

ROUND 1 QUICK QUOTES
November 13, 2025

STEWART CINK (-7)



Q. All right, Stewart, you've taken the lone lead after two back-to-back birdies on 17 and 18 with a chance to now win the entire Schwab Cup. How do you plan to balance the consistency you've shown today and then while also staying competitive the rest of the week?

STEWART CINK: Well, first of all, consistency is extremely competitive in golf so I don't plan to change a whole lot. Chris and I, my caddie, have a good game plan and it all comes down to execution. I know over the next three days, at least I hope that I'm going to be in position to feel very nervous and get uncomfortable and have some opportunities to really test myself and trust it and I look forward to it.

Going back to what you asked earlier, I hope to be consistent the rest of the way because consistency is a major weapon in pro golf. Today was a great day for consistency for me. I wasn't really ever in a whole lot of trouble. My short game was really sharp today and I made a few birdie putts, too. It was eerily similar to last year's opening round where I shot minus 7, I had the solo lead. I don't want to be eerily similar to the next three rounds for last year.

Q. What kind of mindset did you bring into today's opening round that's kind of helped you settle in so quickly?

STEWART CINK: Just I think peace is the biggest word, peace and gratitude. I always try to approach every round of golf with that. Just get my heart in the right place to compete knowing that it's not the end of the world good or bad.

I've already probably established the best and the worst I'm ever going to do in the game of golf, so everything I do from here on out is just going to be existing somewhere in that realm. And so I enjoy playing. It's awfully fun to be competing on PGA TOUR Champions and I'm looking forward to the next couple days.

Q. Are your grandchildren cheering you on back at home?

STEWART CINK: I doubt it. They probably aren't because I don't think they can even say my name yet much less root for me, but I have got some pictures from them in front of the television when I've been holding some trophies so that's something I'll never forget, and hopefully they'll learn to appreciate later.

Q. What's it like playing with Ernie Els?

STEWART CINK: He's great to play with. There are certain guys that, and gals by the way,



that you play with over the years that their tempo, it kind of melts into you. Larry Mize was one of the guys like that. I always loved playing with Larry Mize.

But Ernie, it's not just his swing, either. His walk, his talks, his golf, everything he does in golf, it's all like this great rhythm and it seeps into your rhythm, too. How can you not play well with a guy like that?

Q. You mentioned yesterday, (inaudible) back to back to back versus the time off. The time off, did you feel that at all this morning or were you able to jump right in your round?

STEWART CINK: I actually felt very clean today. I didn't feel any -- other than the first hole was quite distracting today with the media, besides that.

No, actually didn't do a whole lot of golf the last two weeks at home. I think if I had done a lot of practice and stayed like in grind mode, I probably would have felt more rust here actually. It's kind of a weird thing. I completely removed myself from the game for more than half of the last two weeks just doing other stuff and I think it probably served me well to create a little freshness. It's only been a few weeks, we don't forget how to play and all that. No, I felt really mid season out there.

Q. The Skechers event that's coming up, can you talk about that event and how you think that's going to be good for the tour?

STEWART CINK: Well, I think match play is a great thing, first of all. Even though it's not by definition match play, it's a three-way kind of a combination match thing. It's an intriguing format and it's great personalities and it will be tight competition. It's only nine hole matches. I think it's going to be awesome.

I haven't played on a team event myself in about 15 years, so going to be a blast to do it and I look forward to the month of December. We've got another team event, the PNC Challenge, coming up. It's going to be a really nice break from this kind of golf, which I love, and get to play with some of my best friends and family members coming up.

