



**ShopRite LPGA Classic Presented by Acer**  
**Seaview, Bay Course | Galloway, NJ | June 9-11, 2023**

First-Round Notes  
June 9, 2023

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**Course Setup:** 37-34-71; 6,197 yards

**Scoring Average:** R1: 71.540

**Weather:** Light haze across the region with conditions continuing to clear; mostly sunny with clouds developing in the afternoon and winds of 10-12mph

**Race to CME Globe Points:** 500 (winner)

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

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

**Quick Links:**

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LEADERBOARD			
	Player	To par	Score
1	Dani Holmqvist	-7	64
T2	Jenny Shin	-6	65
T2	Yan Liu	-6	65
T4	Five players	-5	66

**HOLMQVIST LANDS AT THE TOP OF THE LEADERBOARD WITH FIRST-ROUND 64**

As the sun set on the Bay Course at Seaview, a Dolce Hotel, **Dani Holmqvist** capped off her bogey-free round with an easy par on No. 9 to earn herself a solo spot atop the leaderboard at the ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer. Starting off her day with a string of pars, the 35-year-old made her first of five birdies of the day on 14, then added two more on 16 and 17. She made the turn at 3-under, until a fifteen-foot putt on the 3rd hole moved her even closer to the top of the crowded leaderboard. The Swede wrapped her day with two birdies in her last four holes to finish the day with a 7-under 64, the lowest 18-hole score of her LPGA Tour career.

“Some weeks you're better than others, and some weeks you feel like you're losing. So it's fun to actually come up on top for you once,” said Holmqvist, competing in her tenth year on the LPGA Tour. “This game is tough, and just got to cherish the moments when you actually put together a good one.”

Trailing behind Holmqvist are LPGA Tour Rookie **Yan Liu** and Tour veteran **Jenny Shin** at six-under par. The pair had a pair of 65s, including a bogey-free round from Shin. With her score, Liu recorded her lowest-round on the LPGA Tour which included two eagles on both No. 9 and 18.

“From beginning this round I just also up and down, got birdie, and second hole is bogey, and so I just tell my caddie, say, we just go easy golf today,” said the former Epon Tour player and CLPGA champion Liu. “Yeah, so we just play on the green and two-putt next hole. Yeah, that would be in my -- I just want to do like this today. I did pretty good back nine, yes.”

Five players are currently huddled near the top of the leaderboard at five-under including **Sarah Schmelzel**, LPGA Tour Rookie **Soo Bin Joo**, **Georgia Hall**, **Anna Nordqvist** and **Paula Reto**. Both Schmelzel and Nordqvist completed their first rounds with no bogeys on the card, while Englishwoman Hall led the field with eight birdies scattered on the front and back nine.

“I was like so excited. I just wanted to stay really calm, but I just wanted to keep up with that eagle energy. Yeah, and I think that worked on the back nine,” said Joo after shooting her lowest round of the 2023 LPGA Tour season.

With only 36 holes left, players like Schmelzel looked to make a hot start headed into the weekend; “Yeah, definitely, because there is not much wind today. There is not wind today and usually there is out here, so you knew this morning there would be a bunch of birdies made. So nice to get off to a good start and put yourself in the mix. Not really behind the eight ball right now. And it's good to see that you can go out and make birdies and do that again tomorrow and the next day. So it was nice.”

Tomorrow, 144 players will return to the Bay Course to make the cut and vie for the best position to hoist the 2023 ShopRite LPGA Classic trophy on Sunday evening.

#### A LOOK AT THE LEADER

CATEGORY	Dani Holmqvist
2023 Rolex Rankings	453
2023 LPGA Tour Wins	0
2023 LPGA Tour Top 10s	0
2023 Season Earnings	\$0
Career LPGA Tour Wins	0
Career ALPG Tour Wins	1
Career Epon Tour Wins	1
Career LPGA Tour Top 10s	1
Career Money	\$475, 874

#### ABOUT THE LEADER

##### Rolex Rankings No. 453 Dani Holmqvist

- Holmqvist made five birdies and an eagle in her bogey-free first round
- She hit 9 of 14 fairways and 14 of 18 greens with 26 putts

- She is one of seven players to go bogey free in the first round
- Her first-round 64 is the lowest 18-hole score of her LPGA Tour career, besting her previous low of 65 which she shot twice
- This is the first 18-hole lead of her LPGA Tour career and just the second post-round lead or col-lead she has ever held on the LPGA Tour
  - She held the 36-hole lead at the 2020 AIG Women's Open and ultimately finished T29
- This is her sixth event of the 2023 Tour season
  - She has missed the cut in her five previous starts
- This is her fourth appearance at the ShopRite LPGA Classic
  - Her best finish at the event is a T67 result in 2022
  - She missed the cut in her other two appearances
- This is her 10th season on the LPGA Tour
  - Her career-best result on Tour is a T7 result at the 2018 Thornberry Creek LPGA Classic
  - Finished T44 at the 2013 LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament to earn membership for the 2014 LPGA Tour season

### THINGS TO KNOW

- This is the 35th playing of the ShopRite LPGA Classic
  - The tournament was not played in 2007, 2008 or 2009
  - In the history of the event, the ShopRite LPGA Classic field has only played 72 holes twice, in 1990 and 2020
- **Yan Liu** and **Jenny Shin** are tied for second behind Holmqvist
  - Liu is a 2023 LPGA Tour Rookie whose best finish of the season is a T21 result at last week's Mizuho Americas Open
  - Liu had three bogeys, five birdies and two eagles in her round of 65
    - Her 65 is the lowest round she has ever shot on the LPGA Tour, besting her previous low by four strokes
  - She is tied for first in the field in eagles along with fellow rookie **Riley Rennell**
  - Shin went bogey free with six birdies in the first round
  - Shin's 65 ties her career-low first round score, which she has shot on five previous occasions and last shot at the 2023 LPGA Drive On Championship
  - This is her 13<sup>th</sup> appearance at the ShopRite LPGA Classic
    - Her best result is a T3 finish which she earned in 2017
    - She has earned three top-10 results in the event, including a T9 finish last year
- Five players are T4 at -5 including two-time ShopRite LPGA Classic champion **Anna Nordqvist** and Rolex Rankings No. 9 **Georgia Hall**
  - Nordqvist went bogey free with five birdies on Friday
  - Hall made eight birdies, the most in the field, and three bogeys
- **Mariah Stackhouse** made a hole-in-one on the par-3 No. 7 during the first round
  - She hit her 3-hybrid 185 yards to make the ace
  - It is her first ace on the LPGA Tour
  - This is the fifth hole-in-one of the 2023 season; the four others were made by **Gina Kim** (LPGA Drive On Championship), **Bailey Tardy** (DIO Implant LA Open), **In Gee Chun** (The Chevron Championship) and **In Kyung Kim** (JM Eagle LA Championship)
  - With every hole-in-one made this season, CME Group will donate \$20,000 to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital as part of the CME Group Cares Challenge – Score 1 for St. Jude; the 2023 donation total is now at \$100,000
  - Stackhouse finished the day T25 at -2

- There are seven past champions in the field this week including **Brooke Henderson, Mel Reid, Annie Park, I.K. Kim, Nordqvist, Stacy Lewis, and Angela Stanford**
  - The past champions are a combined -6 after the first round
  - Nordqvist, the only player to win the event in back-to-back years (2015, 2016), shot a 5-under 66
  - Defending champion Brooke Henderson shot 2-under with four birdies and a double on No. 9
  - The 2017 champion Kim also shot -2
  - Both Park and Stanford shot an even par round of 71
  - 2020 champion Reid finished +1 with Solheim Cup captain Lewis right behind her at 2-over
- Making her LPGA Tour debut, sponsor invite **Chiara Noja** finished her day at -3
  - The two additional sponsor invites, **Sierra Brooks** and **Maisie Filler** finished even and +3, respectively
  - Combined, the three sponsor invites are even after round one
- Hole 2, a par-4, played the hardest during the first round
  - No. 2 had a first-round scoring average of 4.368 with just 10 birdies and 57 bogeys or worse made there during Friday's round

#### QUOTABLE

*Georgia Hall on being one of the top-ranked players in the field this week – “I mean, when I'm playing practice rounds and practicing in general you can see who is here and who is not... I don't mind it at all. There are some really great players this week... and at the end of the day you have to play very well to win regardless. The whole broad spectrum of the LPGA is so strong anyway, so for me it doesn't matter. I'm just trying to play the best golf I can.”*

*Anna Nordqvist on returning to the ShopRite LPGA Classic as a two-time champion – “I think just coming back here year after year. I have a lot friends in the area that come out and support me. I feel very welcome. It's nice to have the spectators cheering you on. I feel like when you do well at a golf course there is a lot of good memories, so I think that gives you a little bit of confidence and just like puts you in a really good state... So, yeah, I just guess it's something about this place. I just -- you got to hit a lot of good shots, commit to a lot of shots with the wind and starting it. So, yeah, off to a good start and I'm just very happy to be back playing here.”*

*Mariah Stackhouse on her first hole-in-one on the LPGA Tour – “So we had like a 20-minute wait on that hole. We been flying all day and then there were two groups on the tee so we had to wait. And so when the other group got to the green I actually took out one of my knee bands for workout, reactivated my glutes, and had my caddie, John, here help me stretch. I was like, ‘you know, this is probably the toughest shot on the course. I really just want to make sure that standing here I didn't get cold.’ Took a nice smooth swing. It was a perfect shot. Couldn't see it. They said it was going straight at the hole, it felt good, so I was like, ‘all right, great. Maybe be a birdie opportunity.’ Then we saw some of the guys down at the green doing some weird motions and I was like, ‘I hope they're not saying it went in the bunker’ but we just couldn't tell. And so we're walking up and they start clapping and I'm like, okay, it's not in the bunker. They're like, it's in the hole. We were just like, yeah, that's awesome.”*

#### NOTABLE

[ShopRite LPGA Classic First Round Highlights](#)

[What items should be on your list at the ShopRite LPGA Classic?](#)

[A Look at the Seaview, a Dolce Hotel course at the ShopRite LPGA Classic](#)  
[Georgia Hall has been in the top ten for par 5 scoring for the last three seasons on Tour](#)  
[This guy knows how to keep up the pace of play...](#)  
[Yan Liu sinks a second eagle to take a share of the lead](#)  
[Jenny Shin Shoots 65, Sits At The Top Of ShopRite LPGA Classic Leaderboard](#)  
[Jenny Shin liked the look of this one...](#)  
[Two-Time ShopRite Winner Anna Nordqvist Nabs Opening 66 At Seaview](#)  
[O'Toole And Hall Hope Their Relationship Encourages Others To Be True To Themselves](#)

**Tournament Scoring Records:**

**18 holes:** 61, Sei Young Kim (R2, 2018) and Sakura Yokomine (R3, 2018)

**36 holes:** 130, Amy Benz (1996), Denise Killeen (2004), Stacy Lewis (2012, 2014), Karine Icher (2016) and Sei Young Kim (2018)

**54 holes:** 196, Annika Sorenstam (1998, 2005) and Anna Nordqvist (2016)