

### **Buick LPGA Shanghai**

Qizhong Garden Golf Club | Shanghai, People's Republic of China | Oct. 10-13, 2024

### Wednesday Pre-Tournament Notes October 9, 2024

#### NOTABLE PLAYERS IN THE BUICK LPGA SHANGHAI FIELD

Ruoning Yin (Rolex Rankings No. 4)

- This is Yin's third total start at the Buick LPGA Shanghai
  - O She finished T41 in 2023 and T38 in 2019 as a non-member
- This is her 16th start of the 2024 LPGA Tour season and fourth in Asia
  - She has made 13 cuts with one win and three additional top-10 finishes
    - She won the Dow Championship with teammate Jeeno Thitikul earlier this season, the third win of her career
  - o She finished T13 earlier this season at the HSBC Women's World Championship in Singapore
    - She finished 59th at Blue Bay LPGA held on Hainan Island, Hainan, People's Republic of China
  - o In her last two starts of the season, she won the Dow Championship in June and did not appear on Tour until the AIG Women's Open later in August where she finished T2
- According to KPMG Performance Insights, Yin has been among the best ball-strikers on Tour this season ranking 4th on Tour in strokes gained in that area (off the tee + approach) with her short game ranking outside the top 100

Ruoning Yin Strokes Gained LPGA Tour - This Season			
	Per Round	Rank	
Ball Striking	+1.5	5th	
Short Game	-0.36	121st	

\*Minimum 20 rounds

- Yin joined the LPGA Tour in 2022
  - She has made 40 cuts in 52 starts with three wins and 11 additional top-10 finishes
  - o 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
  - o 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
  - o 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
  - o In 2023 she was part of Team China at the Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown and finished eighth
- o 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
  - o 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

## Hannah Green (Rolex Rankings No. 7)

This is my first time in Shanghai, so I'm really excited to be here. I've played the course Monday and yesterday, so I get to play it this afternoon, but I'm liking the golf course so far. I've had the last five weeks off from competitive golf. I decided to take a little bit of a break and go back to Australia, and I think that's been really good for my mental health, just to enjoy being at home and even put the golf clubs away for a week and just relax. So, I'm really looking forward again to competing and hopefully I don't have too much rust after five weeks but I'm excited to play in front of a Chinese crowd." - Green on what she's looking forward to this week

- Green is making her first start at Qizhong Garden Golf Club
  - She is making her second start in China ever in her career after finishing T15 at the 2018 Blue Bay LPGA
- This is Green's 16th start of the season and her third start in Asia
  - She has made 12 cuts with two wins and two additional top-10 finishes
  - She won in Asia for the first time in her career after winning the 2024 HSBC Women's World Championship in Singapore, her fourth career victory
  - She followed that up by defending her title at the JM Eagle LGA Championship presented by Plastpro just a few weeks later for her fifth career victory
  - Her last time out on Tour, she finished T10 at the inaugural FM Championship Her best non-win finish is a runner-up finish at the Mizuho Americas Open
- According to KPMG Performance Insights, Green has been improving her play around the greens significantly over the last three seasons, jumping up 60 spots in strokes gained in that category

Hannah Green Strokes Gained Around the Green – Last 3 Seasons			
	Per Round	Rank	
2022	-0.14	92nd	
2023	-0.06	77th	
2024	+0.17	32nd	

- Green joined the LPGA Tour in 2018
  - o In her seven years on Tour, she has made 109 cuts in 136 starts with five wins and 21 additional top-10 finishes
    - She became a Rolex First-Time Winner at the 2019 KPMG Women's PGA Championship
      - Through the 2024 season, she is one of 45 players in LPGA Tour history to make a major championship their first career win
  - Throughout her career, she has earned \$6,089152 USD and is the third-highest earning player from Australia in Tour history
    - She sits behind **Minjee Lee** (\$14,562,500) and **Karrie Webb** (\$20,293,617)
    - She has represented Australia multiple times throughout her career
      - She was a member of Team Australia at the 2023 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown She competed at the Olympic Games as well having finished T5 at the 2020 Tokyo Games and T4 at the 2024 Paris Games
  - o In 2021, she won the Aon Risk Reward Challenge the season-long competition on the LPGA Tour that highlights the game's best players as they navigate some of
  - the most strategically challenging holes on tour
    - She took home the Aon Trophy and a \$1 million prize
  - Before joining the LPGA Tour Green competed on the Epson Tour o In 2017, she won Gaelle Truet Rookie of the Year honors

    - She won three times and recorded 12 top-10 finishes

## Jeeno Thitikul (Rolex Rankings No. 11)

- Thitikul is making her first appearance at the Buick LPGA Shanghai
  - This is Thitikul's first ever start in China
  - This is her ninth career start in Asia
    - The Thailand native has never finished outside the top-10 when competing in Asia
    - Her career-best finish is a runner-up finish at the 2023 Maybank Championship
- This is Thitikul's 14th start on Tour this season

### **LPGA ON-SITE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM**

Matt Jesus

Coordinator, LPGA Communications

Matt.Jesus@lpga.com +1 (402) 957-4674

#### **QUICK LINKS**

**Interview Transcripts** 

**LPGA Tour Online Media Center** 

**LPGA Statistical Database** 

**Stats Box Media Assets** 

**Tournament Website** 

#### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

LPGA Tour: @LPGA, @LPGAMedia (X), @lpga\_tour

(Instagram, TikTok)

Tournament: @buicklpgashanghai2024 (Instagram); #BuickLPGAShanghai

TV/STREAMING TIMES (All times EST) **Wednesday, October 9:** 11:00 p.m. – 4:00 a.m. (Golf Channel)

Thursday, October 10: 11:00 p.m. – 4:00 a.m. (Golf

Friday, October 11: 11:00 p.m. – 4:00 a.m. (Golf

Channel) **Saturday, October 12:** 11:00 p.m. – 4:00 a.m. (Golf

Channel)

- o She has made 11 cuts with one win and seven additional top-10 finishes
  - Her eight top-10 finishes are tied for the fourth-most among the Tour this season
  - She is tied with Lauren Coughlin and sits behind Nelly Korda with nine
- o She won the Dow Championship with Yin earlier this season to earn her third career victory
- Thitikul is looking to earn her fourth-straight top-10 finish
  - She finished T4 at the FM Championship, runner-up at the Kroger Queen City Championship presented by P&G and T7 at Walmart NW Arkansas Championship presented by P&G
    - She went on a streak of four-straight top-10 finishes earlier this season as well
- o She made her 2024 season debut at The Chevron Championship in April
- She represented Thailand at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games and finished T18 in her first ever Games
- This is her third season on the LPGA Tour since joining in 2022
  - She has three wins and 34 additional top-10 finishes
  - o In 2023, she earned the Glenna Collett Vare Trophy, given to the player with the best scoring average on Tour
  - o Thitikul was named the Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year in 2022
    - She was the first player since **Sung Hyun Park** (2017) to card multiple wins during her rookie year
- In 2021, Thitikul won the Race to Costa del Sol, Rookie of the Year, and Player of the Year honors on the Ladies European Tour

  On She joined Dame Laura Davies, Carlota Ciganda and Esther Henseleit as the only players to win the Race to Costa del Sol and Rookie of the Year in the Property of the Property of the Year in the Property of the Property of the Year in the Yea
  - She joined Dame Laura Davies, Carlota Ciganda and Esther Henseleit as the only players to win the Race to Costa del Sol and Rookie of the Year in the same year
  - o She was the youngest-ever winner of the Race to Costa del Sol at 18 years, 9 months and 8 days
- Thitikul won the 2017 Ladies European Thailand Championship at 14 years, 4 months, and 19 days making her the youngest person ever to win a professional tournament
  - $\circ$  She also won the 2019 Ladies European Thailand Championship as an amateur

#### Angel Yin (Rolex Rankings No. 33)

"It's very special obviously but I think it's extra special because I really like Shanghai. It's always been a city that I really enjoy coming to. I came here for like two or three New Year's in a row and I got some friends here. It's always nice and relaxing to just socialize, hang out and have fun." – Yin on how special it is returning to the place she earned her first career victory.

- This is Yin's fourth start at this event and first as defending champion
  - o She has not finished outside of the top-20 in her three previous starts
  - She finished T17 in 2018 and T14 in 2019
- She is looking to become the second player to win back-to-back starts at this event since Danielle Kang did so in 2018 and 2019
- This is her first start in Asia since the 2023 fall Asia swing
  - After winning at the Buick LPGA Shanghai, she finished fourth at the BMW Ladies Championship before withdrawing from the Maybank Championship
- She is making her 15th start of the 2024 season
  - She has made eight cuts with three top-10 finishes
  - o Her best finish this season came at the Portland Classic where she finished T2
  - o In her last start, she finished T14 at the Kroger Queen City Championship presented by P&G
- Yin has been a member on Tour since 2017
  - o She has made 121 cuts in 167 starts with one win and 26 additional top-10 finishes
  - o In 2023, she won the Aon Risk Reward Challenge the season-long competition on the LPGA Tour that highlights the game's best players as they navigate some of the most strategically challenging holes on tour
    - She took home the Aon Trophy and a \$1 million prize
  - o She was also a member of the 2023 United States Solheim Cup team

### KPMG PERFORMANCE INSIGHT OF THE WEEK

Putting will be the key this week as players who finished in the top 10 at this event last season gained just over 50-percent of their total strokes on the field on the greens alone

o In her win, Yin led the field in strokes gained putting

Strokes Gained by Category Top 10 Finishers – 2023 Buick LPGA Shanghai		
Off the Tee	18.6%	
Approach	21.5%	
Around the Green	9.2%	
Putting	50.7%	

# **Tournament Scoring Records:**

18 holes – 63, Madelene Sagstrom (R4, 2023)

36 holes – 133, Brooke Henderson (2019)

54 holes – 201, Jessica Korda (2019)

72 holes – 272, Danielle Kang (2019)

## ON LPGA.COM

How to Watch the 2024 Buick LPGA Shanghai

<u>Field Breakdown 2024 Buick LPGA Shanghai</u>
Five Things to Know About the 2024 Buick LPGA Shanghai

WNBA Star and Gainbridge Ambassador Caitlin Clark Set to Appear at The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican

Louise Ball Elected LPGA Professionals President

2024 Race for the Card Update: Check Out Who Finished in the Top 35 of the Race for the Card

Postponement of LPGA Q-Series Qualifying Stage

American Junior Golfers Rally To Win 16th Amundi Evian Juniors Cup

## SOCIAL SNAPSHOT

Ready to go at Buick LPGA Shanghai

Walk and Talk with Ruoning Yin Playing in her Home City

Two-Time Buick LPGA Shanghai Champion Danielle Kang Back in the Field

Celebrating 16 years of the Latina Golfers Association this Hispanic Heritage Month

Feature Groups for LPGA Buick Shanghai

A Look at Those on the Bubble for the CME Group Tour Championship

The Game Behind the Game with Dr. Julie Amato

Catching Up with Olympic Bronze Medalist Xiyu Lin Before LPGA Buick Shanghai