TOTO Japan Classic
Taiheiyo Club (Minori Course) | Omitama, Ibaraki, Japan | Nov. 2-5, 2023

Tuesday Pre-Tournament Notes
October 31, 2023

MEDIA AVAILABILITY SCHEDULE
All times are local (+13 EDT) and subject to change

Wednesday, November 1
10:30 a.m. – Yuna Nishimura (kakomi)
11:00 a.m. – Hinako Shibuno (kakomi)
11:30 a.m. – Yuka Saso (kakomi)

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE 2023 TOTO JAPAN CLASSIC
- This is the 46th playing of the TOTO Japan Classic, which is co-sanctioned by the LPGA Tour and the LPGA of Japan Tour (JLPGA)
  - The TOTO Japan Classic was an unofficial event on the LPGA Tour from 1973-1975
  - In 2020 and 2021, the event was contested as a JLPGA event only
- The 2023 tournament will be held at the Taiheiyo Club Minori Course, where it has been hosted two times before as an LPGA Tour event in 2017 and 2016
  - Ten-time LPGA Tour winner Shanshan Feng won both playings at the Minori Course and tied the 18-hole tournament scoring record in 2017 with a second-round 63
  - Three-time TOTO Japan Classic winner Jiyai Shin won the 2020 playing of the tournament on the Minori Course, when it was a JLPGA event only
- The 78-player field consists of 43 LPGA Tour Members and 35 JLPGA Members
  - Of the 43 LPGA Tour Members there are:
    - Six 2023 LPGA Tour champions
      - Pajaree Anannarukarn (Bank of Hope LPGA Match-Play presented by MGM Rewards), Hannah Green (JM Eagle LA Championship presented by Plastpro), Hyo Joo Kim (The Ascendant LPGA benefiting Volunteers of America), Chanettee Wannasaen (Portland Classic) and Rose Zhang (Mizuho Americas Open)
    - Six 2023 LPGA Tour rookies
      - Celine Borge, Minami Katsu, Yan Liu, Yuna Nishimura, Chanettee Wannasaen, Rose Zhang
    - Six Japanese LPGA Tour players
      - Ayaka Furue, Nasa Hataoka, Minami Katsu, Yuna Nishimura, Yuka Saso, Hinako Shibuno
  - This is the second year in the co-sanctioned event’s history that it will contested over 72 holes instead of 54; there is no cut
    - Scotland’s Gemma Dryburgh won the first 72-hole playing of the tournament in 2023, setting the tournament scoring record with a four-day score of 268
    - Dryburgh became a Rolex First Time Winner last year in Japan, winning by three strokes over 2019 TOTO Japan Classic champion Ai Suzuki
  - Six past champions of the TOTO Japan Classic are in the field this week, including Dryburgh and Suzuki, Nasa Hataoka (2018), Mi Hyang Lee (2014), Momoko Ueda (2011, 2007) and Jiyai Shin (2010, 2008)
    - LPGA Tour winner Ayaka Furue also won the event in 2021 when it was not co-sanctioned by the LPGA Tour
    - Five of the top-20 players on the Rolex Women’s World Golf Rankings are in the field this week
      - They are Hyo Joo Kim (World No. 7), Xiyu Lin (12), Jiyai Shin (15), Nasa Hataoka (17) and Miyu Yamashita (20)
    - Ten-time major champion and 72-time LPGA Tour winner Annika Sorenstam won five consecutive playings of the TOTO Japan Classic from 2001-2005
    - Sorenstam holds the 18-hole (tied), 36-hole and 54-hole tournament scoring records, which she shot at the Seta Golf Course

2023 SEASON-LONG STATISTICS AND AWARDS
Statistical Leaders
Official Money: Allisen Corpuz, $3,017,771
Scoring Average: Hyo Joo Kim, 69.671
Birdies: Nasa Hataoka, 318
Eagles: Jennifer Kupcho, 12
Holes in One: In Gee Chun, 2
Greens in Regulation: Olivia Cowan, 76.1%
Average Driving Distance: Polly Mack, 281.275
2023 Award Leaders

Rolex Player of the Year

1. Celine Boutier - 169 points
2. Lilia Vu - 166 points
3. Ruoning Yin - 133 points

Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year

1. Hae Ran Ryu - 847 points
2. Grace Kim - 592 points
3. Rose Zhang - 473 points

Rolex ANNIKA Major Award

1. Lilia Vu - 120 points
2. Allisen Corpuz - 84 points
T3. Celine Boutier - 60 points
T3. Ruoning Yin - 60 points

*A Clinched

#AonRiskReward Challenge

1. Angel Yin - -0.933
2. Atthaya Thitikul - -0.889
3. Carlota Ciganda - -0.853

Race to the CME Globe

1. Celine Boutier - 3,076.983 points
2. Lilia Vu - 2,481.968 points
3. Ruoning Yin - 2,461.298 points

Aon Risk Reward Challenge: No. 12, par 5
The 12th hole at Taiheiyo Club Minori Course is a par 5 that will be set up with different lengths over the course of the week. With the tees back, less than one-third of the field is expected to go for the green in two. Pushing the tees forward puts more players in a position to make a decision with their second shot - 70% are expected to go for the green in two in that situation. With the tee moved up, players who find the fairway with their drive have an expected scoring average of 4.44.

Through the Maybank Championship, Angel Yin continues to lead the Aon Risk Reward Challenge standings with a -0.933 score to par. Last week’s runner up Atthaya Thitikul remains in second (-0.889) with Carlota Ciganda and rookie Hae Ran Ryu just behind, tied for third at -0.853. Korean golfer Hye-Jin Choi Rounds out the top five with -0.825. None of the top five are playing in the TOTO Japan Classic this week, making The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican their final opportunity to clinch the Aon Risk Reward Challenge title and win the $1 million grand prize.

The Aon Risk Reward Challenge is a season-long competition across the PGA TOUR and LPGA Tour that highlights the game’s best players as they navigate some of the most strategically challenging holes on Tour. Players will take their best two score from each Challenge hole, with the winners having the best average score to par at the end of the regular season, with the winning man and woman across the Tours taking home the Aon trophy and an equal $1 million prize. Tyrrell Hatton captured the 2023 ARRC on the PGA TOUR.

Race to CME Globe Update:
The TOTO Japan Classic is the penultimate chance for LPGA Tour players to make important moves in the Race to the CME Globe. Some are fighting their way into the top 60 in the Race to earn a place in the season ending CME Group Tour Championship, while others are trying to secure their 2024 LPGA Tour cards with a spot in the top 100.

After earning her fourth win of the season in a nine-hole playoff at last week’s Maybank Championship, Celine Boutier has earned herself a commanding lead of the Race with 3,076.983 points. Two-time major champion and three-time 2023 Tour winner Lilia Vu (2,481.968) is in second but sits nearly 600 points behind the Frenchwoman. Major winner Ruoning Yin (2,461.298) is in third and Korea’s Hyo Joo Kim (2,351.029) is in fourth, with fellow Korean Jin Young Ko (1,948.890) just behind to round out the top five. Kim is the only player in the top five that is teeing it up in Japan this week.

Many players in and around the top-60 are using this week to earn a spot at the season-finale CME Group Tour Championship for a chance at the $2 million winner’s check.

Race to CME Globe Points List

Through the Maybank Championship (55-65)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>CME Globe Points</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>55</td>
<td>Madelyne Sagstrom</td>
<td>543.931</td>
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<tr>
<td>56</td>
<td>Celine Boutier*</td>
<td>533.415</td>
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<tr>
<td>57</td>
<td>Bianca Pagdanganan</td>
<td>528.780</td>
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<td>58</td>
<td>Alban Vanzuelae*</td>
<td>525.002</td>
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<td>59</td>
<td>Jasmine Suwannapura*</td>
<td>524.931</td>
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<tr>
<td>60</td>
<td>Gemma Dryburgh*</td>
<td>524.031</td>
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<td>61</td>
<td>Patty Tavatannak</td>
<td>514.650</td>
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<td>62</td>
<td>Sarah Schmelzel*</td>
<td>494.278</td>
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<tr>
<td>63</td>
<td>Eun Hye Ji*</td>
<td>492.210</td>
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<tr>
<td>64</td>
<td>Ryann O’Toole</td>
<td>485.458</td>
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<tr>
<td>65</td>
<td>Lauren Coughlin*</td>
<td>484.070</td>
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*In the TOTO Japan Classic field
Four players in the bubble around the 100th spot on the Race to the CME Globe will hope to improve their position this week, and fully secure their Tour membership for next season.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Rank</th>
<th>Player</th>
<th>CME Globe Points</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>94</td>
<td>Lindy Duncan*</td>
<td>271.560</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>95</td>
<td>Morgane Metraux*</td>
<td>264.537</td>
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<td>96</td>
<td>Paula Reito*</td>
<td>262.367</td>
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<td>97</td>
<td>Dani Holmqvist*</td>
<td>255.833</td>
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<td>98</td>
<td>Mina Harigae</td>
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<tr>
<td>99</td>
<td>Maddie Szeryk</td>
<td>236.882</td>
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<tr>
<td>100</td>
<td>Azahara Munoz</td>
<td>234.273</td>
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<tr>
<td>101</td>
<td>Lydia Ko</td>
<td>228.571</td>
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<tr>
<td>102</td>
<td>Kelly Tan</td>
<td>215.600</td>
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<td>103</td>
<td>Wei-Ling Hsu</td>
<td>215.315</td>
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<tr>
<td>104</td>
<td>Jeongeun Lee5</td>
<td>205.508</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*in the TOTO Japan Classic field

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

CME Group Cares Challenge – Score 1 for St. Jude Update:
The 18th hole-in-one of the 2023 LPGA Tour season was recorded by South Africa’s Ashleigh Buhai at the Maybank Championship. During her third round, the major-champion hit her gap wedge 101 yards on the par-3 4th hole at Kuala Lumpur Golf and Country Club, making the first ace of her LPGA Tour career. Thanks to the ace, CME Group will donate $20,000 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.

“That’s very cool. Forgot completely about that. I love that it’s going towards something. Tonya (Buhai’s caddie) is disappointed there was no car, but that’s going to a much better cause,” Buhai laughed when asked about the donation.

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. There have been 18 aces on Tour in 2023, bringing the season’s total to $360,000 heading into the TOTO Japan Classic.

2023 Wins by Country (29 tournaments, 10 countries)
10 – United States (Allisen Corpuz, Megan Khang, Cheyenne Knight, Alexa Pano, Elizabeth Szokol, Lilia Vu (3), Angel Yin, Rose Zhang)
4 – Australia (Hannah Green, Grace Kim, Minjee Lee (2))
4 – Republic of Korea (Hyo Joo Kim, Jin Young Ko (2), Hae Ran Ryu)
4 – France (Celine Boutier (4))
2 – People’s Republic of China (Ruoning Yin (2))
2 – Thailand (Pajaree Anannarukarn, Chanettee Wannasaen)
1 – Canada (Brooke Henderson)
1 – Ireland (Leona Maguire)
1 – South Africa (Ashleigh Buhai)
1 – Sweden (Linn Grant)

2023 Wins by Player (29 tournaments, 22 players)
4 – Celine Boutier (LPGA Drive On Championship, Amundi Evian Championship, FREED GROUP Women’s Scottish Open presented by Trust Golf, Maybank Championship)
3 – Lilia Vu (Honda LPGA Thailand, The Chevron Championship, AIG Women’s Open)
2 – Jin Young Ko (HSBC Women’s World Championship, Cognizant Founders Cup)
2 – Minjee Lee (Kruger Queen City Championship, BMW Ladies Championship)
2 – Ruoning Yin (DIO Implant LA Open, KPMG Women’s PGA Championship)
1 – Pajaree Anannarukarn (LPGA Bank of Hope LPGA Match-Play presented by MGM Rewards)
1 – Ashleigh Buhai (ShopRite PGA Classic presented by Acer)
1 – Allisen Corpuz (U.S. Women’s Open)
1 – Linn Grant (Dana Open)
1 – Hannah Green (JM Eagle LA Championship presented by Plastpro)
1 – Brooke Henderson (Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions)
1 – Megan Khang (CPKC Women’s Open)
1 – Hyo Joo Kim (The Ascendant LPGA benefiting Volunteers of America)
1 – Cheyenne Knight (Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational)
1 – Grace Kim (LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei)
1 – Leona Maguire (Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give)
1 – Alexa Pano (SPS Handa World Invitational)
1 – Hae Ran Ryu (Walmart NW Arkansas Championship)
1 – Elizabeth Szokol (Dow Great Lakes Bay Invitational)
1 – Chanettee Wannasaen (Portland Classic)
1 – Angel Yin (Buick LPGA Shanghai)
1 – Rose Zhang (Mizuho Americas Open)
Average Age of 2023 Winners: 25.300
Youngest Winner: Alexa Pano (19 years)
Oldest Winner: Ashleigh Buhai (34 years, 1 month)