



PURE Insurance Championship Impacting First Tee

Pebble Beach Golf Links & Spyglass Hill Golf Course | Pebble Beach, California
September 24-26, 2021

South Korea's K.J. Choi secured his first PGA TOUR Champions title preserving a two-stroke victory over Bernhard Langer and Alex Cejka at the 2021 PURE Insurance Championship in Pebble Beach, California. His three-round total of 203 (67-68-68) was 13 under par. It was Choi's first win in the United States in 211 starts dating back to the 2011 PLAYERS Championship, breaking a winless streak of 3,787 days (10 years, 4 months, 11 days).

Choi, 51, became the first PGA TOUR Champions winner from South Korea and the fourth international player to win the PURE Insurance Championship in its 18-year history, joining Langer (Germany), Paul Broadhurst (England), and Esteban Toledo (Mexico). He also became the 11th rookie to win on PGA TOUR Champions during the 2020-21 season. Seven past champions participated in this year's tournament including Kirk Triplett, Jeff Sluman, Ken Tanigawa, John Cook, and Langer, Broadhurst, and Toledo.

With a runner-up finish at the Sanford International a week ago, Choi was particularly gratified by his maiden PGA Champions victory. "Winning is very difficult, so the first win is exciting," he explained. "I'm trying to be in the mindset." He cited hard work, stretching, and maintaining a regimen as factors in his recent solid play.

Choi isn't leaving himself much time to savor the victory, as his namesake tournament—the K.J. Choi Invitational – is being contested in South Korea this week. He is also a supporter of junior golf, with the K.J. Choi Foundation Junior Championship, a 54-hole stroke play tournament consisting of 81 juniors, is a fixture on the American Junior Golf Association summer schedule.

The PURE Insurance Championship Impacting First Tee is the only event of its kind where 81 First Tee teenagers from across the country are paired up with 81 PGA TOUR Champions players and 156 amateurs during an official PGA TOUR Champions tournament.

The team of PGA TOUR Champions player Tim Petrovic and junior golfer Sydney Craven, (First Tee - Monterey County) won the Pro-Junior division (team net best ball) at 26 under. The Pro-Junior male winner was Colin Vineberg (First tee – Greater Baltimore) with partner Rocco Mediate at 23 under. Playing a net best ball with their juniors and pros, Matthew Schreibeis and Steven Pincus won the amateur division at 38 under.

LEADERS

First Round. Stuart Appleby -6 (66 PB), Alex Cejka -6 (66 PB), Tom Lehman -5 (67 PB), K.J. Choi -5 (67 SH).

Second Round. K.J. Choi -9 (135/68 PB), Alex Cejka -7 (137/71 SH), Bernhard Langer -7 (137/66 PB), Jeff Maggert -6 (66/138 PB), Doug Marron -6 (69/138 PB), Marco Dawson -6 (69-138 SH), Ken Tanigawa -6 (69/138 PB).

Final Round. K.J. Choi -13 (68/203 PB), Bernhard Langer -11 (68/205 PB), Alex Cejka -11 (68/205 PB), Scott Dunlap -10 (66/206 PB), Steven Alker -9 (67/207 PB), Paul Stankowski -9 (68/207 PB).

Pebble Beach Golf Links: Par 72 / 6,864 yards (R3: 71.679; Cumulative: 71.437)

WEATHER.

Friday. Early patchy fog and mostly cloudy skies. Highs in the mid-60s. Winds out of the WSW at 6-12mph.

Saturday. Mostly cloudy skies with highs in the mid-60s. Winds out of the W 5-10 mph.

Sunday. Cloudy skies in the morning gave way to afternoon sun. Highs in the mid-upper 60s. Winds out of the WNW at 4-8 mph.