed perched up there on the hill. Oh, wow. Looked like a birdie the whole time, right? Justin Thomas moving it to 3-under.

[00:08:16] >> After a big drive, this is just a wedge here for Justin Thomas. Wind down and off the left if there's any.

[00:08:23] >> Good chance. Good look for JT.

[00:08:25] >> Back to the green at the 16th with Justin Thomas putting for birdie.

[00:08:32] >> Beautiful wedge in there. He's got a similar putt as Dunlap had earlier. Almost the same line and distance we saw. Remember, Dunlap's lipped out pretty hard. It's one of those putts you got to decide how you want to play it, soft with a bigger break or take a little break out of it and hit it firmer.

[00:08:46] >> And John Wood, Justin Thomas was a player that won every year from 2015 to 2022. And when you've gone 2 years and you haven't won, is it just kind of getting that killer instinct back in a player if you're a caddie?

[00:09:01] >> I think so. I just think this guy plays great with a chip on his shoulder, and he's got that again I think. The fact that he wasn't on the President's Cup Team, didn't have a great year and didn't win, I think is actually good for him for this year.

[00:09:14] >> You know, you mentioned Smylie, stain with Nick Dunlap. And he's -- And Nick Dunlap has kind of picked his brain a little bit. And Justin Thomas said, you know, listen, I probably didn't appreciate early in my career all those wins I had. So one of his pieces of advice to Dunlap was, remember what happened this year. You won as an amateur, then you won again. Never forget how great it is to be out here playing golf for a living and appreciate those wins along the way.

[00:09:44] >> Sometimes as a player of Justin Thomas' caliber, with all the wins that he's had, you got to remind yourself too --

[00:09:49] >> Yeah.

[00:09:49] >> -- that you've done it.

[00:09:51] >> It's a game that you grew up having fun playing. I mean, you see all the old videos that his parents, you know, made Mike, his dad, and you just see the joy on his face and the effervescent kind of personality for JT, it's easy for that to get lost when you're out here playing for a living.

[00:10:07] >> For sure, with expectations as high as Justin's is. And John Wood, he's given this the full treatment, hasn't he?

[00:10:13] >> Yeah. You know, it's a tricky read when he and his caddie Revie have taken this long in a putt of about 6 feet.

[00:10:19] >> Got it.

[00:10:19] >> Got it right.

[00:10:20] >> We caught up with MacIntyre for his post round thoughts.

[00:10:24] >> Yeah, it was solid. Tee to green was as good as it's kind of been driving it. Unbelievable. Iron play has been really nice. Just as everyone knows this week, the short game is a task with how grainy it is, how soft it is. But, yeah, bogey free. But if anything, to work on a little bit of short game. I mean, not yet. The scores are there. I mean, you can see the scoring, slow scoring. So we're needing a bit of wind to protect the golf course a little bit. But no, look, it's a lovely place to come at this time of year compared to back home. So, no, I'm just, I'm happy to be here.

[00:11:04] >> Should be a good second round tomorrow with so many players in contention and within touch of Cameron Young. And again, should be another mid-70s day tomorrow. Close to 80 degrees perhaps as well. And a look at all 20 players in Tiger's 25th Hero World Challenge.

[00:11:24] >> And Round 2 is next.

[00:11:34] >> First week of December in the Bahamas. Not a bad place to be at all. Temperature about 79 degrees. You can take an ocean ride on those turquoise waters or settle in to watch some golf at nearby Albany Golf Club. Watch the best golfers in the world at an event staged and created by the player who took this sport to a whole another stratosphere. Tiger Woods and his foundation, which was founded the year before he won the first of his 15 majors. Welcome back to the greatest golf show on earth. That would be Scottie Scheffler. Birdies at 1, 2, and 3 to start the second round of the Hero World Challenge. And the fourth in a row drops from 17 feet with that newly employed saw grip for World number 1. And he has gone from a three shot deficit to leading Tiger's event just like that. It's like the 2024 regular season never even ended, and Scheffler has picked up where he left off.

[00:12:33] >> Let's go up to the 7th. And Robert MacIntyre.

[00:12:37] >> Short par 3. But most of the players laying back today to leave themselves par 4. Excuse me, laying back far enough where they can do just that. Spin it in there.

[00:12:45] >> Let's go up to 12.

[00:12:46] >> And a birdie attempt for Jason Day, who is way back, did not get up to a good start yesterday. It's been a bit of a struggle.

[00:12:53] >> Yeah. It's been the ball striking that's been giving him problems. But when you get him on the green, he's going to be able to do this. One of the best putters in the world.

[00:12:59] >> Yeah. He's turned it around there, Smylie. You can see he was struggling again through the first seven holes, but now, he's birdie four of the last five. As we check in with Ludvig Aberg in his third at the par-5 6th.

[00:13:14] >> Just knocking down a 90-yard little wedge shot. And well done. Nice start for Ludwig on his round as well today. Trying to keep chase with Scottie Scheffler. Now, Aberg who you saw come up with his third. So this for birdie for Aberg to get solo second of the moment within one of Scheffler. Aberg's first trip to the Bahamas and enjoying it a lot right now with three birdies -- four birdies, I should say, and a span of five holes there.

[00:13:44] >> Up at the 11th, Aaron Rai putting for birdie.

[00:13:48] >> His first trip here to the Hero World Challenge and enjoying himself after a great year.

[00:13:54] >> Over to the 14th. Drivable par 4, 291 today. This is Tom Kim.

[00:13:59] >> We're going to see some eagles today here, Dan, this front hole location.

[00:14:03] >> Much better day for Tom today after round of 74 yesterday, Smylie. He's made four birdies. And look at this shot.

[00:14:11] >> You'll see this from some guys today getting inside of 15 feet.

[00:14:15] >> Meanwhile, Tom Kim drove this green at the short 14th. So for eagle.

[00:14:22] >> One eagle on this hole yesterday. But with 20 guys playing in the field, it played 13-under par. And today, I expected to play even more under par with this more accessible hole location.

[00:14:34] >> We'll jump ahead to the par-4 16th now with Kim playing his third from just off the green. Tom Kim taking measure. And that gets him to 4-under par.

[00:14:47][ Applause ]

[00:14:55] >> This was earlier on the short par-4 14th. Sungjae Im 4-under on his round today.

[00:15:02] >> It's got to be a perfect driver for Sungjae. Just a nice smooth one.

[00:15:06] >> It's cooled off a little bit on this second nine, though. But look at this shot right past the stick.

[00:15:12] >> That had to look pretty good from the tee box, I imagine.

[00:15:16] >> Over 14. Long eagle try by Sungjae.

[00:15:18] >> Yeah, this is an up and over putt, moving right to left.

[00:15:21] >> Did he hit it?

[00:15:25] >> Not quite. But still, Sungjae Im having a very nice event thus far.

[00:15:30] >> That's going to be birdie number 6 for Sungjae, and a little better round than he had yesterday going with that 69. Twenty-third ranked player in the world.

[00:15:39] >> You know, par on this golf course today, you know, you have five par 5s, you got a drivable par 4 here at 14. You got to go out and just assume that, you know, 66, 6-under par is kind of what even par should feel like today.

[00:15:52] >> Ahead now to the green, where Sepp Straka is putting for birdie at the par-5 15th. If Sepp Straka can hole this putt, that will put him at 6-under par. Bottom of the cup for Straka.

[00:16:06] >> At the 17th, Sepp Straka, long birdie putt.

[00:16:11] >> Slightly uphill overall. Should be moving to his left.

[00:16:18] >> A little bit of a bonus birdie for Sepp. Number 4 on this back nine.

[00:16:24] >> A gift. Great putt.

[00:16:26] >> To 15.

[00:16:27] >> Aberg. Let's see what he does here with his second.

[00:16:30] >> You don't want to miss right here now. Today, if you're going to miss, you want to be left of the flag. Even the left bunker is good.

[00:16:39] >> Boy, he is swinging the club so well. That's an excellent shot. Very makeable from there.

[00:16:44] >> Second shot for Justin Thomas after that. Just trickled back down the slope.

[00:16:48] >> Elected to play it over those sprinkler heads. Probably was forced to play that shot. Would have probably preferred to play a bump, but executed very nicely.

[00:16:59] >> Keep you right here. Justin Thomas taps in for his birdie. That brings him back to 10-under. And Justin Thomas continuing to chase Scheffler.

[00:17:11] >> Onto the 15th. Now, Aberg putting from just off the green for eagle.

[00:17:16] >> Boy, that ricocheted right to the right very quickly off that fringe. Never had it far enough left.

[00:17:24] >> Robert MacIntyre from off the green. And the two-time winner in 2024 rolls that one home.

[00:17:35] >> That thing tore out the back of the hole going in.

[00:17:39] >> Aberg, 15.

[00:17:40] >> His eagle putt drifted to here. But he makes his four.

[00:17:44] >> Can't let that one slip by, not after two good shots into that par 5. Now, Scheffler.

[00:17:50] >> One-forty-two, perfect position here. Just enough hurt to turn it into a little 9-iron.

[00:17:58] >> Longest drive of the week, 315. Scheffler trying to pay it off to get to 14-under.

[00:18:04] >> Birdied this 18th hole in Round 1, trying to do it in Round 2. This is the hardest hole on the golf course and he's making it look way too easy.

[00:18:12] >> His talents just shine when he's, you know, faced with a whole tough drive. He just knocks it down the middle. Longest drive of the week thus far. And then, he stuffs in one of his patented approaches there. Today is his 81st competitive stroke play round of the year overall, and it's going to be his 55th round in the 60s, Smylie. That's a 68% clip of rounds in the 60s.

[00:18:37] >> He's had no bogeys in this round today. And we've -- You know, the conversation has been so much about the change in the putter grip to the saw. Today, he's first in strokes gain putting. He has been lights out and watch out for this guy. It's going to be tough to catch him on the weekend.

[00:18:52] >> It's just business as usual for Scheffler who just seems unaffected by anything. And the bigger his name gets in this game of golf, the more he just remains exactly the same.

[00:19:03] >> All right. So Scheffler has hit the closest approach of the day, 4.5 feet here to 18.

[00:19:12] >> And if you're a right-handed putter, this is exactly your favorite putt. Uphill, moving a little to his left. And Steven, on a putt this short, he broke it in half, and said, OK, what's it going to do the second half? What's it going to do the first half?

[00:19:25] >> So this for a 63.

[00:19:28] >> Scheffler this week so far in this 3 to 7-foot range, perfect. A lot of it's had to do with that new grip. Just got that outside a little bit.

[00:19:47] >> Tried to play a higher wind with soft speed and just did not want to work its way into the cup.

[00:19:55] >> Still just an unbelievable display of control and consistency that we've been seeing for the last two years. Sixty-four for Scheffler.

[00:20:05] >> Sixty-seven is probably playing 74. We're a little more crossed than we were in on the last whole. Agree?

[00:20:14] >> Yeah.

[00:20:24] >> There it is. You just -- I don't know. You never know what it's going to do, right?

[00:20:29] >> Doesn't seem like enough, but any indecision here.

[00:20:31] >> Yeah, it just seems to me as narrow as this green is, it's the last, you know, kind of situation with the green being built as it is that you want to have some on there. Just that little bit of doubt it leaves in your mind with water short and a little bit left.

[00:20:41] >> Yeah. You don't want any kind of variable.

[00:20:43] >> It's interesting. The superintendent hasn't put water on the golf course since Wednesday. And so, it's not that really. There are just some areas that don't drain as well right now. Looks like he's setting up to play just a little bit of a fade here. Probably taking one extra club. You see him choke down.

[00:21:08] >> Lost this well to the right. I think that's a mishit off the lower part of the club.

[00:21:12] >> Kind of a tough shot.

[00:21:14] >> You can hear him say kind of a tough shot with mud on it. Whether it was all mud or not, didn't sound like great contact, Bones, out there. And now, Justin Thomas with his third.

[00:21:26] >> And the green between Justin and the flag is going away from him, and it's also down grain. So he appeared to be looking at a spot just short of the putting surface where I think he's going to bump the ball into.

[00:21:39] >> Bones, another couple yards, that shot would have been much more difficult. He's actually got a little bit more of a flat area with an up slope that he's going to be landing it on.

[00:21:47] >> Yeah, he's got some room. This is doable. But we talk a lot about Justin's hands. He's going to have to really show them to us here.

[00:21:53] >> Just puts it a little back in the sands, opens the face just fractionally.

[00:22:11] >> That's a very good shot, leaving an uphill putt.

[00:22:14] >> Yeah, I agree, Bones, giving that underneath the hole.

[00:22:22] >> Now, Thomas, 4 feet, 10 inches away. He's already missed a couple of short ones, Bones, inside 5 feet today, so.

[00:22:30] >> Yeah. And he probably wishes that Cameron hadn't putted in front of him because he can't help but think about whether or not Cameron's ball didn't break as much as he intended it to.

[00:22:37] >> He putted that last one with a little bit of pace, and I expect him to hit this with a little conviction in the back.

[00:22:45] >> That's well done. Thomas ends the second round here with a nice save for par. Sixty-six, 67 for Justin Thomas in his continued improvement. So he and Bhatia both save par. So they are tied 11-under, two back of Scottie Scheffler, who's been pretty good recently, went in the lead with 36 holes to play. He's won five of the last six times, including here last year. The only one he didn't was at the Century at Kapalua.

[00:23:19] >> Coming up, third round coverage.

[00:23:28] >> And for the ninth consecutive time, Albany is playing host. An exclusive getaway near the Bahamian capital of Nassau. What a spot this is. An Ernie Els design golf course surrounded by all the amenities you can fathom. It opened in 2010. Albany is considered one of the most exciting exclusive resorts in the Bahamas. But this week. it's on display for the world to see as some of the game's greats have once again gathered at Tiger's event. And there is the number 1 player in the world, the defending champion here at the Hero World Challenge. Scottie Scheffler arriving on the grounds here at Albany, getting ready to begin his warm up. How will he handle the pressure of the weekend, and also, the wind today, as we said, will be a factor? His 36-hole total of 131 is the best at Albany Golf Club since becoming the host venue back in 2014. Justin Thomas playing very well, seemingly improving week by week. Akshay Bhatia, he'll be the man in the final group with Scottie Scheffler. As you see, the field of 20, only two of them are over par right now, Matthieu Pavon and Jason Day. As we go out to the action at the first 1st, Steve Sand. So pleased to be alongside Curt Byrum once again. And Robert MacIntyre, one of the eight newcomers to play in the Hero World Challenge. Is that the first?

[00:24:47] >> A good start with this drive. Right down the middle and a very gettable frontish hole location here at the first. Nice number to have in there, 200 yards. They hit a lot of practice shots from 100 yards.

[00:24:59] >> As we go back over to the 1st, he's the kind of birdie putts you're looking for to open up the third round.

[00:25:04] >> Boy, speaking of a guy who took advantage this year, what a monster year this guy had, Steve.

[00:25:10] >> Won in Canada, and then, won a huge one for him. Basically the fifth major in his world, the Genesis Scottish Open, his home country.

[00:25:18] >> Yeah, for a Scotsman to win there, it meant everything to him.

[00:25:39] >> So that's a birdie at 1 for Robert MacIntyre. Nicely done to begin his day.

[00:25:45] >> Let's jump back to the fairway now at the 1st with Tom Kim playing his second.

[00:25:54] >> Another good one.

[00:25:55] >> Yeah, it's a good shot. Really good shot. Both players, good chance to start the day with birdies.

[00:26:00] >> We'll go to the 1st.

[00:26:01] >> Where Tom Kim has this birdie effort. OK.

[00:26:07] >> There you go.

[00:26:08] >> You're going to see a lot of birdies at 1 today.

[00:26:09] >> Let's go back to the 2nd and find Tom Kim. What a turnaround. He had nine strokes better yesterday. Opening 74 out of 65 yesterday. And that gets him on his way today. Beautiful shot at the par-3 2nd after opening with a birdie at the 1st. And find Tom Kim looking just to tap in, tidy up his birdie here. What a start this is.

[00:26:36] >> Tom Kim hitting his third at the par-5 3rd.

[00:26:43] >> Boy, Tom Kim off to a hot start. That's an easy putt for him for his third birdie in a row.

[00:26:49] >> And we'll go up to the 3rd.

[00:26:51] >> Tom Kim looking for that hat trick to begin this third round.

[00:26:55] >> There shouldn't be much to this. Three feet, not much break, if any.

[00:27:09] >> Tom Kim was 3-over through his first six holes on Thursday. Now, he's on the first page of the leaderboard. We told you yesterday, Scottie Scheffler opened with four consecutive birdies. That's what Tom Kim can do right now.

[00:27:24] >> Look at that scorecard.

[00:27:25] >> Scheffler went out in 29 yesterday. How low will Tom Kim go?

[00:27:31] >> Justin Thomas now playing his second from the rough, just off at the 4th.

[00:27:37] >> Tough lie to read here for Justin. The entire shot is based on reading this lie correctly. It looks like a big jumper to me. Looked like he tried to take something off it.

[00:27:51] >> He played for the tumble. He got it. That is so well done. Coming out of that Bermuda rough, you know you can't make clean contact. You have to play for some release, and he did.

[00:28:03] >> Let's drop back to 4.

[00:28:04] >> Justin Thomas.

[00:28:06] >> Another great look here. Curt, you nailed it on that second shot. That's when he's at his best, those field shots.

[00:28:13] >> That is a big birdie putt early on to try to get some confidence going. I mentioned earlier, he came into the weekend dead last in strokes gained putting. If he starts making putts the way he's hitting it, going to be right there.

[00:28:27] >> At the 4th, Scheffler in the fairway.

[00:28:30] >> Scottie now looking to make his first birdie of the day. And why not start here? He's got a great angle to a right hole location. Asking for the ball to sit down. It's on a good line.

[00:28:48] >> Yeah.

[00:28:48] >> Yeah.

[00:28:48] >> It's a good shot. Really good.

[00:28:51] >> Ahead to the 4th now, where Scottie Scheffler is lining up this birdie putt.

[00:29:02] >> Hold on to your hats. And boy, you might have nailed it, Curt. It is hammering out here right now.

[00:29:13] >> There's a great look at it.

[00:29:20] >> Oh, yeah.

[00:29:21] >> There you go.

[00:29:21] >> Confident.

[00:29:22] >> First birdie of the day for Scottie. He reaches 14-under. Gets that two shot lead back up.

[00:29:28] >> At the 9th, the par 5. Can Tom Kim do it again? The answer is yes. And he goes out in 36 birdies, no bogeys on the card. Look out for Tom Kim. Let's head to the other side of the golf course now.

[00:29:48] >> And find Tom Kim. Beginning his back nine after that electric opening nine. Turned in 6-under 30, missed his second at the 10th. And he just finds the edge of that green. So he will have a lot of work to do if he wants to keep birdie train going. Yeah, trying to keep that clean card as is Tom Kim. And we find with a long look at birdie on the 10th. Curt, you know you got a good round going, but you don't want to make any blemishes.

[00:30:15] >> Definitely not. But man, the way he's putting, he just needs to keep giving himself opportunities on the back nine.

[00:30:22] >> Now, he was bogey free yesterday as part of that second round 65.

[00:30:26] >> On line. What?

[00:30:28] >> And he's got it.

[00:30:29] >> Come on.

[00:30:30] >> What a putt. From outside 38 feet, the collar at the 10th. And Tom Kim is at it again.

[00:30:42] >> Sungjae Im.

[00:30:44] >> Two-forty-three. That wind's helping a little bit out of the left. Most of players playing to the front edge, but Sungjae going right at it.

[00:30:54] >> Wow.

[00:30:54] >> Best second shot of the day at the par-5 11th.

[00:30:58] >> What a second shot at the par 5 for Sungjae Im. And he casts it in with an eagle.

[00:31:05] >> Making up ground in a hurry.

[00:31:08] >> Skipping ahead now to the 16th with Tom Kim playing his second from the fairway.

[00:31:16] >> Just got a little bit more help than they were expecting. That wind is just quartering down and off the left, and just misjudged it.

[00:31:25] >> Check in on Tom at 16.

[00:31:26] >> Looking for an unlikely birdie here. Keep his hopes alive.

[00:31:30] >> Down the hill here. Looks like he's playing for a little bit of right to left based on where this putter head is aimed. Is it going to do it for him?

[00:31:37] >> It just wasn't quite enough for. But it was.

[00:31:40] >> Oh my goodness, this guy.

[00:31:43] >> Did not look like it was going to get there. But Tom Kim with a birdie at 16. Needs to go 2-under in the final two holes. And, oh, by the way, he's now tied for the lead with Scheffler.

[00:31:57] >> Over to 15.

[00:31:58] >> Eagle putt a moment ago for Sepp Straka.

[00:32:01] >> He could sell this to the leaders a little bit later.

[00:32:07] >> Yeah.

[00:32:07] >> Sepp certainly helped big Sepp, but that's what can happen at 15. These players behind him can knock it on and maybe make eagle.

[00:32:15] >> We're going to head up to Tom Kim, see if he can finish this stellar round in style.

[00:32:21] >> This 18th green is one of the most narrow greens that these players face the entire day. When you throw wind straight back into you and off the right, the up and down right of the green is very difficult today. And get one up into the breeze, you can very easily hit it into the penalty area left.

[00:32:46] >> Been just one birdie at this hole today. He hit this drive and he got this second shot to this narrow green.

[00:33:02] >> Let's go to 18.

[00:33:04] >> In the meantime, Tom Kim in good decent position here. I don't know what kind of green he's got left here, though.

[00:33:12] >> He's got plenty of green to work with, this location on that right center of the green. You see that golf ball sitting down in some clumpier sand. So it's not one that you would expect to spin. It's heavier sand as well. So it's one you just land about 10 or so feet short. Or if you want to play a chunk and run, you can barely land on the green and get it to the hole. Not a very overly complicated shot.

[00:33:34] >> Seen 264 shot this week, one by Cameron Young on Thursday. Scottie did that yesterday. Up and down here for a 63 for Kim.

[00:33:54] >> Oh, just total it out for a 62.

[00:34:03] >> Unbelievable. What a finish. The three birdies at 14 through 16, what got him into the 59. Watch the double at 17, which took him out of it. And he holes it out at the most difficult hole on the course.

[00:34:15] >> When you have a day like Tom Kim is having, you get breaks like that. The golf ball ends up going in the hole on days like today.

[00:34:23] >> Just a huge drive by JT.

[00:34:25] >> This would just be just a little pitching wedge.

[00:34:30] >> Oh, yeah.

[00:34:35] >> Justin Thomas, a great opportunity to send it to 17-under. JT out in front now by two. He has indeed made a boatload of putts today.

[00:34:55] >> As we head to 18th.

[00:34:55] >> Thomas trying to finish it off.

[00:34:57] >> One-sixty-five. Ian Revie had a long discussion about the wind. That into off the tee is turning mostly right to left here. This is 8-iron.

[00:35:05] >> Yesterday, had a little bit of mud on the ball, left it out short right.

[00:35:11] >> Taking it on the low side, but on a terrific line.

[00:35:19] >> On now to the 18th. Third round leader, Justin Thomas, a one shot edge, looking for another birdie that would drop him to 18-under par.

[00:35:52] >> Well, if there can be a disappointing par at 18, this might be it. Hit it in there closer than anybody. Still a little left, though, for Justin Thomas to finish off a bogey free 6-under 66 round. Talk about consistency, Smylie. Sixty-six Thursday, 67 yesterday, 66 if this falls now. And that's what you're looking for, right? When you're coming back from where he's been, you're looking for consistency, not wild shots where you're trying to save yourself from all over the golf course. And that's the consistency we've seen from JT this week.

[00:36:29] >> Back to the 18th fairway. And Scheffler, his second.

[00:36:33] >> Just 158, straight, right to left wind at the moment. Very comfortable 9-iron. He's getting after it.

[00:36:42] >> Big high draw. It's a beauty.

[00:36:43] >> And he's hit some beauties.

[00:36:46] >> And now, for the birdie putt. And Scheffler with a chance to pull in a tie for the lead with Justin Thomas.

[00:37:15] >> Little tap in left here for Scheffler. You know, we're talking about honors to end the year. The AP Male Athlete of the Year is usually announced just before Christmas. And with the kind of year Scheffler had, I mean, you never know. Last golfer to win it, Tiger Woods back in 2006. So Scheffler taps in.

[00:37:34] >> Shohei Ohtani won it last year.

[00:37:36] >> And will be one of the favorites this year after an historic 54 homerun, 59 stolen base this season. But we just told you what Scottie Scheffler did in his 2024. Incredible stuff. And he can cap it all off with a comeback win against Justin Thomas. They'll be in the final pairing. That'll be entertaining.

[00:37:54] >> The final round is next.

[00:38:00] >> These players know how important it is to improve their spot during the FedExCup Fall.

[00:38:04] >> Probably more nerve wracking than any of the tournaments in the meat of the season.

[00:38:11] >> This fall is really important for a lot of guys.

[00:38:15] >> There's a lot of guys that are very hungry to win.

[00:38:18] >> Who will prove themselves and make their move? So much remains on the line. Tune into the FedExCup Fall.

[00:38:33] >> We'll now pick up with Tom Kim at the par-5 3rd, playing his third from the bunker, greenside.

[00:38:38] >> Yes. Not much though. Not as much.

[00:38:40] >> Yeah, he's got some little pebbles right behind the ball, which makes it very difficult because those -- if you get a pebble between the ball and your clubface, it comes out very hot and a run out, especially because it's straight downwind. He's only got 9 feet behind this hole before it drops off that steep cliff.

[00:38:53] >> He had to be careful, and he was. He was not going to run it over that hill.

[00:39:04] >> At the 3rd with Tom Kim for birdie.

[00:39:06] >> Deceptively fast putt here as the most exposed green on the entire course. And that wind is straight downwind on him right now.

[00:39:20] >> OK.

[00:39:21] >> Keeps it rolling with that putter. Made everything he looked at yesterday.

[00:39:26] >> Pretty good spot to ring in the holiday season. Just 12 miles outside the capital city of Nassau on the southwest end of the Island of New Providence. Albany Golf Club, the longtime sight of Tiger's Hero World Challenge, now in its 25th year. It's TGR Foundation, the primary beneficiary of this elite 20-player tournament. And we look forward to a conversation with the host, Tiger Woods, in just a bit. And Scheffler, as we said, leader by two over Thomas and Tom Kim, who's caught JT in the runner up spot. Theegala trying to battle back. Akshay Bhatia, Keegan Bradley back in this field. And Ludvig Aberg among the eight rookies in Tiger's Hero World Challenge as you take a look at the rest of the 20 players in the field. Two most decorated players in the field in the final group. World number 1, Scottie Scheffler, out in front of Justin Thomas as they walked down that fairway. But it was Justin Thomas who had a one shot lead going into the final round as he continues to find that game that brought him two major championships and 15 PGA Tour victories. A great start for Thomas. Stuffs it in there at the 1st. That would result in a birdie. But Scheffler keeping pace right away as well. Beautiful approach by him. And before Justin Thomas made his birdie, Scheffler made a birdie. They exchanged birdies at the opening hole. Thomas kept his one shot lead. Thomas did bogey the second they were tied. And then, Scheffler picked up a birdie after that from 47 feet at the 4th. He didn't make a putt that long in an official PGA Tour event all year. So birdie's at 3 and 4 for Scheffler. But Thomas was up to the challenge on the same par 4. Birdie for Thomas to stay within one at the moment. But he did pick up a bogey at the 5th to fall two back at Scheffler. And maybe Tom Kim can make some noise from behind.

[00:41:27] This was just moments ago. Third at the par-5 6th. At the moment, it seems like it's going to be Scheffler and Thomas battling down the stretch. But Tom Kim here won't go away, Smylie.

[00:41:39] >> Yes. He was seemingly out of this golf tournament right at the beginning. He was 3-over through six holes at the beginning of this golf tournament in the -- actually, the first group out on Friday and has absolutely stormed back.

[00:41:52] >> So Kim, all of a sudden, finds himself tied there at 17-under with Justin Thomas.

[00:41:58] >> Let's go to 11.

[00:42:01] >> Yeah. And here at the par-5 11th for a birdie. One of those holes that these players have to take advantage of. Three par 5s on the front, two par 5s on the back.

[00:42:11] >> Now, Kim.

[00:42:12] >> Just a little three quarter sand wedge left for him. Oh, and a beauty. That's what he's going to have to do. He knows Scheffler more than likely won't back it up. He's got to make some birdies.

[00:42:29] >> Jumping ahead now to the 12th with Aberg hitting his tee shot at the par 3.

[00:42:45] >> Tom Kim at the 9th putting for birdie to get a little bit closer to that lead.

[00:42:49] >> Just a touch of right to left in it, but that wind is straight. Left to right should hold a little straighter.

[00:42:59] >> There you go.

[00:43:00] >> Yesterday, he shot a 30 on the front nine. Today, it's a 33. Tom Kim, just one back of the lead.

[00:43:08] >> This is at the 12th, and Ludvig Aberg for birdie.

[00:43:13] >> It's the best round on the course going right now. And this is a very quick putt down the hill. Should move right to left at the end.

[00:43:19] >> Oh, yeah. Aberg, 5-under for the first 12 holes.

[00:43:37] >> Scottie Scheffler --

[00:43:37] >> Oh my goodness.

[00:43:38] >> -- stones a wedge there with his third at the 9th.

[00:43:40] >> This is Tom Kim at the 3rd.

[00:43:42] >> One-thirty-seven, straight back into the breeze, off a little downslope, which should help him flight it. The wind has turned a little bit into him. Playing a very aggressive, good looking shot. Cutting it off those bunkers.

[00:43:54] >> Is it ever, Woody? Just stops it on a dime.

[00:43:57] >> Wow. It's hard to get underneath the hole at the 10th today. A little further left, it can roll all the way off the green.

[00:44:04] >> Back to the par-5 9th, and Scheffler putting for birdie.

[00:44:12] >> He really doesn't care what everybody else is doing around him. He's so into his program and his, you know, his attacking the golf course the way he wants to go. He just doesn't really care what everybody else is doing.

[00:44:26] >> You never know in professional sports the way people have with personalities coming out when they're performing. Scottie Scheffler is interested in greatness. He's not interested in being a star.

[00:44:38] >> Doesn't want to be distracted by what's going on the 18th green. So he made eye contact with Jason Day, who told Scottie to go ahead.

[00:44:45] >> And he makes his birdie at the par-5 9th. Good front side for Scottie Scheffler. The lead is two, but remember, Tom Kim is in tight at the 10th.

[00:44:57] >> And Tom Kim sizing up his latest birdie attempt here at the 10th. Not an easy hole. So it's like stealing another one for Kim.

[00:45:07] >> It sure would be. That second shot was really courageous. He started those bunkers, which is very shortsighted, and just cut it about 2 yards to this point. So hard -- I mean, what he's doing today is so impressive. As Curt referenced, it's so hard to back up one of those spectacular rounds. And he is doing it so far.

[00:45:25] >> Yeah, he was making it from everywhere. And a lot of times when players are seemingly not missing the middle of the hole from all over the green, the next day, they seem to catch all the bad breaks and miss the putts. But Tom has come out today and looks really nice.

[00:45:47] >> And wouldn't it be something if it ends up being a duel between Tom Kim and Scottie Scheffler down the stretch? Can't help but think about their boisterous interchanges at the recent President's Cup.

[00:45:57] >> Tons of room to fit this in there. Short and long, so.

[00:46:01] >> And Bones, he's turned in the longest drive of the day at 10 so far. No, it will be. He's the last guy here, 314.

[00:46:09] >> Just 113 left. Bit of an issue for Scottie in the last 30 seconds is the wind that's just been sitting down for the last 30 minutes or so has jumped up quite a bit.

[00:46:21] >> Talked all about these categories that he led this past season. He led the tour in more than 40 statistical categories. By the way, the lowest par 4 scoring average in PGA Tour history this season, 3.88.

[00:46:42] >> Sliding a wedge right of the hole. Yeah, totally fine. Great discipline, as you heard from Ted Scott.

[00:46:51] >> Yeah, he's disciplined, he's good. And nobody gets in Scottie Scheffler's headspace. Leader by one over Kim. And now, Scheffler's zeroing in to try to get the 21-under.

[00:47:04] >> Should push off that shoulder to the right and back to the left.

[00:47:07] >> He won last year at 20-under, and he's surpassed that already.

[00:47:12] >> This guy's unbelievable, Dan. Just not giving anybody a chance. It feels like today just continues to find fairways and greens. And this putter, Tiger Woods said it, you know, if he just putts decent, he wins golf tournament. If he putts well, he runs away.

[00:47:27] >> Head now to the par-4 14th, and Aberg putting for birdie to get the 13-under par. On now to Justin Thomas from the fairway at the 11th for his second.

[00:47:42] >> All right. Let's see if Justin's favorite club will rise to the occasion. One thing he doesn't want to do here is miss right this green.

[00:47:50] >> You got that right. It is a tough spot over there, so wouldn't be surprised if he starts this almost as far left as our TV tower right there. That wind hard from the left and just drifted in from there. Bones, you mentioned earlier, this is his favorite club in the bag. So maybe high expectations here for a good shot.

[00:48:08] >> Let's see it. Drawing it up against that left to right wind. This is well executed, this shot, I believe.

[00:48:19] >> Boy, is it ever? That is so good. Took right out of play. Hit it right on the money. Soft and -- High enough and soft enough to keep it on the green.

[00:48:28] >> Favorite club, terrific result. Bones, Justin Thomas has a chance to turn the tables on Scottie Scheffler. He gets to putt first. This one for eagle, while Scheffler has the long birdie putt. As you see, four Eagles in 2024. Not a lot considering all the players on the PGA Tour, 183.

[00:48:47] >> Especially, as long as he hits it.

[00:48:48] >> I think he's going to really give this one a run.

[00:49:03] >> It was on a really good line. If it had enough pace to go a foot by the hole, I think it probably catches the hole and goes in.

[00:49:10] >> Nonetheless, it'll be a tap in birdie for Justin. Now, he has to wait and see what Scottie does.

[00:49:19] >> Jumping ahead now to the 17th. Im on the tee at the par 3. Sungjae Im. A beautiful shot there. And Im would birdie that hole. We catch up now with Tom Kim playing his second from the fairway at the 13th.

[00:49:46] >> No question about it. I think he knows these next three holes are huge for him. He's got a great look here with just a 9 iron, a drivable par 4, and a reachable par 5. And just hope that Scheffler stalls out a little bit. Just a full 9-iron up in the air for Tom Kim here.

[00:49:59] >> Very gettable hole location.

[00:50:09] >> Just left of the hole, cutting on a great line now.

[00:50:14] >> There you go.

[00:50:15] >> Beauty.

[00:50:16] >> On now to the green, and Kim with a birdie putt.

[00:50:33] >> And Tom Kim says, don't give it to Scottie just yet, I'm coming. Down the stretch as he walks to the 14th, just two back of Scottie.

[00:50:43] >> And speaking of Scheffler, at the 13th, his second.

[00:50:46] >> Wedge from 152. Plenty of club. He'll be looking to keep this under the hole.

[00:50:56] >> This is an attackable hole location as well. Oh, man.

[00:51:01] >> Tiger take a seat here in the booth, and Scheffler delivers another dart.

[00:51:04] >> Yeah, I would say that's attackable there, Smylie.

[00:51:06] >> Yeah, pretty good.

[00:51:08] >> Moving ahead now to the 18th hole, Tom Kim in the fairway, his second.

[00:51:14] >> Starting just right of the flag. Wind trying to turn it over a little bit.

[00:51:17] >> There you go.

[00:51:19] >> Trying to birdie that 18th hole a couple days in a row, Tom Kim.

[00:51:23] >> And now, at the 18th, this birdie putt for Tom Kim.

[00:51:32] >> And a beautiful birdie for Tom Kim to end the week. Just like he did yesterday after he made doubled at 17. This is some week for Kim. Look at that line. Seventy-four on Thursday. And then, he just went on a rampage.

[00:51:49] >> Meanwhile, back in the fairway, here comes Scheffler, his second at 18.

[00:52:03] >> Why not? Why not end it with a birdie? And Scheffler's going to have a great look to push it to 25-under. The best for last, birdie for Scheffler for one last reminder who's best by a ways. Scottie Scheffler continues the role in '24. Back to back winner of the Hero World Challenge. And this was an easy coast to the finish. Nine titles worldwide this year in 21 starts.

[00:52:39] >> This concludes the PGA Tour's coverage of the Hero World Challenge from Albany Golf Course in Albany, Bahamas.