



## LPGA Drive On Championship

Superstition Mountain Golf & Country Club | Gold Canyon, AZ | Mar. 23-26, 2023

### Second-Round Notes

Mar. 24, 2023

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**Course Setup:** 36-36—72; 6,563 yards

**Scoring Average:** R1-70.503; R2-70.600

**Weather:** Partly cloudy and dry conditions with highs near 65F. Light westerly winds in the afternoon, with a few gusts of 15-18 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			
		To par	Score
T1	Maddie Szeryk	-12	67-65 – 132
T1	Moriya Jutanugarn	-12	67-65 – 132
T1	Jenny Shin	-12	65-67 – 132
4	Lilia Vu	-11	67-66 – 133
T5	Narin An	-10	67-67 – 134
T5	Allison Lee	-10	65-69 – 134

#### SZERYK, SHIN, JUTANUGARN SHARE 36-HOLE LEAD IN THE DESERT

Through 36 holes at the LPGA Drive On Championship, LPGA Tour veterans **Jenny Shin** and **Moriya Jutanugarn** are in a tie for the lead at -12 alongside 2022 rookie **Maddie Szeryk**. Shin was the first to post the clubhouse lead, following up her Thursday 65 with a Friday 67, a round that saw her make seven birdies and two bogeys. Starting on the tenth hole, Shin bogeyed right out of the gate, bouncing back quickly with a birdie on the par-4, 11th and a par on hole 12. She dropped another shot on No. 13, but then found some fire and went on a tear. Shin carded five consecutive birdies on holes 14 through 18, turning in 32, and while she cooled slightly, making just one birdie in her final nine holes, it was enough to give her the sixth lead/co-lead of her LPGA Tour career and first since the 2019 Honda LPGA Thailand.

"I actually thought it was really difficult. I was expecting no wind teeing off in the morning and the wind picked up as soon as we were on the range and never stopped. It was swirling. I couldn't really tell which direction it was coming from," said Shin. "Really tough, but right in the middle I gave myself pretty good opportunities with the short clubs in. Made a few putts outside of the green today, so that helped tremendously. But, that front nine was really tough today with that wind."

Jutanugarn followed Shin's lead in the afternoon, helping herself to a bogey-free, 7-under 65 on day two at Superstition Mountain Golf and Country Club. The two-time LPGA Tour winner made five birdies and an eagle on Friday in the desert, hitting nine of 14 fairways and 12 of 18 greens with 23 putts. The eagle was the obvious choice as Jutanugarn's highlight of the day and the 28-year-old said it might've been a bit of a lucky break, one that helped to propel her into the third 36-hole lead/co-lead of her career and first since 2018.

"It's actually a really good drive off the tee and then it's get on the cart path and I just have to drop from there," explained Jutanugarn, whose second-round, 65 is her lowest round since the 2022 Palos Verdes Championship presented by Bank of America last April. "And then it's not a very good shot on the second shot, but pretty lucky as the ball bounce up all the way like to the back the green and just make the putt. It was fun."

Canadian Szeryk made one final birdie as the sun began to slip behind Superstition Mountain and the resulting fist pump showed exactly how much her second-round performance meant to the Texas A&M alum. She made one bogey and six birdies on day two with the highlight of her day being an eagle on the par-4, 14th hole that saw her drive the green and bury the resulting seven-footer. Szeryk then made four more of her six total birdies in her last nine holes, including one on the ninth after stuffing her second shot close, to fire her career-low round on the LPGA Tour and give herself the first 36-hole lead/co-lead of her young tenure.

"I drove the green. I knew I would be close, but I didn't think I would quite get there. It was super downwind and it rolled out a lot and they were on the green, so I felt bad. It just bounced up there. I was like, oh, sorry. But I hit it and it was like on-line just seven feet short and made the putt, so I was like, okay, that's a pretty good eagle," Szeryk said. "It's so amazing to be back in this position because I love being out here and I'm so thankful to God to have another opportunity to be out here and to really compete with the best players. But I'm on such a high. My goal for the week was to get to double digits and I'm past it so, I'm like, okay, great. Just to go out tomorrow and have another good day."

Rolex First-Time Winner **Lilia Vu** sits alone in second at -11 with Korean **Narin An** and UCLA alum **Allison Lee** in a tie for fifth at 10 under. A total of 76 players made the cut, including Superstition Mountain Golf and Country Club members **Carlota Ciganda**, **Dana Fall**, **Mina Harigae**, **Caroline Inglis** and **Jennifer Kupcho**. Defending champion **Leona Maguire** is T32 at 6 under overall.

#### A LOOK AT THE LEADERS

CATEGORY	Maddie Szeryk
2023 Race to CME Globe Points List	N/A
2023 LPGA Tour Wins	0
2023 LPGA Tour Top 10s	0

2023 Season Earnings	\$0
Career LPGA Tour Wins	0
Career Ladies European Tour Wins	0
Career Epson Tour Wins	0
Career LPGA Tour Top 10s (excludes wins)	0
Career Money	\$47,148

CATEGORY	Moriya Jutanugarn
2023 Race to CME Globe Points List	24
2023 LPGA Tour Wins	0
2023 LPGA Tour Top 10s	0
2023 Season Earnings	\$57,234
Career LPGA Tour Wins	2
Career Ladies European Tour Wins	0
Career Epson Tour Wins	0
Career LPGA Tour Top 10s (excludes wins)	42
Career Money	\$6,599,400

CATEGORY	Jenny Shin
2023 Race to CME Globe Points List	47
2023 LPGA Tour Wins	0
2023 LPGA Tour Top 10s	0
2023 Season Earnings	\$27,476
Career LPGA Tour Wins	1
Career Ladies European Tour Wins	0
Career Epson Tour Wins	1
Career LPGA Tour Top 10s (excludes wins)	36
Career Money	\$5,391,858

#### ABOUT THE LEADERS

##### Rolex Rankings No. 536, Maddie Szeryk (1, 67-65)

- She hit 11 of 14 fairways and 9 of 18 greens with 22 putts
- Her second-round 65 is her career-low round on the LPGA Tour
  - Her previous low score was a 67, which she shot on three occasions, most recently at the 2022 Ascendant LPGA benefiting Volunteers of America
- This is the first time she has held a 36-hole lead or co-lead in her career
- She made six birdies and an eagle on the par-4, 14th after driving the green with one bogey on hole 17
- She went 3-for-3 in sand saves during the second round
  - She is tied for first in the field in sand save percentage (100%)
- She is tied for first in the field in putts with just 48 needed through two rounds
- This is her first start of the 2023 LPGA Tour season
- This is Szeryk's first appearance at the LPGA Drive On Championship
- In 2022, Szeryk made the cut in five of 14 starts
  - Her best result was a T24 finish at the Ascendant LPGA benefiting Volunteers of America
- This is her second season on the LPGA Tour
  - She finished T17 at 2022 LPGA Q-Series to earn LPGA Tour Membership for the 2023 season
  - She finished T35 in the 2021 LPGA Q-Series to first earn LPGA Tour Membership for the 2022 season
- She played collegiate golf at Texas A&M where she was a two-time All-American
  - Szeryk made aces in her first and last collegiate events

##### Rolex Rankings No. 76, Moriya Jutanugarn (1, 67-65)

- She hit 9 of 14 fairways and 12 of 18 greens with 23 putts
- This is the third time she has held a 36-hole lead or co-lead in her career and the first time since the 2018 DIO Implant LA Open, which she went on to win
- She went bogey-free during the second round with five birdies and an eagle on the par-5 No. 7
- This is her fourth start of the 2023 LPGA Tour season
  - She finished 11th at the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions, T38 at the Honda LPGA Thailand and T33 at the HSBC Women's World Championship
- This is Jutanugarn's second appearance at the LPGA Drive On Championship
  - She finished T59 in the inaugural event at Crown Colony Golf and Country Club
- In 2022, Jutanugarn made the cut in 20 of 27 starts with two top-10 finishes
  - Her best result was a T5 finish at the Ascendant LPGA benefiting Volunteers of America
- This is her 11th season on the LPGA Tour
  - She has two LPGA Tour victories at the 2018 DIO Implant LA Open and the 2021 Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational, which she won alongside her partner and sister **Ariya Jutanugarn**
  - She won the Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year award in 2013
  - She first earned LPGA Tour Membership by earning co-medalist honors at the 2012 LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament
- She has represented team Thailand at the Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown three times (2014, 2016 and 2018)

##### Rolex Rankings No. 101, Jenny Shin (1, 65-67)

- She hit 9 of 14 fairways and 13 of 18 greens with 26 putts
- This is the sixth time she has held a 36-hole lead or co-lead in her career and the first time since the 2019 Honda LPGA Thailand where she ultimately finished fourth
- She made five consecutive birdies on holes 14-18 and seven overall with two bogeys on holes 10 and 13
  - Shin ranks first in the Drive On Championship field in birdies with 15 total
- This is her third start of the 2023 LPGA Tour season
  - She finished T34 at the Honda LPGA Thailand and T24 at the HSBC Women's World Championship
- This is Shin's second appearance at the LPGA Drive On Championship

- She finished T20 in the inaugural event at Crown Colony Golf and Country Club
- In 2022, Shin made the cut in 16 of 21 starts with three top-10 finishes
  - Her best result was a solo fifth at the Bank of Hope LPGA Match-Play
- This is Shin's 13th season on the LPGA Tour
  - She has one LPGA Tour victory at the 2016 Ascendant LPGA benefiting Volunteers of America
  - She finished fourth in the Epson Tour's Race for the Card in 2010 to first earn LPGA Tour Membership

#### THINGS TO KNOW

- **Yuka Saso** made an albatross on the par-5 second hole
  - She hit her 19-degree hybrid from 217 yards
  - It was the first albatross on the LPGA Tour since **Lindsey Weaver-Wright** made one on the ninth hole at the 2020 ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer
- 76 players made the cut at 3-under
  - Defending champion **Leona Maguire** is T32 at -6 after shooting a first-round 70 and second-round 68
  - Four of the six players in the top 10 of the Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings made the cut
    - No. 6 **Lexi Thompson** (+4) and No. 7 **Brooke Henderson** (-1) missed the cut
  - Six of the 23 rookies in the field made the cut: **Xiaowen Yin**, **Hae Ran Ryu**, **Celine Borge**, **Chanettee Wannasaen**, **Alexa Pano** and **Minami Katsu**
    - Yin leads the pack in a tie for seventh at -9 overall
  - Superstition Mountain Golf and Country Club members **Carlota Ciganda**, **Dana Fall**, **Mina Harigae**, **Caroline Inglis** and **Jennifer Kupcho** also made the cut
  - The cut number for Official LPGA Tournaments with a 36-hole cut is the top-65 players and ties starting at the LPGA Drive On Championship; previously, the cut was made at the top-70 and ties
- **Ryann O'Toole** and **Hinako Shibuno** recorded the low-rounds of the tournament so far on Friday with 8-under 64s
- Round one was suspended Thursday evening due to darkness and concluded at 7:12 a.m. local time on Friday
  - **Karen Chung** (+6), **Alexa Pano** (-4) and **Valery Plata** (+3) had one hole left to play, the par-4 ninth hole, when play was suspended Thursday night
  - Round two began as scheduled at 7:00 a.m.
- Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings World No. 2 **Nelly Korda** is T15 and -8 total after shooting a 2-under 70 and 6-under 66
  - Korda has a chance to move to No. 1 this week in the following scenarios:
    - Win
    - Solo second
    - Finish in a two-way tie for second
    - Finish in a three-way tie for second
    - Solo third and Jin Young Ko does not win
- Rolex Rankings World No. 3 **Jin Young Ko** is T7 and -9 total after shooting a first-round 70 and a bogey-free 65 in the second round
  - Ko has a chance to move to No. 1 this week with a win and only if Korda finishes solo third or worse
- **Danielle Kang** withdrew from the event due to illness during the first round

#### QUOTABLE

**Yuka Saso on her Albatross on the par-5 second hole:** "So I had 220 to the flag and hit a hybrid. Hit a really good shot, very on-line with the flag. I mean, we didn't really know where it landed and where it finishes, so we were just walking to the green and everyone started clapping. But my ball wasn't on the green so I was like, why are they clapping? Is it over? Why is everyone clapping if it's not on the green? Then Sei Young was walking around also and she looked down and she said it's in, the ball was in, so that's how I found out."

**Jenny Shin on the changes she's made during the off-season:** "I'm way more comfortable with my game. It's been really tough to like believe in myself in the past few years because I was going through a really bad slump and I had issues with takeaway, issues with the tee shot. I had a lot going on in the past, you know, 2018 through 2020, '21. So, yeah, I'm in a better place now mentally. I wouldn't say the swing changed that dramatically. Being comfortable over the ball is really everything for a player. So I would say that's the only thing that's changed."

**Alison Lee on seeing her name near the top of the leaderboard:** "It feels good. You know, it's definitely a lot of pressure. I try really hard not to look at the leaderboard and just pretend like I'm playing against one of my buddies back home or something like that, a money game or something. Yeah, just trying to take it one hole at a time. Usually I really love looking at the leaderboard and putting myself under pressure and playing really aggressively, but that always hasn't worked out for me in the past, so I'm trying really hard to stay patient. Like I said, 36 holes left. So much golf left out there, so just try and make smart decisions and get birdies when I can."

**Stacy Lewis on playing with potential Solheim Cup rookies like Allisen Corpuz:** "It's really helpful, you know, just for them, especially Allisen, just to be a little bit more comfortable around me and to get to watch her on the golf course, see her mannerisms, how she goes about her routine, knowing is she somebody you need to go talk to to go calm her down or she's probably going to handle it all herself just fine from what I've seen. And then obviously I've known Marina for a long time. But just to see how she's playing, where her game is at, but always paying attention."

#### NOTABLE

[Second Round Highlights | 2023 LPGA Drive On Championship](#)

[LPGA Now | 2023 LPGA Drive On Championship Round 2](#)

[FOR ALBATROSS!! Yuka Saso holes out from 217 yards at the LPGA Drive On Championship!](#)

[Life Good Again For Alison Lee](#)

[Xiaowen Yin Off To A Fast Start In Tour Debut](#)

[Moriya Jutanugarn's fifth birdie in six holes is a loooooong one!](#)

[LPGA Tour Statement on the Taiwan Swinging Skirts LPGA](#)

[Longtime LPGA Supporter Tom Murray Passes Away](#)

#### TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS:

18 holes – 63, Xiyu Lin (R3, 2022) and Aditi Ashok (R3, 2022) at Crown Colony G&CC

36 holes – 131, Leona Maguire (2022) and Marina Alex (2022) at Crown Colony G&CC

54 holes – 198, Leona Maguire (2022) at Crown Colony G&CC

72 Holes\* – N/A

\*There has never been a 72-hole playing of this event