



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

Second-Round Notes
November 17, 2023

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Course Setup: 36-36-72, 6,354 yards

Scoring Average: R1: 69.333; R2: 68.866

Weather: Partly cloudy skies with temperatures as high as 80 with light north to west winds

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
T1	Alison Lee	-14	66-64 – 130
T1	Nasa Hataoka	-14	63-67 – 130
T3	Amy Yang	-13	68-63 – 131
T3	Minjee Lee	-13	64-67 – 131
T3	Ruoning Yin	-13	63-68 – 131

LEE AND HATAOKA LEAD AFTER SECOND ROUND

With totals of 130, **Alison Lee** and **Nasa Hataoka** lead after Friday at the CME Group Tour Championship. Both players will tee it up on Saturday with a one-shot advantage over three players tied in third place, and a three-shot advantage over two players tied in sixth place.

Shooting a second-round score of 64, Lee finds herself co-leading heading into the weekend. This is the first time since the 2015 Meijer LPGA Classic that the UCLA graduate has been in the lead after the second round, but she is not unfamiliar with being in the first-place position as of late. Lee has made headlines recently for tying with **Minjee Lee** at the BMW Ladies Championship, where she ultimately lost to the Aussie after a one-hole playoff.

After a bogey-free 66 on Thursday, Lee was sitting in a tie for fifth place headed into the second round. She quickly rose on the leaderboard, making back-to-back birdies on her first two holes of the day. On the par-4 4th, Lee made her first of three pars on the front nine before making a birdie on No. 4 that would then be balanced out with her sole bogey of the day on the 6th. The American made another pair of birdies on holes 6 and 7. Her last two holes on the front nine would be pars, and she continued to cruise at four-under par for the day until the par-5 14th hole. Lee made two more sets of back-to-back birdies in her last five holes to finish at eight-under par for the second round, and sit at 14-under par for the tournament.

“Over the last few weeks, putting myself in contention, playing four rounds of really good golf, and almost winning a few times, it's definitely ignited a fire in me. Definitely given me a lot more motivation to work hard, and it's shown me that I do still have what it takes to win out here,” said Lee. “That's definitely the goal for this week. I mean, my last through finishes were second, first, second, and I really want that win really bad. I feel like I've been waiting so long. I've been working so hard for that. Yeah, still a lot of golf left. Hopefully I can keep my head down and keep grinding through to the weekend.”

One of the first-round leaders, Hataoka maintained her spot in first place after another round at Tiburón Golf Club. The Japanese player is again the second-round co-leader for the first time since the TOTO Japan Classic at the start of November. Her round got off to a slow start, making two pars and a bogey in her first three holes to fall a shot. Her bogey would be balanced out two holes later by a birdie on the par-4 4th hole before she would hit a string of pars until No. 9, where she made her second birdie of the day. Hataoka made the turn at one-under par, and would head into a back nine that would include just three pars, five birdies and one bogey. The Olympian made three birdies in her first five holes on the back nine, including Nos. 10, 12 and 14. She capped off her round with a pair of birdies on holes 17 and 18 to move into a share of the lead alongside Lee.

“On 17 of course I was trying to make a birdie, but it was tough chip shot from the left of the green. It was big break for me, but I hit a good chip shot and I made a good putt,” said Hataoka. “The 18th hole, I hit it okay, but my putting was really good, about like 30 feet.”

Three players sit in a tie for third behind the leaders including **Amy Yang**, M. Lee and **Ruoning Yin**. Yang had the round of the day, shooting the only 63 on Friday and tying her lowest 36-hole score that she previously set at the 2018 CPKC Women's Open. Minjee Lee carded a 67 like Hataoka, recording her best 36-hole score since the first time she played at the event in 2015. 2023 KPMG Women's PGA Championship winner, Yin shot a 68 with five birdies and one bogey in her first appearance at the CME Group Tour Championship.

A LOOK AT THE LEADERS

CATEGORY	Alison Lee	Nasa Hataoka
Rolex Ranking	27	18
Race to the CME Globe Points Standing	26	19
2023 LPGA Tour Wins	0	0
2023 LPGA Tour Top 10s	4	6
2023 LPGA Tour Season Earnings	\$966,998	\$1,543,216
Career LPGA Tour Wins	0	6
Career LPGA Tour Top 10s	20	40
Career LPGA Tour Money	\$3,405,842	\$8,109,845

ABOUT THE LEADERS

Rolex Rankings No. 27 Alison Lee

- Lee hit 13 of 14 fairways, 15 of 18 greens with 25 putts
 - She has hit 13 of 14 fairways in both of her first two rounds
 - She recorded nine birdies in her second round, tied for first among the field
 - She has 15 birdies over the first two days of play, tied for third among the field
 - She has only recorded one bogey over the first two rounds
- With her 64 today, her scoring average over the last 13 rounds is 65.615
- Her two-day total of 14-under ties **Celine Boutier** (2021) for the lowest 36-hole lead since the event changed names in 2014
 - Her 36-hole 130 set a new career-low and is her lowest 36-hole score since 2022 (133)
- This is her third time leading or co-leading after two days of play and the first since 2015
- This is her 23rd start in the 2023 season

- She has four top-10 finishes this year
 - She finished runner-up in her last two starts at the BMW Women's Championship and The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican
- This is her ninth year on the LPGA Tour
 - She has 20 top-10 finishes
 - Her rookie year on the LPGA Tour was in 2015
- She won her first professional victory at the 2021 Aramco Team Series – Sotogrande on the Ladies European Tour
- She was a member of the 2015 U.S. Solheim Cup Team
- She played collegiate golf at UCLA, where she won the inaugural ANNIKA Award

Rolex Rankings No. 18 Nasa Hataoka

- Hataoka hit all 14 fairways, 16 of 18 greens with 29 putts
 - She recorded seven birdies and two bogeys
- Her 130 ties a season-low 36-hole score set at the TOTO Japan Classic
 - She has won two of the last three tournaments where she has shot 130 after two rounds (2021 Walmart NW Arkansas Championship and Dana Open)
- This is her third time leading or co-leading after the first and second round of play
 - This is her ninth time leading or co-leading after 36 holes and second time this season
- This is Hataoka's sixth appearance at the CME Group Tour Championship
 - She has two top-10 finishes in the event, a solo ninth result in 2018 and a solo second finish in 2021
- This is Hataoka's 23rd start of the 2023 LPGA Tour season
 - She has six top-10 finishes on the year
 - Her best finishes of the season are back-to-back results of T4 and T3 at the U.S. Women's Open and The Amundi Evian Championship, respectively
- This is Hataoka's seventh season on the LPGA Tour
 - She is a six-time LPGA Tour winner
 - Her most recent victory came at the 2022 DIO Implant LA Open
 - She represented Japan at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and at the 2018 and 2023 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown
 - At age 17, she was the youngest player in the field at the Final Stage of 2016 LPGA Qualifying Tournament, where she finished T14 to earn LPGA membership for the 2017 season
- Hataoka is a six-time winner on the JLPGA
 - Her last JLPGA win came at the 2019 Japan Women's Open Golf Championship

THINGS TO KNOW

- Only two players are bogey free after two rounds of play, **Xiyu Lin** (T6, -11) and **Patty Tavatanakit** (9th, -9)
- Ten players went bogey-free on Friday
- All but one player is under par after 36 holes
- Four players are in contention for the Vare Trophy, given to the player with the lowest scoring average throughout the season
 - **Atthaya Thitikul**: 69.589
 - **Hyo Joo Kim**: 69.645
 - **Xiyu Lin**: 69.865
 - **Jin Young Ko**: 69.985
- Three players are tied at 3rd place
 - **Amy Yang** went bogey-free with nine birdies in her second round
 - She is tied for second for most rounds (two) making nine or more birdies on the LPGA Tour this season
 - She is tied with **Ashleigh Buhai** and **Nasa Hataoka** leads with three
 - **Minjee Lee** carded seven birdies and two bogeys
 - **Ruoning Yin** recorded her first bogey of the week in her second round
 - She ended with five birdies as well
- **Gemma Dryburgh**, **Gaby Lopez** and **Ayaka Furue** all shot 7-under, 65s
 - Dryburgh's 65 ties a season-low for the third time this season
 - Lopez had a bogey-free 65, being one of 10 players to go bogey free on Friday
 - Furue's 65 is her lowest round since the first round of the BMW Ladies Championship
- **Jenny Shin** made a hole-in-one on the par-3 No. 8 during the second round
 - She hit her 8-iron 141 yards to score her third ace of her LPGA Tour career
 - This is the 19th hole-in-one on the LPGA Tour this season
 - Thanks to Shin's hole-in-one, CME Group will donate \$20,000 to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital as part of the CME Group Cares Challenge, a season-long charitable giving program
 - The season-long donation total is now \$380,000
- **Jodi Ewart Shadoff** withdrew before her second round, citing injury

SATURDAY ESPN+ FEATURED GROUPS

8:15 a.m. – Danielle Kang/Stephanie Kyriacou

8:55 a.m. – Megan Khang/Angel Yin

11:35 a.m. – Anna Nordqvist/ Rose Zhang

11:45 a.m. – Hyo Joo Kim/Nelly Korda

QUOTABLE

"Oh, way more. Last year I was all over the place. I put so much pressure on myself knowing it was the last tournament for a chance to win. I just didn't feel good with my game to begin with. I feel like Florida courses are really hard for me, especially this one. Yeah, just trying to guide myself around this course. I feel definitely a lot better this year." – *Lilia Vu on how much more comfortable she's feeling at Tiburón Golf Club this year compared to last*

"Just to think that I can put a seed into one of them (young girls) and dream of professional golf or something bigger than themselves, I think it's what it's all about. We have the responsibility to keep on growing the game. More importantly, keep touching their hearts." – *Gaby Lopez on interactions with young girls throughout her career*

"I feel like the last couple weeks I felt a lot more free on the golf course, which probably helped me so much. Like I think I've had pretty good rounds, so, I mean, with this week getting into the field, it's just me enjoying this whole experience. I played this three years ago as a rookie, and being able to play it now with a lot more experience and just knowing how to approach my game, it's definitely a lot more exciting for me." – *Bianca Pagdanganan on her experience at her second CME Group Tour Championship after playing her way into the field with her performance at The ANNIKA*

"You know, I'm really glad it benefitted someone. You know, I think CME is pretty amazing for doing such work, so I'm glad I can contribute to something. Don't think it contributed much to my round, but, hey, as long as it goes somewhere, very happy about that." – *Jenny Shin on her hole-in-one earning a \$20,000 for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital as part of the CME Group Cares Challenge*

NOTABLE

[Rose Zhang Recovers, Records 66 in Round Two at CME Group Tour Championship](#)

[Jenny Shin Makes 19th Ace of 2023 Season on Day Two of CME Group Tour Championship](#)

[LPGA Tour Reaching New Heights After Banner 2023 Season](#)

[Award Winners Recognized at 2023 Rolex LPGA Awards](#)

[Mone Inami Accepts LPGA Tour Membership for 2024 Season](#)

[Epson Tour Graduates Excel on the LPGA Tour in 2023](#)

[Lilia Vu Second Round Interview | 2023 CME Group Tour Championship](#)
[Carlota Ciganda Walk and Talk | 2023 CME Group Tour Championship](#)
[Angel Yin Walk and Talk | 2023 CME Group Tour Championship](#)

TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS:

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

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

54 holes: 200, Lexi Thompson (2018), Sei Young Kim (2019)

72 Holes: 265 (-23), Jin Young Ko (2021)