

DIO Implant LA Open
Palos Verdes Golf Club | Palos Verdes Estates, Calif. | March 30-April 2, 2023

Final-Round Notes
April 2, 2023

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Course Setup: 36-35—71; 6,088 yards

Scoring Average: R1: 72.673; R2: 71.219; R3: 70.321; R4: 71.462

Weather: Partly cloudy skies in morning, mostly sunny skies in afternoon; temperatures peaking in the mid 60s with light winds WSW peaking around 6-12 mph with gusts reaching 18 mph

Race to CME Globe Points: 500 (winner)

Purse: \$1.75 million (winner's portion: \$262,500)

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

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LEADERBOARD			
	Player	To par	Score
1	Ruoning Yin	-15	68-64-67-70—269
2	Georgia Hall	-14	69-72-62-67—270
T3	Patty Tavatanakit	-12	69-67-71-65—272
T3	Hyo Joo Kim	-12	66-66-69-71—272

RUONING YIN BECOME ROLEX FIRST-TIME WINNER AT DIO LA IMPLANT OPEN

Twenty-year-old **Ruoning Yin** earned her first LPGA Tour victory at the DIO Implant LA Open after posting a 1-under 70 round that was full of ups and downs. Starting the day with a two-stroke lead, Yin made her first and only par of the front nine on No. 1 before filling her card with color on Nos. 2-10. A birdie on 2 was followed by three-straight bogeys. She turned it around right after with four-consecutive birdies that led to a front-nine 34, still two strokes ahead of the nearest challenger. It wasn't until she made the turn that the Chinese golfer began to think about winning.

"I made a birdie on 2, which is good. But after that I just made three bogeys in a row. Just some small mistake out there. And after 5 I just told myself, can't make one more bogey. I just switch a ball, and, yeah, four birdies in a row," Yin explained. "I started think about if I'm going to win or not a little bit. But after 10 and 13, I made two bogey out there and I said, no, you can't think about that no more."

After her tee shot on 10 found the right-side rough, Yin's second shot hit a tree making par almost impossible. She kept things even over the next two holes before shooting her last bogey of the day on 13, where she needed three putts to close out the hole. She hit another tree on the 14th but got a lucky bounce back onto the fairway that allowed her to make birdie. Throughout the round, and the entire week at Palos Verdes Golf Club, she said, it was Yin's putting that was both her doing and undoing, and keeping three-putts of the card – she had just four in four rounds – played an important part in her success.

"I think before first round I talk to my coach, said I don't know, should I trust the line or trust myself? And my coach just told me, you spend like five minutes on the green, read the line, and putt on the line. You got to trust it or you're just wasting time, yeah," she said. "I mean, for my game, I have a goal that cannot make three-putts, cannot make double bogey. After I hit the tree (on 10) I said, let's just make bogey here. Don't even think about make par."

Sitting two shots ahead of nearest chaser **Georgia Hall** after her birdie on 14, Yin made par on Nos. 15-17 and walked up to 18 green with just a one-shot lead after Hall closed the gap on 16. The English golfer's approach shot on 18 had the entire gallery convinced she would force a playoff for the second week in a row, but Hall was unable to sink the seven-foot putt for extra holes. Instead, Hall earned her second runner-up performance in as many events after losing in a one-hole playoff to **Celine Boutier** at last week's LPGA Drive On Championship.

"I was really happy just to be in this position on the weekend, especially my 9-under yesterday. Yeah, just really proud of myself again," said Hall, who broke the tournament scoring record during the third round with a 9-under 62. "Just really gutted not to at least get to another playoff. But a bogey-free round on the final day in tough conditions out there, so just on to the next one."

With her win, Yin become the second Rolex First-Time Winner of the 2023 season after Lilia Vu at the Honda LPGA Thailand, the second golfer from the People's Republic of China to win on the LPGA Tour following Shanshan Feng and the second-youngest player to win on Tour since **Atthaya Thitikul** won in Arkansas in 2022 at the Walmart NW Arkansas Championship

Hall's solo-second result is her third top-10 finish in four events this year. Two players finished in a tie for third, including five-time LPGA champion **Hyo Joo Kim** and UCLA alumna **Patty Tavatanakit**. **Carlota Ciganda**, who shot an impressive 8-under 64 on Saturday and 5-under 66 on Sunday, finished T5 alongside Rolex Rankings World No. 2 **Nelly Korda**.

A LOOK AT THE CHAMPION

CATEGORY	Ruoning Yin
2023 Race to CME Globe Points List	59
2023 LPGA Tour Wins	1
2023 LPGA Tour Top 10s	1
2023 Season Earnings	\$283,659
Career LPGA Tour Wins	1
Career Ladies European Tour Wins	0
Career CLPGA Wins	3
Career LPGA Tour Top 10s	2
Career Money	\$453,799

ABOUT THE CHAMPION

Rolex Rankings No. 146, Ruoning Yin (1, 68-64-67-70)

- Yin hit 11 of 14 fairways and 12 of 18 greens with 29 putts

- She finished the week ranked first in the field in birdies (26)
- Yin's 269 ties her career-low 72-hole score
 - She last shot a 269 at the 2022 Dana Open
- With the win, Yin becomes the season's second Rolex First-Time Winner, following **Lilia Vu** (Honda LPGA Thailand)
- Yin is just the second player in history from the People's Republic of China to win on Tour, following **Shanshan Feng** (10 wins) who last won in 2019 (Thornberry Creek LPGA Classic)
- Yin is the fifth different winner through five events in 2023
- At 20 years, 6 months and 5 days, she is the youngest winner on Tour since **Atthaya Thitikul** at the 2022 Walmart NW Arkansas Championship (19 years, 7 months, 5 days)
- This is Yin's second start of the 2023 LPGA Tour season
 - She finished T16 at the LPGA Drive On Championship
- Her win comes in only her 20th start on the LPGA Tour
- This is Yin's second appearance at the DIO Implant LA Open
 - In 2022, she finished T33 at Wilshire Country Club
 - At the 2022 Palos Verdes Championship, she finished T26
- This is Yin's second season on the LPGA Tour
 - As a rookie last season, she made seven of 16 cuts
 - Her career-best finish before the win is a T4 result at the 2022 Dana Open, her only additional top-10 result on Tour
 - She finished T4 in the 2021 LPGA Q-Series to first earn LPGA Tour status
- Yin is currently ranked fourth on the People's Republic of China team for the 2023 International Crown
- After turning professional in 2020, Yin won her first three consecutive CLPGA Tour events, the most in the history of that Tour
- In 2019, Yin won nine amateur titles

THINGS TO KNOW

- Georgia Hall went bogey-free for the second-straight day to finish in solo second at -14 after a 4-under 67
 - She was bogey-free since No. 7 in the second round (47-consecutive holes)
 - This is her second-consecutive runner-up performance, after falling in a one-hole playoff in last week's LPGA Drive On Championship to **Celine Boutier**
 - She has yet to finish worse than a tie for 14th on Tour since the 2022 LPGA MEDIHEAL Championship
 - She's earned four top-four finishes in that span as well
 - She only needed 105 putts around Palos Verdes Golf Club, the least among the field this week
- **Patty Tavatanakit** shot a 65 to tie **Hyo Joo Kim** (71) for third at -12 overall
 - This is Tavatanakit's best finish on Tour since a tie for third at the 2021 Honda LPGA Thailand
 - Tavatanakit had not posted a top-10 finish since a tie for fourth at The Chevron Championship in 2022
 - Tavatanakit's 65 is her lowest round on Tour since a final-round 65 at the 2022 Honda LPGA Thailand
 - Tavatanakit's final score (272) is her lowest 72-hole score since a 270 at the 2022 Honda LPGA Thailand
 - Kim's T3 results is her 47th career top-10 finish
 - Kim has yet to finish outside the top-10 since the 2022 Pelican Women's Championship
- **Carlota Ciganda** (66) and **Nelly Korda** (67) tied for fifth at -11
 - Ciganda made the cut on the number after the second round (+2), and moved up the leaderboard on Saturday thanks to an 8-under 63
 - This is Korda's fourth top-10 finish this season through five starts
- Defending champion **Nasa Hataoka** finished T7 (-10) along with **Danielle Kang** and **Minami Katsu**, who recorded a career-low 8-under 63 on Sunday
 - Katsu's previous career-low 18-hole score on Tour was a 67, recorded in the third and fourth rounds of the 2022 TOTO Japan Classic
 - Her 63 is the lowest final-round score by a player since **Cheyenne Knight** and **Lilia Vu** carded 63s in the final round of The Ascendant LPGA Benefiting Volunteers of America in 2022
 - This is her second bogey-free round in 12 Tour starts since Sept. 2018
 - Her last bogey-free round on Tour came in the third round of the 2022 TOTO Japan Classic, where she played as a JLPGA Member
 - She is the eighth-different player this season to shoot 63 or better through five events on Tour

QUOTABLE

[Ruoning Yin on her carrying the momentum from her win into her next start at The Chevron Championship](#): "I think right now I know I'm capable to win on this tour, and I'm not just going to set my goal at making the cut. I'm going to think about win every tournament, yeah."

[Georgia Hall on her resilience in the final round at Palos Verdes](#): "I didn't know what could happen. I knew that back nine was really tough and the wind got up as well, and I did miss a lot of greens actually on the back nine. Managed to get up and down a lot. I felt a little like Seve out there, so just have a chance on the last hole and gave myself the best opportunity. Unfortunately the greens this time of day are very bobbly and it was tough to know what was the right line to pick. Unfortunately just bobbed off line. Still happy the way I played."

[Patty Tavatanakit on how she feels after working on her mental and technical game over the last seven months](#): "This is Patty 2.0 I think. Nothing can really be the same. I can't really go back to being kind of who I was because so much has happened. And I feel like just coming back to myself a little bit more and being able to play freely and confidently is a really nice feeling."

NOTABLE

[DIO Implant LA Open Third Round 4 Highlights](#)
[Tavatanakit Returns To Contention After Rocky 2022](#)
[#LPGAWinnerSelfie with first-time winner, Ruoning Yin](#)
[After three bogeys in-a-row, Ruoning Yin rolls in four straight birdies](#)
[Ruoning Yin celebrates becoming a Rolex First-Time Winner](#)
[Hall Charges Up Leaderboard, Breaks Tournament Scoring Record](#)

Tournament Scoring Records:

18 holes – 62, Georgia Hall (R3, 2023)

36 holes – 129, Jessica Korda (2021)*

54 holes – 197, Jessica Korda (2021)*

72 Holes – 268, Brooke Henderson (2021)*

**Records not in bold were set at Wilshire Country Club.*