



KPMG Women’s PGA Championship
Baltusrol Golf Club (Lower Course) | Springfield, NJ | June 22-25, 2023

Tuesday Pre-Tournament Notes
June 20, 2023

MEDIA AVAILABILITY SCHEDULE

(All times are local EDT and subject to change; Any changes to press conference times will be made on the KPMG Women's PGA Championship Media Hub; The Zoom link for press conferences can be accessed through the media hub)

Wednesday, June 21

- 10:00 a.m. – Stacy Lewis
- 10:30 a.m. – In Gee Chun
- 1:00 p.m. – Lydia Ko
- 1:30 p.m. – PGA Places to Play Announcement
- 2:00 p.m. – Rose Zhang
- 3:00 p.m. – Joanna Coe (LPGA Teaching Pro)
- 3:45 p.m. – Brooke Henderson
- TBD – Jin Young Ko

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE KPMG WOMEN’S PGA CHAMPIONSHIP

- This is the 69th playing of the KPMG Women’s PGA Championship
- The KPMG Women’s PGA Championship is the second women’s major of the 2023 season
 - Lilia Vu** won the first major of the year, The Chevron Championship, in April
 - According to KPMG Performance Insights, since 2019, no player who has won the year’s first major has finished inside the top-20 at the season’s second major
- This is the first time the KPMG Women’s PGA Championship will be held at Baltusrol Golf Club (Lower Course) in Springfield, N.J.
 - Baltusrol has played host to two other women’s major championships, the U.S. Women’s Open in 1961 and 1985
 - The lower course has also hosted two PGA Championships (2005, 2016) and four U.S. Opens (1954, 1967, 1980, 1993)
 - The course was originally designed in 1922 by A.W. Tillinghast before being renovated in 2021 by Gil Hanse
- The 156-player field includes:
 - 10 past champions
 - In Gee Chun** (2022), **Nelly Korda** (2021), **Sei Young Kim** (2020), **Hannah Green** (2019), **Sung Hyun Park** (2018), **Danielle Kang** (2017), **Brooke Henderson** (2016), **Cristie Kerr** (2010), **Anna Nordqvist** (2009), **Laura Davies** (1994, ‘96)
 - Green, Kang and Nordqvist all became Rolex First-Time Winners at this event
 - All 11 of the 2023 LPGA Tour winners
 - Vu and **Jin Young Ko** are the only two-time winners on Tour in 2023
 - Henderson is the only winner this season who has won this major previously
 - According to KPMG Performance Insights, Henderson has 19 rounds in the 60s in majors since the beginning of 2020, the second most of any player
 - Minjee Lee** is the only player with more, 21
 - Leona Maguire** claimed her second LPGA Tour victory at the Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give last week
 - She looks to join nine others who have won the KPMG Women’s PGA Championship following a tournament win the week before
 - Most recently, Korda won the 2021 KPMG Women’s PGA Championship after also winning the Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give
 - Nineteen LPGA Tour Rookies
 - Grace Kim** and **Rose Zhang** are the only rookies in the field who are Tour winners this year
 - Zhang is making her first LPGA Tour start since winning the Mizuho Americas Open in her professional debut and accepting immediate Tour Membership
 - Fourteen major champions
 - Jin Young Ko (2), **Lydia Ko** (2), Lee (2), **Stacy Lewis** (2), Park (2), Chun (3), Davies (4), Nordqvist (3), Henderson (2) and Kerr (2) all enter as multi-major winners
 - Twenty-four of the top-25 in the Rolex Women’s World Golf Rankings
 - Jin Young Ko tied the record for most weeks spent at No. 1 in the Rolex Women’s World Golf Rankings this week
 - She and Lorena Ochoa have both spent 158 weeks at No. 1
 - According to KPMG Performance Insights, Rolex Rankings No. 9 **Lexi Thompson** has finished in the top-five in majors 11 times since 2015, the most of any player in that span
 - Since 2010, only two players have more top-ten finishes than Thompson (19); Inbee Park (32) and So Yeon Ryu (20)
 - Twenty-eight players making their KPMG Women’s PGA Championship debuts
 - Two sponsor invitations, **Mariah Stackhouse** and **Gabriela Ruffels**
 - Stackhouse, a KPMG Ambassador, has played in three events this season with a best finish of T49 at the ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer
 - Ruffels, who has won twice on the Epson Tour this season, is making her ninth start as a non-Member in an LPGA Tour major championship
 - Eight LPGA Teaching & Club Professionals representing the Corebridge Financial PGA Team
 - Three of the eight teaching pros are making their debut in the KPMG Women’s PGA Championship including **Loretta Giovannettone**, **Emily Miller** and **Amy Ruengmateekhun**
- Fourteen players have won this event multiple times including **Mickey Wright** (1958, ‘60, ‘61, ‘63), **Kathy Whitworth** (1967, ‘71, ‘75), **Nancy Lopez** (1978, ‘85, ‘89), **Annika Sorenstam** (2003, ‘04, ‘05), **Se Ri Pak** (1998, ‘02, ‘06) and **Inbee Park** (2013, ‘14, ‘15)
- Five players have successful defended their titles including **Inbee Park** (2013, ‘14, ‘15), **Annika Sorenstam** (2003, ‘04, ‘05) and **Juli Inkster** (1999, 2000)

2023 Statistical Leaders

Official Money: Lilia Vu, \$1,130,901
Scoring Average: Nelly Korda, 69.200
Birdies: Ashleigh Buhai, 172
Eagles: Jennifer Kupcho 9
Holes in One: In Gee Chun, Gina Kim, In Kyung Kim, Jennifer Kupcho, Mariah Stackhouse and Bailey Tardy, 1
Greens in Regulation: Hyo Joo Kim, 75.5%
Average Driving Distance: Xiaowen Yin, 282.000
Strokes Gained Total – Per Round: Jin Young Ko, 2.230

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QUICK LINKS

- [Interview Transcripts](#)
- [KPMG WPGA Media Hub](#)
- [LPGA Tour Online Media Center](#)
- [LPGA Statistical Database](#)
- [Stats Box](#)
- [Tournament Website](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA: #DRIVEON

Tournament - @KPMGWomensPGA (Twitter, Instagram), #KPMGWomensPGA

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

TV/STREAMING TIMES

(all times EDT)

Tuesday, June 20

Golf Today Live From the KPMG WPGA

12:00-4:00 p.m. – NBC GOLF Channel

Golf Central Live From the KPMG WPGA

4:00-5:00 p.m. – NBC GOLF Channel

Wednesday, June 21

Golf Today Live From the KPMG WPGA

12:00-4:00 p.m. – NBC GOLF Channel

Golf Central Live From the KPMG WPGA

4:00-5:00 p.m. – NBC GOLF Channel

Thursday, June 22

Golf Central Pregame

10:00-11:00 a.m.– NBC GOLF Channel

Round 1

11:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. – NBC GOLF Channel/

Peacock/International

5:00-7:00 p.m. – Peacock/International

Golf Central Live From the KPMG WPGA

6:00-7:00 p.m. – NBC GOLF Channel

Friday, June 23

Golf Central Pregame

10:00-11:00 a.m. – NBC GOLF Channel

Round 2

11:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m. – NBC GOLF Channel/

Peacock/International

5:00-7:00 p.m. – Peacock/International

Golf Central

6:00-7:00 p.m. – NBC GOLF Channel

Saturday, June 24

Golf Central Pregame

12:00-1:00 p.m. – NBC GOLF Channel

Round 3

11:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. – Peacock/International

3:00-6:00 p.m. – NBC

Golf Central

6:00-7:00 p.m. – NBC GOLF Channel

Sunday, June 25

Golf Central Pregame

12:00-1:00 p.m. – NBC GOLF Channel

Final Round

11:00 a.m.- 6:00 p.m. – Peacock/International

2:00-6:00 p.m. – NBC

Golf Central

6:00-7:00 p.m. – NBC GOLF Channel

**Live Tournament Coverage can also be found on Digital: NBC Sports App/NBCSports.com/golfchannel.com*

2023 Award Leaders

Rolex Player of the Year		
1	Lilia Vu	94 points
2	Jin Young Ko	75 points
3	Nelly Korda	53 points

Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year		
1	Hae Ran Ryu	381 points
2	Grace Kim	240 points
3	Natthakritta Vongtaveelap	168 points

Rolex ANNIKA Major Award		
1	Lilia Vu	60 points
2	Angel Yin	24 points
3	Nelly Korda	18 points

#AonRiskReward Challenge		
T1	Hae Ran Ryu	-1.000
T1	Atthaya Thitikul	-1.000
T1	Dewi Weber	-1.000
T1	Soo Bin Joo	-1.000

Race to the CME Globe		
1	Jin Young Ko	1,423.223 points
2	Lilia Vu	1,388.643 points
3	Ayaka Furue	1,253.958 points

[AON Risk Reward Challenge:](#) No. 18, par 5

Expect scoring volatility at the end of the round on Baltusrol’s Lower Course with back-to-back par 5s to finish. The 18th hole provides the better opportunity for low numbers, as players are expected to go for the green in two more than half of the time (55%). An accurate tee shot makes the decision to go for the green easier as 63% of players who hit the fairway with their drive are expected to go for the green in two. That number is just 36% for players who find the rough.

Heading into the second major championship of the year, four players are tied at the top of the leaderboard with an average score under par of -1.000 on Aon Risk Reward Challenge holes. Rookie **Hae Ran Ryu**, who has held the top spot for the past several weeks, is joined by Thai superstar **Atthaya Thitikul**, fellow rookie **Soo Bin Joo** and LPGA Tour sophomore **Dewi Weber**. Sitting one spot behind to round out the top five is Korean **Hye-Jin Choi** with a -0.944 scoring average.

[Race to CME Globe](#) Update:

The 2023 Race to the CME Globe continues into the second major championship of the year, the KPMG Women’s PGA Championship. With 650 points on the line this week for the winner, players have the opportunity to make big moves in the season-long competition. With two victories this season and three additional top-10 finishes, Rolex Rankings World No. 1 **Jin Young Ko** (1,423.223 points) sits just ahead of **Lilia Vu** (1,388.643), who also boasts two wins this year including a major victory at The Chevron Championship. In solo third and less than 200 points from the top is Japan’s **Ayaka Furue** (1,253.958). The Tour sophomore is without a win this year, but has earned five top-four finishes and three additional top-20 results in her 12 official starts. In fourth is recent Tour winner **Ashleigh Buhai** (1,195.950), who claimed her first stateside victory two weeks ago at the ShopRite LPGA Classic Presented by Acer. Rounding out the top five is World No. 2 **Nelly Korda** (1,136.533), who is returning to competition this week after taking a break from LPGA Tour competition due to injury.

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, the largest single prize in the history of women’s golf.

[CME Group Cares Challenge – Score 1 for St. Jude Update:](#)

Last season’s Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give champion **Jennifer Kupcho** entered the week at Blythefield Country Club hoping to defend her title, and though she didn’t achieve that goal she made a statement on the final day of competition with a hole-in-one on the par-3 5th hole. Using her pitching wedge, the major champion sank the 124-yard ace en route to a T6 finish at -15. It is Kupcho’s second ace on the LPGA Tour and the sixth ace of the 2023 season, bringing the season-long donation total for the CME Group Cares Challenge to \$120,000.

The CME Group Cares Challenge is a season-long charitable giving program that turns aces into donations. CME Group donates \$20,000 for each hole-in-one made on the LPGA Tour in 2023, with a minimum guaranteed donation of \$500,000 to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, which is leading the way in how the world understands, treats and defeats childhood cancer and life-threatening diseases. There have been six holes-in-one this season, recorded by **Gina Kim** at the LPGA Drive On Championship, **Bailey Tardy** at the DIO Implant LA Open, **In Gee Chun** at The Chevron Championship, **In Kyung Kim** at the JM Eagle LA Championship, **Mariah Stackhouse** at the ShopRite LPGA Classic Presented by Acer and Kupcho at the Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give. The 2023 donation total is \$120,000 thus far.

2023 Wins by Country (13 tournaments, nine countries)

- 3 – United States (Lilia Vu (2), Rose Zhang)
- 2 – Australia (Hannah Green, Grace Kim)
- 2 – Republic of Korea (Jin Young Ko (2))
- 1 – Canada (Brooke Henderson)
- 1 – France (Celine Boutier)
- 1 – Ireland (Leona Maguire)
- 1 – People’s Republic of China (Ruoning Yin)
- 1 – South Africa (Ashleigh Buhai)
- 1 – Thailand (Pajaree Anannarukarn)

2023 Wins by Player (13 tournaments, 11 players)

- 2 – Jin Young Ko (HSBC Women’s World Championship, Cognizant Founders Cup)
- 2 – Lilia Vu (Honda LPGA Thailand, The Chevron Championship)
- 1 – Pajaree Anannarukarn (LPGA Bank of Hope LPGA Match-Play presented by MGM Rewards)
- 1 – Celine Boutier (LPGA Drive On Championship)
- 1 – Ashleigh Buhai (ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer)
- 1 – Hannah Green (JM Eagle LA Championship presented by Plastpro)
- 1 – Brooke Henderson (Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions)
- 1 – Grace Kim (LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei)
- 1 – Leona Maguire (Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give)
- 1 – Ruoning Yin (DIO Implant LA Open)
- 1 – Rose Zhang (Mizuho Americas Open)

Average Age of 2023 Winners: 25.46

Youngest Winner: Rose Zhang (20 years, 11 days)

Oldest Winner: Ashleigh Buhai (36 years, 11 months)