



**This Week on the LPGA Tour
LPGA Drive On Championship**

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

Wednesday Pre-Tournament Notes
Mar. 22, 2023

NOTABLE PLAYERS IN THE LPGA DRIVE ON CHAMPIONSHIP FIELD

Leona Maguire (Rolex Rankings World No. 12)

“The year has kind of flown by. Doesn't seem that long ago. I think I went into that week - and it was a second event the year last year - went in with really no expectations and just played really well... Didn't look at a lot of leaderboards, just tried to post as low a score as I could every day. I think on Sunday I remember looking at the scoreboard on 16 and I was -- I think I was 4 ahead at that point and it was shock and just tried to par my way in from there to finish it off.” – Maguire on becoming a Rolex First-Time Winner at last year's LPGA Drive On Championship at Crown Colony

- This is Maguire's fourth start of the 2023 season
 - She has earned two top-10 finishes in three events; a T9 result at the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions and a T6 result at Honda LPGA Thailand
 - She finished T20 in her most recent start at the HSBC Women's World Championship
- According to KPMG Performance Insights, Maguire has 10 rounds under par already this season, one shy of the most

Most Rounds Under Par This Season	
Nelly Korda	11
Leona Maguire	10
Brooke Henderson	10
Yuka Saso	10
Maja Stark	10

- This is her second appearance in the LPGA Drive On Championship
 - Maguire won by three strokes (-18) over major champion **Lexi Thompson** (-15) in 2022, with a three-round total of 198 (-18)
 - Maguire set both the 36-hole (131, -13) and 54-hole (198, -18) tournament scoring records at last year's LPGA Drive On Championship (held at Crown Colony Golf & CC in Fort Myers, Florida)
 - Maguire led the field in strokes gained approach for the week, racking up nearly 8 -and-a-half strokes with that part of her game

Most Strokes Gained Approach 2022 LPGA Drive On Championship	
Leona Maguire	8.36
Stacy Lewis	6.16
In Gee Chun	5.95
Brittany Altomare	5.86
Marina Alex	5.71

- According to KPMG Performance Insights, Maguire has been among the leaders in several strokes-gained statistics through three tournaments in 2023

Leona Maguire Strokes Gained Per Round This Season		
		Rank
Total	+1.14	T-11
Tee-to-green	+1.09	11th
Around the green	+0.48	8th

- This is Maguire's fourth season on the LPGA Tour
 - She has one win and 14 top-10 finishes in 74 starts
 - She finished seventh on the Epson Tour Race for the Card to earn LPGA Tour membership for the 2020 season

Jin Young Ko (Rolex Rankings World No. 3)

ON-SITE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Emily Carman
LPGA Communications Coordinator
emily.carman@lpga.com
+1 (714) 742-8301

Sarah Kellam
LPGA Communications Coordinator
sarah.kellam@lpga.com
+1 (386) 212-8826

QUICK LINKS

- [Interview Transcripts](#)
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- [LPGA Statistical Database](#)
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- [Tournament Photo & Video](#)
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TOURNAMENT INFORMATION

Course: Prospector Course

Competition Format: 144 players; 72-hole stroke play, cut to top-65 and ties after 36 holes

AON Risk Reward Challenge Hole: No. 18, par 5

Purse: \$1,750,000 million; winner's portion is \$262,500

Whiteline Par and Yardage: 36-36 -72, 6,690 yards (subject to change through the start of the tournament)

SOCIAL MEDIA: #DRIVEON

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

TV TIMES

(all times EST on Golf Channel)
Thursday, March 23 – 9:00-11:00 p.m. (Tape Delayed)
Friday, March 24 – 9:00-11:00 p.m. (Tape Delayed)
Saturday, March 25 – 7:00-9:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 26 – 7:00-9:00 p.m.

STREAMING TIMES

(all times EST on golfchannel.com, NBCSports.com, and the NBC Sports App)
Thursday, March 23 – 6:00-9:00 p.m.
Friday, March 24 – 6:00-9:00 p.m.
Saturday, March 25 – 6:00-7:00 p.m.
Sunday, March 26 – 6:00-7:00 p.m.

"It's great to be back here. I thought I couldn't win in the U.S., in the States, but in 2019 I won the first time. First time to win in States, it was in Arizona, so it's a great spot for me. I hope I win once again in Arizona. I love to play in Arizona because ball goes really far than the other spots and it makes me happy." – Ko on her excitement for the LPGA Tour returning to Arizona after her win at the 2019 Cognizant Founders Cup in Phoenix

- This is Ko's third start of the LPGA Tour season
 - She has one win and an additional top-10 finish, a T6 result at the Honda LPGA Thailand
 - Ko won the 2023 HSBC Women's World Championship by two strokes over Nelly Korda, making this her seventh-consecutive season with a win on Tour
 - In Singapore, Ko picked up her 14th win on the LPGA Tour – she has four more than any other player since the beginning of the 2017 season

Most LPGA Tour Victories Since Beginning of 2017 Season	
Jin Young Ko	14
Brooke Henderson	10
Nelly Korda	8
Sung Hyun Park	7
Sei Young Kim	7

- In September 2022, Ko took a break from the LPGA Tour due to a left wrist injury. She returned in October at the BMW Ladies Championship but withdrew due to lingering injury.
 - Ko struggled down the stretch in 2022, posting a scoring average of 73 in her last six LPGA Tour starts of the year. She's found her old form so far this year, gaining more than 2.5 strokes per round with 2.42 per round coming from her approach shots

Jin Young Ko Last 6 Starts of 2022 vs This Season		
	Last six of 2022	2023
Score to par	+21	-33
Scoring average	73.0	67.9
SG: Total	-1.80	+2.68
SG: Approach	-0.57	+2.42

- This is Ko's first appearance in the LPGA Drive On Championship

Lexi Thompson (Rolex Rankings World No. 6)

- This is the first start of the 2023 LPGA Tour season for Thompson
 - In each of her last six season-opening events on Tour, she has finished in the top-ten

Lexi Thompson First LPGA Start of Season – Since 2017	
2017 Pure Silk Bahamas Classic	2nd
2018 Pure Silk Bahamas Classic	T-6
2019 HGV Tourn. of Champions	T-10
2020 HGV Tourn. of Champions	T-7
2021 HGV Tourn. of Champions	T-7
2022 Gainbridge LPGA Boca Rio	T-6

- In 2022, Thompson played in 18 events and made 14 cuts
 - She earned \$1,929,718 to finish eighth on the Official Money List
 - She recorded 10 top-10 finishes, including four runner-up finishes
 - Last season, Thompson ranked sixth on Tour in strokes gained total per round. She was inside the top-20 in strokes gained off the tee, approach and putting

Lexi Thompson Strokes Gained Ranks – 2022 LPGA Season	
Total	6th
Off the tee	13
Approach	T-20
Around green	T-107
Putting	10th

- Thompson earned her first professional victory in over three years at the 2022 LET Aramco Team Series – New York
 - Her last victory on the LPGA was at the 2019 ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer

ON LPGA.COM

[Rich Arizona History Awaits LPGA Drive On Championship](#) - Basking in the warmth of the Arizona sun, the LPGA Tour has produced some of its most memorable moments in the Grand Canyon State.

[Arizona Fans Ready To Celebrate First Full-Field LPGA Tour Event](#) - One month after the PGA TOUR's annual party rolled through Arizona at TPC Scottsdale, the LPGA Tour makes a much-anticipated return to the desert with the LPGA Drive On.

[How to Watch the 2023 LPGA Drive On Championship](#) - The world's best female golfers will compete for a \$1.75 million purse. Here's how you can watch the event.

[Five Things to Know About the LPGA Drive On Championship](#) - The LPGA Tour is stateside again and the LPGA Drive On Championship marks the start of a five month stretch in the states for the tour. Here's what you need to know.

[LPGA Drive On Championship: Which players won't get spooked at Superstition Mountain?](#) - Superstition Mountain Golf and Country Club is the host venue for the first full-field tournament of the year. The ladies will be competing on the Prospector Course, difficult test at 6,690 yards...

LPGA TOUR SOCIAL SNAPSHOT

[You never know what you'll see in Arizona!](#) – In this #LPGAlookback, England's Mel Reid encounters some interesting wildlife on the course.

Range Work at Drive On Championship – LPGA Tour players take to the range at Superstition Mountain Golf and Country Club to prepare for the LPGA Drive On Championship.

[Full Final Round | 2022 LPGA Drive On Championship](#) – Leona Maguire becomes a Rolex First Time Winner in the inaugural playing of the LPGA Drive On Championship.

[Full Round | 2001 Standard Register PING Second Round](#) - History made. Annika Sorenstam fired a 59 in the second round of the 2001 Standard Register PING in Phoenix, Arizona. Watch the historic round!

[Drive On: LPGA All Access | Episode 1](#) - In the first episode of Drive On: LPGA All Access we go behind-the-scenes of the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions with LPGA Tour players as the 2023 LPGA Tour season gets underway!

[Mina Harigae's week at Superstition Mountain...](#) - What has LPGA player and Superstition Mountain Golf and Country Club player been up to this week in Gold Canyon, AZ?

[Lorena Ochoa went back-to-back at Superstition Mountain in 2007 and 2008](#) – Lorena Ochoa knows how to win at Superstition Mountain. Watch as the hall of fame defends her Safeway International title.