



**Dow Championship**  
Midland Country Club | Midland, MI | June 27-30, 2024

First-Round Notes  
June 27, 2024

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**Course Setup:** 35-35-70; 6,080 yards

**Scoring Average:** R1: 70.154

**Weather:** Partly cloudy to mostly sunny and dry weather with light northerly breezes turning easterly and temperatures reaching 74F

**Race to CME Globe Points:** 400 to each winner

**Purse:** \$3 million; winning team will split \$731,165 (\$366,082 each)

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

**Competition Format:** The Dow Championship is a 72-hole, stroke-play team event with teams comprised of two players. The first and third rounds will be played in foursomes (alternate shot) and the second and final rounds will be played in four ball (best-ball) format. After 36 holes, the field will be cut to the low-33 teams and ties.

**QUICK LINKS**

- [Interview Transcripts](#)
- [LPGA Tour Online Media Center](#)
- [LPGA Statistical Database](#)
- [Stats Box](#)
- [Media Assets](#)
- [Tournament Website](#)

In the event of a playoff, the champions will be determined by a hole-by-hole playoff in the foursomes format.

Each LPGA Member on the winning team will receive the standard two-year winner's exemption on the LPGA Priority List. Non-Member win regulations apply to non-Members that are participating in the event. CME points and prize money will be official for the purposes of the current-year LPGA Official Money List and Race to the CME Globe Standings. Players can also earn points toward the LPGA Hall of Fame in the event. Rolex Player of the Year, Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year and U.S. Solheim Cup points will not be allocated, and statistics will not be calculated. Rolex Women's World Rankings Points also will not be allocated.

LEADERBOARD			
	Team	To par	Score
T1	C. Wannasaen / J. Boonchant	-6	64
T1	R. Yin / A. Thitikul	-6	64
T1	A. Ewing / J. Kupcho	-6	64
T4	W. Hsu / S. Cheng	-5	65
T4	J. Chang / A. Park	-5	65

**THREE TEAMS TIED FOR FIRST AT DOW CHAMPIONSHIP**

After round one at Midland Country Club, three teams share first place at 6-under at the Dow Championship. The first day of play consisted of the foursomes format – more commonly known as alternate shot – where the players take turns hitting shots throughout their round. **Chanettee Wannasaen** and **Jaravee Boonchant** (Sloth Machine), **Ruoning Yin** and **Attaya Thitikul** (Jin & Ronic), and **Ally Ewing** and **Jennifer Kupcho** (Ping-Pals) each shot rounds of 64 and co-lead at 6-under heading into day two.

Starting on No. 10, Team Sloth Machine had the round of the day in Midland, Mich., recording six birdies en route to a bogey-free round. The duo from Thailand made back-to-back birdies on holes 11 and 12 as well as holes 15 and 16 to make the turn at 4-under. Wannasaen and Boonchant then picked up two more birdies on their back nine on the par-4 5th and par-4 8th holes to wrap up the day.

"I think today, we were pretty solid. We hit many fairways, many greens, give ourselves a lot of opportunity to make birdies," said Boonchant about the team's performance. "With her (Wannasaen's) putting, she's rolling everything. I think most of our birdies come from her. I think with us having her hitting on the even holes, it really works out well."

Rolex Rankings No. 4 Yin and Rolex Rankings No. 12 Thitikul also started on No. 10 on Thursday. They picked up a quick birdie on the par-4 10th hole to start the day on a hot note before making three consecutive birdies on holes 12, 13 and 14, but their streak was cut short by their lone bogey of the day on No. 15. Jin & Ronic quickly followed that mistake with a birdie on the par-4 16th hole and then proceeded to cap off their stellar front nine with a birdie on the 18th. Compared to their opening nine, the two good friends were much quieter on their back nine, making just one birdie on the par-3 7th to move to 6-under. Yin and Thitikul enjoyed their time together in the first round and couldn't stop complimenting each other's games in their post-round interview.

"Definitely we had a lot of fun," said Yin. "Jeeno's putter is just so hot. You don't want to touch that. It's getting hot. My job was just to hit a shot, make sure the ball is on the green, and she'll make everything. It's pretty fun. We had a great time out there."

Ping-Pals were the first to go off of the 10th tee in the afternoon wave. Ewing and Kupcho made back-to-back birdies on the 11th and 12th and picked up one last birdie on the iconic No. 18 at Midland Country Club to turn at 3-under overall. They bogeyed the first hole of their back nine but followed it up by going 3-under over their next two holes with a birdie on No. 2 and an eagle on the par-5 3rd hole. Their eagle was one of few recorded during Thursday's alternate-shot round. The former U.S. Solheim Cup teammates carded their last birdie on the par-4 6th and parred in to finish with a 64. Both players have past experience at this course, with Ewing making her third start in the event and Kupcho playing as a past champion, having won the Dow Championship in 2022 alongside Lizette Salas.

"I think it's a nice change of pace. We just came from a golf course that's a mental and demanding golf course, and you get to play partner golf, which is something that we don't get to do a whole lot," said Ewing of the Dow Championship. "This course is a fun course to play in this format, so it's a nice change of pace, especially at this point in the year. It's the midway point, and it's nice to have something a little bit different and be able to lean on each other to play."

Two teams, Team Hot Pot (**Ssu-Chia Cheng** and **Wei-Ling Hsu**) and Team AJ (**Jennifer Chang** and **Annie Park**), are tied for fourth with rounds of 65. Cheng and Hsu are making their debuts at the Dow Championship this year, while Chang and Park are recording their fourth and fifth starts at this event, respectively, but it's their first time playing as partners. Thirteen teams sit within three shots of the lead ahead of Friday's four-ball round.

**A LOOK AT THE LEADERS**

CATEGORY	C. Wannasaen	J. Boonchant	R. Yin	A. Thitikul	A. Ewing	J. Kupcho
Team Name	Sloth Machine	Sloth Machine	Jin & Ronic	Jin & Ronic	Ping-Pals	Ping-Pals
2024 Race to CME Globe Points List	58	13	30	32	9	39
2024 LPGA Tour Wins	0	0	0	0	0	0
2024 LPGA Tour Top 10s	1	1	2	4	4	2
2024 Season Earnings	\$290,476	\$33,262	\$639,881	\$743,984	\$1,440,193	\$458,783
Career LPGA Tour Wins	1	0	2	2	3	3
Career Ladies European Tour Wins	1	0	0	4	0	0
Career Epsom Tour Wins	0	1	0	0	0	0
Career LPGA Tour Top 10s	2	3	12	33	23	18
Career Money	\$678,061	\$266,901	\$3,704,698	\$4,475,745	\$5,642,367	\$4,621,234

**ABOUT THE LEADERS**

**Rolex Rankings No. 48 Chanette Wannasaen/Rolex Rankings No. 202 Jaravee Boonchant (Sloth Machine)**

- Wannasaen and Boonchant went bogey-free in their first round of foursomes
  - They recorded six birdies to help position themselves T1
- This is the first time the two are teaming up together at the Dow Championship but both are making their second starts
  - Wannasaen missed the cut with **Arphichaya Yubol** last season
  - Boonchant missed the cut with **Gina Kim** in 2023
- This is the 16th start of the season for Wannasaen
  - She has made 12 cuts and has a T3 finish at the Mizuho Americas Classic
    - Wannasaen became a Rolex First-Time Winner at the 2023 Portland Classic
    - She became the third Monday qualifier to win on the LPGA Tour and first since Brooke Henderson did in 2015
- This is the ninth start of the season for Boonchant

- She has made six cuts and has a season-best T9 finish at the Honda LPGA Thailand
    - Her career-best finish is a T7 finish at the 2023 Dana Open
- Listen to their post-round interview [here](#)

#### Rolex Rankings No. 3 Ruoning Yin/ Rolex Rankings No. 12 Atthaya Thitikul (Jin & Ronic)

- Yin and Thitikul recorded seven birdies after their opening round of foursomes
- This is Yin's third start at the Dow Championship
  - She has missed the cut the last two seasons with partners **Xiaowen Yin** (2023) and **Weiwei Zhang** (2022)
- Yin is making her 14th start of the 2024 season
  - She has missed one cut, the JM Eagle LA Championship presented by Plastpro
  - Yin has recorded two top-10 finishes (Cognizant Founders Cup, T4; FIR HILLS SERI PAK Championship, T8)
  - Last week, she was the defending champion at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship, finishing T24 in her second career title defense
  - She is one of two players going to the Olympics in Paris this summer to represent the People's Republic of China
    - This will be the first time Yin is competing at the Olympics
    - She represented China at the 2023 International Crown
- Thitikul is making her first ever appearance at the Dow Championship
- Thitikul is making her eighth start this year
  - She has only missed one cut (Cognizant Founders Cup) and has four top-10 finishes including a T6 finish at the U.S. Women's Open presented by Ally
  - She made her season debut at the first major of the year, The Chevron Championship, after working through an injury in the beginning of the year
  - She is one of two players representing Thailand at this year's Olympics
    - She is making her first start at the Olympics and has previously represented Thailand at the 2023 International Crown
- Listen to their post-round interview [here](#)

#### Rolex Rankings No. 16 Ally Ewing/Rolex Rankings No. 50 Jennifer Kupcho (Ping-Pals)

- Ewing and Kupcho recorded just one bogey with an eagle and five birdies in their opening round
- The 2023 Solheim Cup teammates are teaming up for the first time at this event
  - Ewing is making her first start at the Dow Championship since 2021 when she finished T31 with **Megan Khang**
    - She also finished T24 in 2019 with **Lindy Duncan**
  - Kupcho is making her first start at this event since winning with partner **Lizette Salas** in 2022
    - She also missed the cut with **Mina Harigae** in 2021 and with **Maria Fassi** in 2019 when they played together as sponsor invites
- Ewing is making her 12th start and has not missed a cut this season
  - She is coming off her third-straight top-five finish including a T3 finish at the U.S. Women's Open presented by Ally and a T5 finish at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship
  - She has four top-10 finishes this season total
- Kupcho is making her 15th start of the season and has only missed one cut
  - She has two top-10 finishes including a season-best T3 at the Mizuho Americas Open
- Both have represented the United States multiple times at the Solheim Cup
  - Ewing has appeared on the United States team in 2019, 2021 and 2023
    - She has appeared in 12 matches and is 1-2-1 in foursomes and 2-3 in four-ball
  - Kupcho has made the team in 2021 and 2023
    - She has appeared in seven total matches and is 1-1 in foursomes and 1-0-2 in four-ball
- Listen to their post-round interview [here](#)

#### THINGS TO KNOW

- **Jennifer Chang** and **Annie Park** (Team AJ) are tied for fourth at 5-under
  - The duo is making their first appearance as a team at the Dow Championship
  - Park is making her fifth appearance and has missed the cut in her last three
    - She finished T6 with **Megan Khang** in 2019
  - Chang is making her fourth appearance at the Dow Championship and has not missed a cut
    - She finished T21 with **Karen Chung** last season, solo 34th with **Robynn Ree** in 2022 and T33 with **Kristen Gillman** in 2021
- **Ssu-Chia Cheng** and **Wei-Ling Hsu** (Hot Pot) are also tied for fourth heading into Friday's four-ball round
  - The duo carded six birdies in their opening round with one bogey
  - Both are making their debuts at the Dow Championship
  - Cheng is making just her sixth start this season and has made two cuts with a season-high finish of T27 at the ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer
  - Hsu is making her 13th start of 2024 and has made seven cuts with a T6 finish at ShopRite
    - Hsu is set to make her second appearance at the Olympic Games representing Chinese Taipei
    - She finished T15 at the Tokyo Games in 2020
- Defending champions **Cheyenne Knight** and **Elizabeth Szokol** (Elizabethan Knights) finished at even par following their opening round
  - The duo carded just one birdie and one bogey during their alternate shot round
- Both sponsor invite teams are at 2-under after the first round of play
  - John Shippen Women's Invitational winner **Georgia Oboh** and her partner **Lakareber Abe** recorded four birdies and two bogeys
  - Suzann Peterson Amateur Qualifier presented by Frankenmuth Insurance winner **Sophie Stevens** and her partner **Vanessa Borovilos** carded five birdies, one bogey and a double bogey

#### QUOTABLE

*Lexi Thompson on how her and Brooke Henderson were able to maximize their round today*

"It was a great day out there. It's always awesome to be able to pair up with Brooke. I think we ham-and-egged it very well. She hit some amazing golf shots and made some great putts out there. We kind of fed off each other and put ourselves in position I feel on every hole and made some good pars and birdies and an eagle, too, so it was nice."

*Brooke Henderson on the support she has seen from the fans and the Midland area*

"Yeah, this is a super fun event. It's so unique being able to partner up and play as a team. It's a lot of fun, and the community really comes around this event and they really support it. There was great fans out here today, and I'm looking forward to even more come the weekend. But it's just a really exciting and unique event, and it's just a lot of fun for me."

*Auston Kim on the round she had today with Grace Kim*

"It started off pretty slow. We made a couple of mistakes the first six holes, but we managed to lock in, have some fun with it. Made a long putt, and Grace made eagle today, so that was phenomenal. It was really cool. We had a good day out there. It was a lot of fun grace grace like she said, it was a bit of a slow start. I think obviously playing in the foursomes format is definitely different to your normal game. I think we both know each of our games very well, and sticking to the process was one thing and making sure it wasn't going to deteriorate our minds mentally, so yeah, like she said, we locked in and made a few birdies, and yeah, we finished up very well. Happy with the finish."

*Kelly Tan on what she loves about playing this event with her partner Matilda Castren*

"I think for us, it's about playing together. We have such a close friendship, and we just cherish that we get to team up and play together. The format is so much fun, and being able to play with your best friend, I think we're just so comfortable with each other that whenever I hit a bad shot, I don't feel bad because I know she's going to bail me out, and I know it's vice versa. It's kind of exciting."

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#### SOCIAL SNAPSHOT

[Lexi and Brooke, Fan Favorites](#)

[An Inspiring Day to Ignite Women's Sports](#)

[Ally Ewing and Jennifer Kupcho Make Quite the Pair](#)

[Nothing but Love for the Dow Championship](#)

[Great Chip-In from Jennifer Song](#)

## **OLYMPIC CORNER**

This week, the International Golf Federation announced the 60 qualifiers for Women's Olympic Golf Competition. To learn more and see who is in the field, use the links below:

[International Golf Federation Announces 60 Qualifiers for Women's Olympic Golf Competition](#)

[2024 Paris Olympics: Meet The 60 Qualifiers for The Women's Golf Competition in France](#)

[2024 Paris Olympics: Check Out Who Is Competing in the Women's Golf Competition at Le Golf National](#)

[Olympic Golf Ranking Final Update: Yang Earns Second Olympic Berth After KPMG Women's PGA Championship Win](#)

### **Tournament Scoring Records:**

*18 holes (Foursomes/alternate shot)* – 62, Cheyenne Knight & Elizabeth Szokol (2023, R3)

*18 holes (Four-ball/best ball)* – 58, Minjee Lee & Jin Young Ko (2019, R4)

*36 holes* – 126, Ariya & Moriya Jutanugarn (2021); Pauline Roussin & Dewi Weber (2022)

*54 holes* – 192, Cheyenne Knight & Elizabeth Szokol (2023)

*72 holes* – 253, Cydney Clanton & Jasmine Suwannapura (2019)