



**CME Group Tour Championship**  
Tiburón Golf Club | Naples, Florida | Nov. 16-19, 2023

Final-Round Notes  
November 19, 2023

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**Course Setup:** 36-36-72, 6,438 yards

**Scoring Average:** R1: 69.333; R2: 68.866; R3: 69.465; R4:69.638

**Weather:** Mostly sunny skies with light north winds and a high temperature of 79 degrees

**Race to CME Globe Points:** 500 (winner); Points will be allocated at the CME Group Tour Championship for the purpose of determining Priority List status and tournament eligibility for the following season

**Purse:** \$7 million (winner's portion is \$2 million)

**TV/Streaming Times:** [How to Watch](#)

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LEADERBOARD			
	Player	To par	Score
1	Amy Yang	-27	68-63-64-66 – 261
T2	Alison Lee	-24	66-64-68-66 – 264
T2	Nasa Hataoka	-24	63-67-65-69 – 264
4	Lilia Vu	-21	70-66-66-65 – 267
5	Atthaya Thitikul	-20	67-66-69-66 – 268

**AMY YANG TAKES HOME FIRST WIN IN THE UNITED STATES AT THE CME GROUP TOUR CHAMPIONSHIP**

With \$2 million on the line for the winner of the CME Group Tour Championship, **Amy Yang** rose to the occasion, shooting a final round 6-under 66 to earn her fifth LPGA Tour victory, and her first in four years. The Tour veteran, who became a rookie in 2008, not only won her first LPGA Tour event in the United States but she also broke the tournament's 72-hole scoring record by four shots. The 34-year-old marks the oldest winner on the LPGA Tour in the 2023 season, just two months older than **Ashleigh Buhai** when she won the ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer earlier this year.

Entering the final round in a share of the lead alongside **Nasa Hataoka**, Yang had a slow start to the day making two pars on her first two holes before bogeying the par-4 3rd hole. She would go on to make a string of pars before she hit Nos. 7 and 8, where she made two birdies to make the turn at -1 on the day and -22 par for the tournament. It was Yang's back nine that moved her into a solo spot in first place, with three birdies and an eagle across 10-18. The now five-time winner made a birdie on the 10th hole, and two pars on the next two holes before a small jump up the leaderboard happened on 13. From just 80 yards out, Yang holed her second shot from the fairway to move to -25. It was the first hole Yang had sole ownership of the lead. She made two more birdies on her last two holes to seal the deal, but it was her birdie on the par-5 17th where she felt a win at the CME Group Tour Championship was possible.

"Not until I made the birdie putt on the 17th. You know, she (Nasa Hataoka) is such a great player and showed a lot of like good performance out there and I was feeling really nervous. You know, really like I had no idea where this was going. All I could do was just stick to my game and trust it," said Yang, who was joined by several fellow LPGA Tour players on the green as she sunk her final birdie putt on 18. "I'm just so grateful. You know, they mean a lot to me. They're like family out on tour and, you know, I do my best. They're just all sweet friends. I'm so grateful to see them on the 18th, and I'm sure down the road I'll do the same for them, too."

**Alison Lee** and **Nasa Hataoka** finished in a tie for second at -24. Holding a share of the lead through the first three rounds, Hataoka carded a final-round 69 that included four birdies and one bogey on the par-3 16th hole that ultimately took her out of a share of the lead. She now records her second consecutive finish in the top-10 for the 2023 season, and her 42nd top-10 finish across her Tour career. Lee had a bogey-free round of 66 on her final day to wrap up another solid week. Her runner-up finish in Naples, Fla., is her third runner-up finish in a row, and fifth top-10 finish of the year. A 2015 rookie, Lee made six birdies on the last day on Nos. 1, 7, 11, 13, 15 and 17 to wrap up the week at -24.

"To play the last three weeks just continuously putting the pressure on everyone on the leaderboard and putting myself in contention has just been really cool for me and been a really awesome experience," said Lee who is now in her ninth year on the LPGA Tour. "If my game is in form right now, of course I'm going to keep trying to do the best I can to accomplish those goals no matter how old I am."

2023 Rolex ANNIKA Major Award winner **Lilia Vu** finished in solo fourth after a fourth-round score of 65. Her score included one bogey to send her up the leaderboard three spots. With her finish at the CME Group Tour Championship, Vu outlasted **Celine Boutier** for the 2023 Rolex Player of the Year title after winning four times this season, including two major championship titles at The Chevron Championship and the AIG Women's Open. Thailand's **Atthaya Thitikul** landed in fifth with a 66 on Sunday to earn her 13th top-10 finish of the year, and her 29th top-10 finish in her short LPGA Tour career. Thitikul then clinched the 2023 Vare Trophy, with a scoring average of 69.533 over the 2023 season.

**A LOOK AT THE WINNER**

CATEGORY	Amy Yang
Rolex Ranking	36
Race to the CME Globe Points Standing	31
2023 LPGA Tour Wins	1
2023 LPGA Tour Top 10s	5
2023 LPGA Tour Season Earnings	\$1,165,834
Career LPGA Tour Wins	4
Career LPGA Tour Top 10s	84
Career LPGA Tour Money	\$11,882,919

**ABOUT THE WINNER**

**Rolex Rankings No. 36 Amy Yang**

- Yang hit all 14 fairways, 16 of 18 greens with 28 putts
  - She recorded an eagle, five birdies with one bogey
  - Her 27 birdies tied for the most among the field
- She earned her fifth win on the LPGA Tour and her first in the United States
  - Her first four wins came in Thailand (3) and the Republic of Korea (1)
  - She crossed the \$13 million mark in career earnings (\$13,882,919), and is now the 11th-different player in Tour history to earn at least \$13 million in her career
- She is the fifth player from the Republic of Korea to win the season ending event
  - She joins **Jin Young Ko** (2020, 2021) and **Sei Young Kim** (2019) and CME Group Tour Championship
  - **Na Yeon Choi** (2012) and **Hee Young Park** (2011) both won this event as the CME Group Titleholders
- She is the fourth player from the Republic of Korea to win this season, following **Jin Young Ko** (HSBC Women's World Championship, Cognizant Founders Cup), **Hyo Joo Kim** (Ascendant LPGA benefitting Volunteers of America), and **Hae Ran Ryu** (Walmart NW Arkansas Championship presented by P&G)

- She is the 2023 Tour season's oldest winner at 34 years and three months old
  - **Ashleigh Buhai** was the previous oldest at 34 years and one month when she won the 2023 ShopRite LPGA Classic
- She had 55 consecutive holes without a bogey, her longest streak of the season
  - Her streak began in the first round on No. 1 and ended in the fourth round on No. 3
  - The most consecutive holes without a bogey in a single tournament for Yang came at the 2018 Indy Women in Tech Championship (60)
  - Her record for most consecutive holes without a bogey is 82 which began on No. 15 in the third round of the 2018 AIG Women's Open and ended on No. 7 in the fourth round of the 2018 Indy Women in Tech Championship
  - **Jin Young Ko** holds the record for most consecutive holes played without a bogey since 2011 at 114
- Yang had 26 sub-par holes through four rounds of play
  - Her Tour record for most sub-par holes (birdies/eagles) in a single event is 29 (2019 Honda LPGA Thailand)
  - The all-time record is 32 set by **Sei Young Kim** (2018 Thornberry Creek LPGA Classic)
- Yang set the 54-hole and 72-hole scoring record for the CME Group Tour Championship
  - Her 261 is a career-low and broke the 72-hole tournament record by four
    - **Jin Young Ko** previously held the 72-hole record, 265, set in 2021
  - Her 54-hole 195 tied her career-low that she set last week at the ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican (par 70)
    - She and Hataoka bested the previous 54-hole tournament scoring record by five strokes
      - Lexi Thompson's 200 in 2018 was the 54-hole scoring record
- She is the 16th different player from Korea to win at least five titles on the LPGA Tour
- This is her 11th start at the CME Group Tour Championship
  - She has finished inside the top-25 in nine of those
  - Her best non-win finish came in 2015, T7
- This is her 20th start on Tour
  - She has one win and four additional top-five finishes this year
    - She finished fourth in three of those finishes
  - Her best non-win finish this season came at the Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give, T3
- This is her 15th season on the LPGA Tour
  - She is a five-time winner with 80 additional top-10 finishes
- She was a member of Team Korea at the 2016 UL International Crown
- She has three wins on the LET and two on the KLPGA
- She was offered a special exemption to join the LET at the age of 17 and became the youngest member

#### THINGS TO KNOW

- This is the second-straight week on Tour where the raw 72-hole score was 261
- **Lilia Vu** was named 2023 Rolex Player of the Year
  - She becomes the 16th different player to earn the honors and first American to win the award since **Stacy Lewis** did in 2014
  - Vu won two major championships (The Chevron Championship, AIG Women's Open), had two additional victories (Honda LPGA Thailand, The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican), was a member of the 2023 U.S. Solheim Cup team and represented the United States at the 2023 International Crown
- **Atthaya Thitikul** (69.533) earned the Vare Trophy, given to the player with the lowest scoring average throughout the season
  - She is the 34th different player to earn the award and holds the 13th-lowest Vare Trophy-winning scoring average
    - She is the second player from Thailand to earn the award joining **Aryia Jutanugarn** in 2018
  - She is the first player to earn the award without winning a tournament in that same season
  - More than 50-percent of her rounds this season were in the 60s, including all four this week
    - Her third round scoring average this season was 67.83, more than a stroke better than the next closest player
  - Thitikul earned 13 top-10 finishes, the most this season
    - **Mickey Wright** holds the record for most top-10 finishes in one season with 27 in 1963
- Six players finished play shooting all four rounds in the 60s
  - Yang, A. Lee, Hataoka, Thitikul, **Ruoning Yin** and **Nelly Korda**
- Only three players finished play above par
- **Alison Lee** and **Nasa Hataoka** finished tied for second and -24, 264
  - Lee ended her 2023 season with three-straight second place finishes
  - Hataoka finished second at the CME Group Tour Championship for the second time in her career
    - She also finished second in 2021
- Vu and Thitikul round out the top-five at fourth and fifth, respectively
  - Vu carded 25 birdies and four bogeys over the course of the tournament
  - Thitikul recorded 26 birdies, four bogeys and one double-bogey
- **Nelly Korda** and **Jenny Shin** made a hole-in-one in their third round and second round, respectively
  - Korda aced the No. 8 during the third round, the first of her LPGA Tour career
    - She hit her 9-iron 148 yards
  - Shin hit her 8-iron 141 yards to score her third ace of her LPGA Tour career
  - CME Group donates \$20,000 to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
  - This is the 20th hole-in-one on the LPGA Tour this season as part of the CME Group Cares Challenge, a season-long charitable giving program
    - The season-long donation total is now \$400,000 with 20 hole-in-ones throughout the year
- **Jin Young Ko** withdrew before her third round, citing injury
- **Jodi Ewart Shadoff** withdrew before her second round, citing injury

#### QUOTABLE

"I think it's been unreal for that to happen. I think last year I was telling Cole on the last hole, I remember after the last round, last hole, I just broke down in tears. I was just really hard on myself. I was definitely hard on myself this year, too, but much nicer. Came in with no expectations and tried to win every tournament that I played in. Just kept my goals really small, and I think that really helped me achieve Player of the Year. Honestly, I don't think I thought much about it today. I just was trying to play my best out there. Probably have more time to reflect tonight and figure out what it means to me. I mean, I went to the Rolex dinner on Thursday and Annika is an eight-time Player of the Year and I thought it was just amazing to be up there with her. Not only that, and win her tournament last week, too, was - I'm just honored and grateful for everything this year." - *Lilia Vu on having Rolex Player of the Year associated with her name*

"It means a lot. I don't have any trophy but, yeah, I have Vare Trophy, which is okay. (Laughter.) It means a lot. It means, like we are heading to the right direction and all the consistency is -- this is my second year in LPGA tour. I know it's kind of, yeah, just a little bit not getting the win yet, but like getting the Vare Trophy kind of means like, yeah, we are going to the right one. We are trying to keep it going, and then I think one day when it happens we are going to feel like grateful and also thankful for that." - *Atthaya Thitikul on earning the Vare Trophy*

"I'm honestly just proud I kept it together coming down the last few events of the year. I felt like I was so tired, out of gas. I felt like I wasn't going to make it to the end of the season. I almost withdrew from Pelican because I was like, I need some rest before the last event of the year. I'm glad I didn't and put up a fight and really happy I put myself in contention, especially after last week. It's obviously tough to follow up a good week with another good week. Yeah, there is not much I can say. I gave it my all; did the best I could. There were definitely shots out there over the last four days I feel like I could have done better. That's always the case in any event I play in. Yeah, just really grateful and happy that I'm in this place. Feel like my game is in a good spot. Sucks that we get two months off before the next event. Hopefully I don't lose it too much. Really, really grateful, thankful and really happy." - *Alison Lee on what she is most proud of this season*

#### NOTABLE

[Amy Yang Captures Her First American LPGA Title and Cashes In On \\$2 Million](#)  
[Lilia Vu Wins 2023 Player Of The Year Award, Atthaya Thitikul Earns Vare Trophy Honors](#)

[Amy Yang Final Round Highlights](#)

[Amy Yang Final Putt Drop to Win](#)

[LPGA Tour Commissioner Mollie Marcoux Samaan Interview | 2023 CME Group Tour Championship](#)

[Amy Yang Holes Out on Sunday](#)

[Maria Fassi and Willis the dog After Her Week of Commentary](#)

[Cheyenne Knight Walk & Talk](#)

**TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS:**

18 holes: 62, Lydia Ko (R2, 2016)

36 holes: 130, Celine Boutier (2021), **Alison Lee (2023) & Nasa Hataoka (2023)**

54 holes: **195, Amy Yang (2023) & Nasa Hataoka (2023)**

**72 holes: 261, Amy Yang (2023)**