

#### **CPKC Women's Open**

Earl Grey Golf Club | Calgary, Alberta, Canada | July 25-28, 2024

# Second-Round Notes July 26, 2024

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**Course Setup:** 35-37 – 72; 6,706 yards **Scoring Average:** R1: 74.481; R2: 75.034

Weather: Mostly sunny to partly cloudy skies with temperatures reading the mid 70s

and westerly winds gusting near 20 mph (32kph) at times

Race to CME Globe Points: 500 (winner)
Purse: \$2.6 million; winner's portion is \$390,000

TV/Streaming Times: How to Watch

LEADERBOARD			
	Player	To par	Score
1	Lauren Coughlin	-6	68-70 – 138
T2	Haeran Ryu	-5	70-69 – 139
T2	Hannah Green	-5	69-70 – 139
T4	Lilia Vu	-3	71-70 – 141
T4	Lydia Ko	-3	70-71 – 141
T4	Jennifer Kupcho	-3	69-72 – 141
T7	Six players	-2	142

## **QUICK LINKS**

**Interview Transcripts** 

LPGA Tour Online Media Center

**LPGA Statistical Database** 

Stats Box Media Assets Tournament Website

#### COUGHLIN HOLDS ON, CLAIMS FIRST 36-HOLE LEAD AT CPKC WOMEN'S OPEN

The 2024 CPKC Women's Open won't see any scoring records broken this year, with Earl Grey Golf Club posing a very tough test for the 156-player field in Calgary. The combination of heavy crosswinds, dry conditions and a difficult setup made scores high for the second day in a row, with a second-round scoring average of 75.034 coming in even higher than round one's average of 74.481 strokes.

Despite the challenges, **Lauren Coughlin** eked out a 2-under 70 on Friday to carry her first-round lead through the second day at Earl Grey. This is the first 36-hole lead Coughlin has held in her seven-year LPGA Tour career, but it is an unsurprising achievement in what has been a banner year for the American. Coughlin has recorded many of her career-best results this season, including major championship finishes of T3 and solo fourth at The Chevron Championship and The Amundi Evian Championship, respectively. She has come a long way since losing her card after her 2018 rookie season, gradually improving each year on Tour.

"I think grit is something, and being mentally tougher than a lot of people is something that I've learned over the years just because I've had to work really hard and persevere a lot throughout my career," Coughlin said following Friday's second round. "I think that's why I can hang in there, and I don't get too down on myself. I always keep fighting. When it gets hard, that's fine to me. I'm going to keep fighting the whole time."

That grit came into play for Coughlin on Friday, who got off to a hot start with three birdies in her first five holes but didn't make another after that. Like Thursday's round, Coughlin birdied holes 1, 4 and 5 on Friday before putting together a string of five pars on the rest of the front nine. A bogey on 11 was her only mistake of the day, a small miracle compared to how most of the field managed the back nine. The closing nine holes at Earl Grey Golf Club saw a scoring average of more than two strokes over par compared to the front nine, which averaged less than a stroke over par on Friday. Coughlin came in with seven straight pars to finish the day at 6-under overall and hold a one-stroke lead heading into Moving Day.

"I think I handled it really well, overall. It was really difficult to judge how far the ball was going to go with the wind and the crosswind and how firm the greens got. And they had some tough pins, especially considering the direction of the wind," Coughlin explained. "I think I only had one bad swing on 11 tee. Other than that, I feel like I hit everything really, really solid all day. I putted extremely well. My speed control was on pretty much all day. It was a super solid round. I think Terry (McNamara, her caddie) told me it was probably a better round than you think you realize because I felt like I could've got a couple more. Again, I hung in there and got a good round out of it."

Two-time 2024 winner **Hannah Green** sits one stroke behind Coughlin, as does LPGA Tour sophomore **Haeran Ryu**, who is coming off her best finish of the season at last week's Dana Open, a runner-up result. Ryu's 3-under 69 in the second round was highlighted by seven birdies, the most in the field on Friday, and marred by four bogeys, including one on 18 that cost her the 36-hole co-lead.

Green followed her first-round 69 with a second-round 70, battling through an up-and-down day with five birdies and three bogeys on the card.

Major champions Lilia Vu, Lydia Ko and Jennifer Kupcho lurk at T4 while Ryann O'Toole, who tied the best round of the day alongside Moriya Jutanugarn and tied the best round of the week with her 4-under 68 on Friday, is tied for seventh with five other players at 2-under total.

Sixty-eight players made the cut at 4-over on Friday, including fan-favorite **Brooke Henderson** and Epson Tour graduate **Maude-Aimee Leblanc**, who lead the Canadian contingent at 1-over overall.

#### A LOOK AT THE LEADER

CATEGORY	Lauren Coughlin
2024 Race to CME Globe Rank	15
2024 LPGA Tour Wins	0
2024 LPGA Tour Top 10s	4
2024 Season Earnings	\$1,152,352
Career LPGA Tour Wins	0
Career LPGA Tour Top 10s	7
Career Money (LPGA)	\$2,019,549
Career LET Wins	0
Career Epson Tour Wins	0

#### **ABOUT THE LEADER**

#### Rolex Rankings No. 38 Lauren Coughlin

- In her second round, Coughlin recorded three birdies on her front nine and one bogey on her back nine
  - Her three birdies were made in her first five holes of the day
- This is Coughlin's first time holding a second-round lead or co-lead on the LPGA Tour
  - o Coughlin is on track to be the seventh wire-to-wire winner in the tournament's history
  - The past six wire-to-wire winners include Pat Bradley, 1980; Cathy Johnston, 1990; Martha Nause, 1994; Meg Mallon, 2004;
     Michelle Wie West, 2010; So Yeon Ryu, 2014
- Coughlin's first-round lead on Thursday was the third first round lead or co-lead of her LPGA Tour career
- Coughlin entered this season having led or co-led after any round just one time in her career she's done it three times now in 2024
- This is Coughlin's lowest 36-hole start at the CPKC Women's Open (138)
  - o In 2023, she sat at 143 after 36 holes of play and finished T6
- She is making her 103rd start on the LPGA Tour this week
  - This is her fourth start at the CPKC Women's Open
    - $\circ\quad$  Her first-round 68 was her lowest opening round at the tournament
    - o In 2023, she made her first cut in the event and earned her third career top-10 finish (T6)
    - o In her 2018 and 2022 starts, she missed the cut
- Read more about her round here: <u>Lauren Coughlin picking up where she left off at the CPKC Women's Open</u>
- She was on the LPGA Podcast earlier this week; Episode 9 | Ohhh Canada ft. the Trending Lauren Coughlin
- This is Coughlin's 17th start of the 2024 season
  - o This is her best season on the LPGA Tour to date; amassing more than 57% of her career earnings since January 2024
  - She has four top-10 finishes this season including at two major championships (Ford Championship presented by KCC, T8; The Chevron Championship, T3; ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer, T9; Amundi Evian Championship, 4th)
  - She has missed four cuts this season (FIR HILLS SERI PAK Championship, Cognizant Founders Cup, U.S. Women's Open presented by Ally, Dow Championship)
- Coughlin is in her seventh season on the LPGA Tour
  - She finished T7 at the 2017 LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament to first earn LPGA Tour status for 2018
  - She played primarily on the Epson Tour in 2019, making only one start on the LPGA Tour that year
  - o She played on both the Epson Tour and LPGA Tour in 2020 and 2021, but has played mostly on the LPGA Tour since 2022
  - She played collegiately at the University of Virginia
  - o Her husband, John Pond, is caddying for Gina Kim this week

## THINGS TO KNOW

- Haeran Ryu is T2 after a third-round 69
  - o Ryu had the most birdies (7) across the field in round two
  - o Ryu only needed 26 putts on Friday
  - $\circ$  She was tied for the lead with Coughlin until her bogey on the 18th hole
  - o Ryu recorded her lowest round at the CPKC Women's Open today (69)
  - This is Ryu's second start at the CPKC Women's Open
    - Last year, she finished T41 with rounds of 75-71-76-70
  - O She is making her 17th start of the 2024 season this week
    - Ryu is leading the LPGA Tour this season in greens in regulation and is fourth in strokes gained approach and strokes gained tee to green
    - At last week's Dana Open, she finished as runner-up and just one shot behind Chanettee Wannasaen
    - Ryu has seven top-10 finishes so far this season with four of those being top-5 finishes
    - She has only missed one cut (Ford Championship presented by KCC) and withdrew from the Mizuho Americas Open
  - o Ryu was a 2023 LPGA Tour rookie and became a Rolex First-Time Winner at the 2023 Walmart NW Arkansas Championship
    - She earned Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year honors with her win and five additional top-10 finishes
- Hannah Green is tied with Ryu for second place
  - She shot 70 in round two with five birdies and three bogeys
  - Green hit two more fairways today (6/14) than she did in her first round (4/14)
  - She is T145 in fairways hit amongst players after two rounds (10/28)
  - o Green is making her fifth start at the CPKC Women's Open
    - Her best finish was T4 in 2023
  - Green has won twice on the LPGA Tour this season, the HSBC Women's World Championship and the JM Eagle LA Championship presented by Plastpro
  - She is making her 13th start on the LPGA Tour this season and her next event will be the women's golf competition at the 2024
     Paris Olympics
  - Green is in her seventh season on the LPGA Tour and has five wins including one major championship (2019 KPMG Women's PGA Championship)
- Three players are tied for fourth
  - o Lilia Vu shot a 70 in round two to move up from T12
    - She had five birdies, a bogey and a double bogey
    - Vu is making her third start at the CPKC Women's Open
      - Her previous finishes include T17 in 2022 and T22 in 2023
         Vu did not play in any LPGA Tour events from April until June due to a back injury
        - She won in her first tournament back from injury, the Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give

- She finished T2 in her second tournament back, the KPMG Women's PGA Championship
- Last season, she tied with Celine Boutier for the most wins (4)
  - Vu won two major championships (The Chevron Championship and the AIG Women's Open) in 2023
- Lydia Ko made three birdies and two bogeys on Friday
  - She was the only player in the first round shoot a bogey-free round
  - Ko won the CPKC Women's Open as an amateur and sponsor invite in 2012 and 2013, and again as a professional in 2015
  - Ko finished in the top-5 three times in her first four starts of the season
    - She claimed her 20th LPGA Tour victory in her season debut at the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions
  - She is one LPGA Tour win away from qualifying for the LPGA Tour Hall of Fame
    - Ko is only one point short of the minimum threshold of 27 points for LPGA HOF induction
    - LPGA HOF criteria can be found <a href="here">here</a>
- o Jennifer Kupcho shot even par on Friday
  - She shot a bogey-free 30 on the front nine and made just one birdie on the back nine
  - This is Kupcho's best 36-hole start at the CPKC Women's Open
    - In 2023, she sat at 147 through the first two rounds of play
  - Her best finish at the event is T36 in 2023
  - Kupcho has only missed one cut this season, the U.S. Women's Open presented by Ally
- The lowest round shot on Thursday and Friday is 68, shot by three separate players
  - o First-round and now second-round leader Coughlin shot a 68 to open the tournament
  - o Moriya Jutanugran, sister of 2016 champion Ariya Jutanugarn, shot a 68 in round two with four birdies and two bogeys
    - She moved from T87 to T13 with the four-under round
  - o Ryann O'Toole also shot a 68 in round two to move from T62 into the top-10
- Sixty-eight players made the cut at +4
  - Five Canadians made the cut including **Brooke Henderson** (T26, +1), **Maude-Aimee Leblanc** (T26, +1), **Alena Sharp** (T46, +3), **Savannah Grewal** (T46, +3) and **Ellie Szeryk** (T57, +4)
  - Anna Davis is the only amateur to make the cut
    - Davis is a rising sophomore at Auburn University
    - This is her ninth LPGA Tour start
- Due to the course routing at Earl Grey Golf Club, players are starting on holes 1 and 11 this week
- The Audi Precision Award will be presented to the player with the most greens in regulation across four rounds of competition
  - After two rounds, Jennifer Kupcho and Malia Nam have hit the most greens in regulation (29/36)

#### **QUOTABLES**

Jennifer Kupcho on the differences between the front and back nines

"I think it's -- I don't know if it's necessarily for everybody. I mean, I haven't looked at the stats. But I think for me, the front nine sets up a lot shorter. Like the I would say the shape of the holes, I hit a fade, so I feel like I can hit a lot of fairways and get it down a lot further on the front nine so I have really short wedges in. And the back nine just makes me uncomfortable."

Alena Sharp on staying in the moment but also looking ahead to the Paris Olympics

"t's such a great sendoff to be here in Canada before going to Paris. Obviously this tournament means a lot to me. It's our national Open. It's a major in my heart, so I always have a little bit more pressure to play well. I'm just really happy I got it done and can play the weekend and build for Paris."

Rose Zhang on her mindset at Earl Grey Golf Club

"I think it depends on the player of course depends on how aggressive they are as a player. But, yes, do I think this there is some cases where you just can't aim at the pin. You just have to play slopes to the best of your ability, especially if you're not on -- you're not in play on the first tee shot. That's when you really have to consider, okay, how do I make it out of here with the lowest possible score. But, yeah, I mean, in that regard there is a mindset change. But I think that just is depends on game plans for."

## Hannah Green on her mindset heading into the weekend

"Last year I had a very mixed season. Obviously still had a win last year, but I had nearly the most weekends off I've had since my rookie year. The '22 season I had my most consistent year yet. It's just been different this year. Everyone jokingly said, you got married, must be obviously in a good place, which I certainly am, but I obviously am feeling very confident in my game and it's nice to have that obvious experience having won tournaments before. But going neck and neck with Nelly earlier in the year, even though the result didn't go my way, still gives me motivation to continue to work hard and try and get my hands on the trophy. I always really enjoy coming to Canada. I played well in Vancouver last year, so hopefully I can do a few better and get my hands on that big trophy."

## ON LPGA.COM

Lauren Coughlin Picking Up Where She Left Off at CPKC Women's Open

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## **SOCIAL SNAPSHOT**

Rose Zhang is thinking about her trip to compete in the Olympics next week!

The confidence is there for Hannah Green

Cheers for red & white day at the CPKC Women's Open

The Olympics are here! The women's golf competition tees off on August 7th!

It's tough out here in the wild west of Canada

Repping the red, white and blue

## TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS

18 holes - 62, Paula Reto (R1, 2022), Lindy Duncan (R2, 2022), Mo Martin (R4, 2018), Song Hee-Kim (R2, 2009)

36 holes - 129, Narin An (2022), So Yeon Ryu (2014)

54 holes – 196, So Yeon Ryu (2014)

72 holes – 262, Jin Young Ko (2019)