



BMW LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP

BMW Ladies Championship

Seowon Hills at Seowon Valley Country Club | Gyeonggi-do, Republic of Korea | Oct. 17-20, 2024

Wednesday Pre-Tournament Notes October 16, 2024

NOTABLE PLAYERS IN THE BMW LADIES CHAMPIONSHIP FIELD

Rolex Rankings No. 2 Lilia Vu

- Vu is making her third start at the BMW Ladies Championship
 - She finished T48 last season and T3 in 2022
 - She has shot six of her eight rounds in the 60s at this event
 - Her best 18-hole score is 66
- According to KPMG Performance Insights, Vu is having an excellent season stats wise with comparable rankings to her dominant 2023 season

Lilia Vu Season Ranks on Tour – 2023 vs. 2024		
	2023	2024
Scoring Average	3rd	4th
Strokes Gained Total	5th	8th
Strokes Gained Putting	10th	12th
Birdie or Better Percentage	3rd	13th

- This is her 15th start of the 2024 season
 - She has made 12 cuts with one win and three additional top-10 finishes
 - Her win came at the Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give, her fifth career victory
 - Since her win, she has finished T25 or better in four of her last six events including T2 finishes at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship and the AIG Women's Open
- Vu was a member of the winning 2024 U.S. Solheim Cup Team
 - She halved her match for the clinching point and the United States win
 - She went 1-2-1 at the Solheim Cup
- This is her fifth season on the LPGA Tour
 - She has five career victories including two major championships (2023 Chevron Championship, 2023 AIG Women's Open)
 - She is a two-time member of the U.S. Solheim Cup team (2023, 2024)
 - In 2023, she earned the Rolex Player of the Year and the Rolex ANNIKA Major Award
 - She represented the United States at the 2024 Paris Olympics for the first time in her career
- In 2021, she played on the Epson Tour
 - She made 15 cuts in 18 starts and was a three-time winner that season
 - She finished first in the Race for the Card, regaining LPGA Tour status for 2022
- She played collegiately at UCLA
 - There, she won the 2018 WGCA Player of the Year and PAC-12 Golfer of the Year
 - As a Bruin, she won eight individual titles

Rolex Rankings No. 4 Ruoning Yin

- Yin is making just her second start at the BMW Ladies Championship
 - Last season she finished T41
- Last time out, Yin won the Buick LPGA Shanghai in her home city
 - In her win, she set a new career 72-hole score of 263, besting her previous record by four strokes
 - She recorded 26 birdies, tying the most she has ever recorded in a single event
 - She first set the mark at the 2023 FIR HILLS SERI PAK Championship
 - She became the second player to win in her home town this season joining **Nelly Korda** (LPGA Drive On Championship in Bradenton, Fla.) and the second player outside of the U.S. to win in their home country (Honda LPGA Thailand)
- During her win last week, Yin turned in her best putting performance of the season according to KPMG Performance Insights

Ruoning Yin Best Strokes Gained Putting Weeks on Tour This Season		
	SG Putting	Finish
Buick LPGA Shanghai	+1.81	Won
FIR HILLS SERI PAK Championship	+1.60	T8
HSBC Women's World Championship	+0.53	T13
The Chevron Championship	+0.41	T23

- She is making her 17th start of the 2024 season
 - She has made 14 cuts with two wins and three additional top-10 finishes
 - In her last three starts, she won the Dow Championship with **Jeeno Thitikul**, finished T2 at the AIG Women's Open and won the Buick LPGA Shanghai
- Yin joined the LPGA Tour in 2022
 - She has made 40 cuts in 52 starts with three wins and 11 additional top-10 finishes
 - She became a Rolex First-Time Winner at the 2023 FIR HILLS SERI PAK Championship and followed that with her first major championship at the 2023 KPMG Women's PGA Championship
 - In 2023, Yin became just the second player from the People's Republic of China to hold the No. 1 spot in the Women's World Golf Rankings
 - She first took the spot on September 11, 2023 and held it for four total weeks
 - She is just the second player from China to win multiple times on Tour joining **Shanshan Feng** who won 10 times
- She has represented the People's Republic of China twice in her short career
 - In 2023 she was part of Team China at the Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown and finished eighth
 - This summer, she represented her country at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games and finished T10 in her first ever Games
- Before joining the LPGA Tour, Yin competed on the CLPGA
 - Yin became professional in 2020 and won her first three starts on the CLPGA Tour
 - She recorded six total top-10 finishes in 2020 as well

Rolex Rankings No. 3 Lydia Ko

- Ko is making her fifth start the BMW Ladies Championship
 - She won this event in 2022, defeating **Andrea Lee** by four strokes at Oak Valley Country Club to earn her 18th career victory
 - She has finished T3 in three of her four previous starts (2021, 2023)
- According to KPMG Performance Insights, at the BMW Ladies Championship, Ko is a combined -52 over the last three seasons, 11 strokes better than any player over that span
 - Lydia Ko**, -52
 - Alison Lee**, -41
 - Hyo Joo Kim**, -32
 - Minjee Lee**, -30
 - A Lim Kim**, -29
- Since the beginning of 2014, Ko has 134 bogey-free rounds on the LPGA Tour, including 10 this season, the second-most of any player this year
 - Lydia Ko** – 134
 - Lizette Salas** – 84
 - Brooke Henderson** – 82
 - Ariya Jutanugarn** – 80
- This is Ko's 18th start of the LPGA Tour season
 - She has won three times this season with four additional top-10 finishes

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TV/STREAMING TIMES (All times EST)

Wednesday, October 16: 11:00 p.m. – 3:00 a.m. (Golf Channel)
Thursday, October 17: 11:00 p.m. – 3:00 a.m. (Golf Channel)
Friday, October 18: 11:00 p.m. – 3:00 a.m. (Golf Channel)
Saturday, October 19: 11:00 p.m. – 3:00 a.m. (Golf Channel)

- She missed just two cuts this season
- Ko also won the gold medal at the Paris Olympic Games this summer to complete her medal collection
 - She represented New Zealand for the third time in the Olympics
 - Ko is the only golfer, man or woman, to win three medals in the Olympic games: a gold, silver and bronze
- In her last start, she won the Kroger Queen City Championship presented by P&G, her third win of 2024 and her 22nd overall
 - This is the fifth season of her career in which she has earned at least three victories on Tour
 - The last time she won three times or more in a single season was in 2022
 - The most wins she has earned in a single season is five in 2015
 - She also had a three-win season in 2014 and a four-win season in 2016
 - Ko has the most wins among all active players on the LPGA Tour
- Ko officially qualified for the LPGA Tour Hall of Fame last month
 - She earned her 27th and final point to earn membership into the LPGA Hall of Fame with her Olympic win in August
 - She became the Tour's 35th member inducted and first since **Lorena Ochoa** in 2022
 - She is the first active inductee since **Inbee Park** in 2016
 - She is the first inductee to hail from New Zealand
 - She is the second player from the Australasia region to be inducted into the LPGA Hall of Fame after **Karrie Webb** (Australia) was inducted in 2005
 - She is the youngest player to be inducted into the LPGA Hall of Fame under its current criteria, at 27 years, 3 months and 17 days
 - Webb reached the 27-point threshold at age 25 with her victory at the 2000 U.S. Women's Open but did not reach the 10-year requirement until age 30 in 2005
- This is her 11th season on the LPGA Tour
 - She has 242 official starts, 225 made cuts and 110 career top-10 finishes
 - She has 22 career LPGA Tour victories, including three major championships
 - She became the youngest female ever to win two major championships at 18 years, 11 months and 9 days following her win at the 2016 Chevron Championship
 - She is the second youngest golfer, male or female, to earn two major wins behind Young Tom Morris after he won the 1869 Open Championship
 - She became the youngest player, male or female, to reach World No. 1, at 17 years, 9 months and 9 days when she reached the top of the Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings on Feb. 2, 2015
 - She has held the No. 1 spot for 125 total weeks, third-most in history behind Jin Young Ko (163 weeks) and Lorena Ochoa (158 weeks)
 - She is the youngest player to reach 10 career LPGA Tour victories when she won the 2015 Fubon LPGA Taiwan Championship at 18 years, 6 months and 1 day
 - She has won multiple season-ending awards including:
 - 2015, 2022 Rolex Player of the Year
 - 2015, 2022 LPGA Tour season money winner
 - 2021, 2022 Glenna Collett Vare Trophy winner for the season's lowest scoring average
 - 2014, 2015, 2022 Race to the CME Globe winner
 - 2014 Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year, the youngest winner in the history of the award
- She is a three-time Olympic medalist, the most of any golfer, man or woman
 - She has earned a silver medal (2016 Rio Olympics), bronze medal (2020 Tokyo Olympics) and gold medal (2024 Paris Olympics)
- She has seven wins on the Ladies European Tour
- She also has five wins on the WPGA Tour of Australasia and one win on the KPGA Tour

Rolex Rankings No. 17 **Minjee Lee**

"I'm excited obviously to come back to Korea and play. I was here a few weeks ago and all of my family and friends came to watch and it will be the same this week. It's always a special week when I get to come back, and I enjoy the Korean food. It's very close to my heritage and I get to see my extended family as well. That's always nice. And coming back to a golf course where you've won before and the memories, that's cool, too. I just played one of the nines, and was like, Oh, this is where I holed a putt. And with Brad out there, we were just like talking about it just then. So it's just nice to come back. We have such great memories." – *Lee on coming back to Seowon Hills at Seowon Valley Country Club to defend her title*

- This is Lee's fifth start at the BMW Ladies Championship and first as defending champion
 - Besides her win last season, Lee has not finished inside the top-10
 - She finished T16 in 2019, T12 in 2021 and T51 in 2022
 - She holds the 36, 54 and 72-hole tournament scoring record at Seowon Hills at Seowon Valley Country Club
- This is her second tournament in 2024 where she is defending her title
 - She finished T27 at the Kroger Queen City Championship presented by P&G after winning the event in 2023
- According to KPMG Performance Insights, Lee ranks first in average proximity from 125 to 150 yards (18'0") and second from 150 to 175 (24'0") on Tour this season
- This is her 18th start of the 2024 season
 - She has made 12 cuts with four top-10 finishes
 - She has a season-best finish of T4 at Blue Bay LPGA
 - Her last time out, Lee finished eighth at the Buick LPGA Shanghai
- Lee has been on Tour since 2015
 - She has 10 wins and 63 additional top-10 finishes in her LPGA Tour career
 - She has earned at least one victory each season she has been on Tour, except for in 2017 and during the shortened 2020 season
 - Lee is a two-time major champion having won the 2021 Amundi Evian Championship and the 2022 U.S. Women's Open presented by Ally
 - Earned co-medalist honors at the 2014 LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament to first earn LPGA Tour status
 - She has represented Australia three times at the Olympic Games (2016, T7, 2020, T29, 2024, T22)
 - She has also represented Australia at the Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown four times (2014, 2016, 2018, 2023)
- Her Brother Min Woo Lee plays on the PGA Tour and the DP World Tour; they were the only brother/sister pair in the 2024 Paris Olympic golf competition
- Lee won the 2012 U.S. Girls' Junior Championship and her brother Min Woo won the 2016 U.S. Junior Amateur, making them the only sister/brother combination to win those events

KPMG PERFORMANCE INSIGHT OF THE WEEK

- A year after setting the record with 12 Rolex First-Time Winners in 2023, all coming prior to the BMW Ladies Championship, there have been just three players to record their first career victory on the LPGA Tour so far this season
 - Bailey Tardy won Blue Bay LPGA
 - Linnea Strom won the ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer
 - Lauren Coughlin won the CPKC Women's Open
 - There were 12 first-time winners entering the 2023 BMW Ladies Championship

QUOTABLES

Lauren Coughlin on what she enjoys most about playing in Korea

"I would say for me I very much enjoy coming to Korea for the food. The food is always very good. Korean barbeque. And then I think the fans are some of the best that we see in Asia, especially for women's golf, they really, really love women's golf over here and I think that's really cool as an American who -- women's golf isn't always the biggest sport but over here it is one of the biggest ones. So it is really cool to be able to come and play in front of fans who really appreciate women's golf."

Amy Yang on the strength of the field at the BMW Ladies Championship

"First of all, these days if you look around, all the players work hard and really try to hone their skills. So Korean players, other Asian players, I think more than ever before, we really have a stellar field, and you mentioned Asian players, but I think as you can see, Lauren here on the stage and all the U.S. players as well, a lot of people put in a lot of practice. So the general competency level has really gone up, so overall you can really feel that the sort of standard of excellence has gone up and I think that this is going to continue into the future."

Yuka Saso on how the course and how it brings out her strengths

"I think the course is long, so it's good for long hitters, and the greens are big. So if the flags are in the front you'll be hitting wedge and if it's in the back, you'll be hitting 7-, 6-iron. You have to be able to hit it longer than average. I think helps a lot. Yeah, just have to make putts to I guess to play good."

Tournament Scoring Records at Seowon Hills at Seowon Valley Country Club:

18 holes – 62, Ashleigh Buhai (2023)

36 holes – 133, Minjee Lee (2023)

54 holes – 204, Minjee Lee and Ashleigh Buhai (2023)

72 holes – 272, Minjee Lee and Alison Lee (2023)

Overall Tournament Scoring Records:

18 holes – 62, Ashleigh Buhai (2023) at Seowon Valley Country Club

36 holes – 132, Andrea Lee (2022) at Oak Valley Country Club

54 holes – 198, Hee Jeong Lim (2021) at LPGA International Busan

72 holes – 266, Jin Young Ko and Hee Jeong Lim (2021) at LPGA International Busan

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[Five Things to Know About the 2024 BMW Ladies Championship](#)

[Jeeno Thitikul Picks Up Another Top 10, Celebrates with Ruoning Yin](#)

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