Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational
Midland Country Club | Midland, MI | July 19-22, 2023

Tuesday Pre-Tournament Notes
July 18, 2023

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE DOW GREAT LAKES BAY INVITATIONAL

- This is the fourth playing of the Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational, after being contested in 2019, 2021 and 2022; the event was cancelled in 2020 due to the COVID-19 pandemic
- This was the first official team event added to the LPGA Tour, though there have been several unofficial team competitions since the Tour was founded in 1950
    - Notable unofficial team events include: the Solheim Cup (1990-present), the Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown (2014-present), the Hot Springs 4-Ball Invitational (1955-58), the Women's World Cup of Golf (2000, 2005- 08), the Wendy's 3-Tour Challenge (1992-2013) and the Hyundai Team Matches (1994-97, 1999-2002)
    - The Dow Great Lake Bay Invitational is the second of four team events this season, along with International Crown, the Solheim Cup and the Grant Thornton Invitational
- The field includes:
    - One previous championship team in **Cydney Clanton** and **Jasmine Suwannapura,** who won the inaugural playing in 2019
        - Clanton and Suwannapura set the 72-hole course record (253, -21) with their win
    - Five of the 13 LPGA Tour winners from this season
        - **Pajaree Anannarukarn** (Bank of Hope LPGA Match-Play presented by MGM Rewards), **Celine Boutier** (LPGA Drive On Championship), **Hannah Green** (JM Eagle LA Championship presented by Plastpro), **Brooke Henderson** (Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions), **Ruoning Yin** (DIO Implant LA Open, KPMG Women's PGA Championship)
            - Anannarukarn has the best finish among the five at this event, a T3 finish in 2021 with partner Aditi Ashok
            - Henderson, partnered with Alena Sharp, finished fifth at this event in 2019
            - This is Green's first time in Midland, she is partnered with fellow Australian **Su Oh**
            - This is Yin's second appearance at the Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational, she missed the cut in 2022
            - Boutier has one previous appearance at the event, a T12 result in 2019 alongside partner **Karine Icher**
    - Twenty-two of the 32 LPGA Tour Rookies
        - Rolex Rankings No. 32 **Hae Ran Ryu** is the highest ranked rookie in the field
            - She has five top-10 finishes this season and has missed two cuts
            - She is partnered with **Yaeeun Hong**
        - Rookie **Jaravee Boonchant** is coming off of her second top-10 finish of the year at the Dana Open
            - She is partnered with LPGA sophomore **Gina Kim**
    - Four sponsor invite teams: **Paige Crawford** and **Madison Barnett**; **Savannah Grewal** and **Annabelle Pancake**; **Bailey Davis** and **Christina Carroll**; **Jasmine Ly** and **Kimberly Dinh**
        - This is Crawford's third Tour appearance this season after earning exemptions for winning the John Shippen Invitational and John Shippen Cognizant Cup
            - She missed the cut in both of her previous starts at the Cognizant Founders Cup and the Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give
            - She competed collegiately at Montana State University
        - This is Barnett's first Tour appearance
            - She has appeared in two Q-School events and one Epson Tour event
        - Grewal and Pancake are both current members of the Clemson University women's golf team
            - Grewal will be a fifth-year senior and Pancake will be a senior for the 2023-24 season
            - Grewal was named First-Team All-ACC this past season and set the Clemson record for stroke average (71.77)
            - Pancake finished second at the Open Championship Amateur, the first Clemson golfer to reach the finals in that event
        - Davis will be a junior at the University of Tennessee and Carroll will be a senior at the University of Delaware for the 2023-24 season
            - Both Davis and Carroll competed in the John Shippen Invitational to earn an exemption into this event
                - Carroll finished third and David finished T9
        - Ly will be a senior at Northern Illinois University for the 2023-24 season
            - She earned First-Team All-MAC honors and was MAC Women's Golfer of the Week twice last season
        - Dinh is a native of Midland and Senior Research Specialist at Dow
            - She graduated from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology
            - She played collegiately at the University of Wisconsin and graduated in 2015
                - She was a four-time Academic All-Big Ten honoree
    - Four players with connections to Michigan including three natives (**Jennifer Song**, **Kris Tamulis** and **Kimberly Dinh**) and **Valery Plata**, a Michigan State graduate

TEAMS TO WATCH AT THE GREAT LAKES BAY INVITATIONAL

PAULA CREAMER (Rolex Rankings No. 773) and **JANE PARK**
"Just to see the type of impact that Grace has had on the general public and just to see that our story has touched them in a way that has left an indelible mark on them, that's an honor. It's my honor to share Grace's story because I feel like so many people and so many children with the same disease and disabilities that go unheard and to have a sort of platform to sing praise to her story is an honor. It's really an honor for me honestly every day to be her mom is the best thing." *-Park on her daughter, Grace and her impact*

- This is Creamer's second start at the Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational
    - In her previous appearance in 2019, Creamer was paired up with **Morgan Pressel**
    - The duo finished in a tie for sixth place
- For the 2023 LPGA Tour season, this is Creamer's ninth event
    - Her best finish was a tie for 54th at the DIO Implant Open
    - She withdrew from the Cognizant Founders Cup, and missed the cut in six events this season
- This is Creamer's 19th year on the LPGA Tour
    - She has claimed 10 victories, including a major win at the 2010 U.S. Women's Open
    - Her last win came at the 2014 HSBC Women's World Championship
    - Creamer has participated in seven Solheim Cup teams from 2005-2017 and was named the 2005 Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year
- Creamer became an #LPGAMom in 2022 and her partner, Park, became an #LPGAMom in 2020
- This is Park's first tournament on the LPGA since the Ascendant LPGA benefitting Volunteers of America in 2021
    - Park stepped away from golf in 2021 after her daughter, Grace, suffered a series of undiagnosed seizures at 10 months old and was diagnosed with intractable epilepsy
        - Grace will be in attendance along with Park's husband, Pete Godfrey, who will be caddying for Park this week
        - LPGA players will wear purple ribbons in support of Grace and the Park family, and hats will be sold throughout the week of the tournament to benefit the Golf4Her Foundation and the Epilepsy Foundation
- Prior to her pause in professional golf, Park was in her 15th year on the LPGA Tour

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QUICK LINKS

- Interview Transcripts
- LPGA Tour Online Media Center
- LPGA Statistical Database
- Stats Box
- Media Assets
- Tournament Website

SOCIAL MEDIA: #DRIVEON
Tournament - @DowGLBI (Twitter, Instagram), #TeamUp

LPGA Tour - @LPGA and @LPGAMedia (Twitter), @lpga_tour (Instagram)

TV/STREAMING TIMES
(all times EDT)
Wednesday, July 19
3:00-6:00 p.m. – NBC Golf Channel, Peacock, NBC Digital streaming

Thursday, July 20
12:00-3:00 p.m. – NBC Golf Channel, Peacock, NBC Digital streaming

Friday, July 22
1:00-3:00 p.m. – NBC Golf Channel, Peacock, NBC Digital streaming
3:00-4:00 p.m. – Peacock, NBC Digital streaming
10:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m. – NBC Golf Channel (Tape Delay)

Saturday, July 23
3:00-4:00 p.m. – NBC Digital streaming
4:00-6:00 p.m. – CBS, Paramount +

Live Coverage can be found on Digital at:
NBC – NBC Sports App, NBCSports.com, golfchannel.com
CBS – CBS Sports App, cbssports.com

- During her 15 years, she placed within the top-10 16 times and finished as a runner-up at the 2008 Walmart NW Arkansas Championship presented by P&G and the 2008 SBS Open at Turtle Bay
- She turned professional in 2006 and tied for 18th at the LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament to earn non-exempt status for the 2007 LPGA Tour season

BROOKE HENDERSON (Rolex Rankings No. 12) and **LEXI THOMPSON** (Rolex Rankings No. 16)
"Yeah, I think we're similar in a lot of ways. Ball-striking is definitely a big strength for both of us. Lexi definitely hits it a lot further than I do, which is nice to have a partner that does that. I think the thing with alternate shot, you really have to ham-and-egg it sometimes, and hopefully if one of us needs the other one to bail us out, we can step up to the plate there. I think it's just kind of finding the right energy and momentum, and I think that's really fun about team play. I haven't had a lot of opportunity to play in a lot of team events, so that's why I love this event here. Yeah, you know, just trying to get the right energy, trying to chase some birdies and see what happens." *-Henderson on how Thompson's game compliments hers*

- This is Henderson's third start at the Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational
  - Thompson is her third different partner in as many years (**Alena Sharp**, 2019; **In Gee Chun**, 2021)
  - She finished T17 with Chun and fifth with Sharp
- This is Henderson's 14th event of the 2023 season
  - She won the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions earlier this season in January
  - She has missed three cuts this year and has finished in the top-10 once
- This is Henderson's ninth season on Tour
  - She has 13 career wins and 71 top-10 finishes
  - She is the all-time winningest professional Canadian golfer, male or female, and is the only Canadian golfer with more than one major title
    - She won the 2022 Amundi Evian Championship and the 2016 KPMG Women's PGA Championship
- This is Thompson's fourth start at this event
  - Henderson is Thompson's fourth partner (**Brittany Altomare**, 2022; **Nasa Hataoka**, 2021; **Cristie Kerr**, 2019)
  - She missed the cut with Altomare, finished T12 with Hataoka and T33 with Kerr
- This is Thompson's seventh event of the year
  - She has missed four cuts this season
- This is Thompson's 11th season on Tour
  - She has 11 career victories and 84 top-10 finishes

MATILDA CASTREN (Rolex Rankings No. 131) and **KELLY TAN** (Rolex Rankings No. 326)
"I've been really excited for this event and coming back here. Especially playing the 18th hole today really brought back some good memories. I'm sure the stands will be as filled as they were last year, and just really looking forward to the week." *-Castren on her excitement headed into this week at the Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational*

- This is Castren's second start at the Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational
  - Last year, she was also paired with Tan and finished runner up
- This is Castren's 15th event of her 2023 LPGA Tour season
  - Her best finish of the season came at last week's Dana Open, where she finished in a tie for 12th
  - She has missed four cuts this season, most recently at the Meijer LPGA Class for Simply Give
- Castren is in her fourth season on the LPGA Tour
  - Her rookie year was in 2020 after she finished T26 at the 2019 LPGA Q-Series
  - She claimed her first and only victory on Tour at the 2021 LPGA MEDIHEAL Championship
  - Castren competed in the 2021 Solheim Cup and 2020 Tokyo Olympics, representing Finland
- Castren and Tan formed a close friendship during their years travelling together on the Epson Tour
  - Castren was a bridesmaid in Tan's wedding in 2022
- This is Tan's 11th start of the 2023 LPGA Tour season
  - Her best finish of the season is also at last week's Dana Open, where she finished T59
  - Tan also finished T69 at the ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer, and has missed nine cuts this season
- Tan's rookie year on the LPGA Tour was in 2014 after she earned Priority List Category 12 status at the Final Qualifying Tournament
  - She competed in the 2020 Tokyo Olympics and 2016 Rio Olympics, representing Malaysia

Race to CME Globe Update:
The 2023 Race to the CME Globe continues at the Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational. With 410 points on the line this week for the winners, players have the opportunity to make moves in the season-long competition. After her second win of the year at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship, **Ruoning Yin** sits in first for the second consecutive week. Rolex Rankings No. 1 **Jin Young Ko** moved up to second place with 1,505.990 points with her finish at the Dana Open, while **Ayaka Furue** dropped to third place with 1,503.125 points. This year's U.S. Women's Open champion **Allisen Corpuz** (1,487.503 points) advanced to fourth place with two-time 2023 LPGA Tour winner **Lilia Vu** (1,388.634 points) just behind, wrapping up the top-five.

The Race to the CME Globe is a season-long points competition with LPGA Tour Members accumulating points in every official LPGA event to qualify for the season-ending tournament, the CME Group Tour Championship. The player who wins the CME Group Tour Championship is named the "Race to the CME Globe Champion." The top 60 points earners and ties earn a spot into the season finale with the entire field competing for a $7 million purse highlighted by a $2 million winner's check, which is tied for the largest single prize in the history of women's golf.

ON LPGA.COM
Five Things to Know About the Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational
How to Watch the Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational
Summer Stretch Rolls on with Fun, Team Competition
Teaming Up in the Great Lakes: a Statistical Preview of the Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational
Allisen Corpuz, Nelly Korda, Lilia Vu Clinch Spots on United States Solheim Cup Team
Making Moves: Linn Grant Moves Into Top 25 in Rolex Rankings

SOCIAL SNAPSHOT
Jane Park and Paula Creamer Press Conference
Matilda Castren and Kelly Tan Press Conference
Paige Crawford and Madison Barnett Talking About Representation in Golf
Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational Field Breakdown
Views from the 18th Hole at the Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational