



**LPGA Drive On Championship**  
 Bradenton Country Club | Bradenton, Fla. | Jan. 25-28, 2024

Final-Round Notes  
 Jan. 28, 2024

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**Course Setup:** 36-35 – 71; 6,375 yards  
**Scoring Average:** R1: 71.900, R2:70.627, R3: 71.735; R4: 73.544  
**Weather:** Sunny skies with temperatures in the 60s and northwest wind gusts around 30 mph  
**Race to CME Globe Points:** 500 (winner)  
**Purse:** \$1.75 million (winner’s portion is \$262, 500)  
**TV/Streaming Times:** [How to Watch](#)

**QUICK LINKS**  
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[Tournament Website](#)

LEADERBOARD			
	Player	To par	Score
1	Nelly Korda	-11	65-67-68-73 – 273
2	Lydia Ko	-11	65-70-69-69 – 273
3	Megan Khang	-8	69-69-66-72 – 276
T4	Lucy Li	-7	67-69-72-69 – 277
T4	Ayaka Furue	-7	68-67-69-73 – 277

**KORDA CAPTURES WIRE-TO-WIRE WIN ON HOME TURF**

It took 20 holes of golf, but now nine-time LPGA Tour winner **Nelly Korda** secured her first win of the 2024 season at the LPGA Drive On Championship defeating **Lydia Ko** with a par on the second playoff hole at Bradenton Country Club.

Taking a four-stroke lead into her final round on Sunday, Korda stayed steady through her first four holes before recording a bogey on No. 5, allowing the field to creep back into contention. It would be until No. 14 that Korda would card her second of three bogeys on the round, following that up with a double bogey on the par-3, No. 15. Her third bogey of the round on the 16th dropped her out of the lead and placed her at eight-under par with two holes to play.

Thanks to an eagle on No. 17, Ko placed herself in prime position to secure the win with a three-stroke lead heading into No. 18. Not without the dramatics, Korda also recorded an eagle of her own to have a chance at a playoff, needing a birdie on the final hole. Both Korda and Ko were the only players to make eagles on hole 17 on the final round of play. After her drive on the 18th, Korda knocked her approach shot within inches of the cup on No. 18 and tapped in the birdie putt to force a playoff.

The duo replayed No. 18 and on their approach shots, Korda set herself up nicely with a long look at birdie while Ko hit hers errantly to the left off the green. A great up and down from Ko, a missed birdie putt from Korda and a couple of pars set the two back up to the 18th tee for another playoff hole. After their approach shots, the roles were reversed and Ko had a chance at a long birdie and Korda was off the back of the green. Ko left her birdie putt short, and Korda chipped on about to about three feet from the cup. Ko lipped out her par putt and tapped in the bogey before Korda sealed her hometown win, knocking down the three-footer.

“Every win has a story,” said Korda. “This one was definitely -- just with the struggles of last year and just with today as well, I thought I completely lost it. Being in my hometown and having the hometown support was incredible. I didn't think this many people would show up. Even on the first day, Thursday, the amount of people that were out here supporting was incredible. I couldn't have done it without all their positive energy.”

2023 CPKC Women’s Open winner **Megan Khang** finished solo third at eight-under par with 2023 LPGA Tour rookie **Lucy Li**, earning her first top-10 finish as a member on the LPGA Tour, tied for fourth alongside **Ayaka Furue** at 7-under. Furue earned her second-straight T4 finish of the year. 2024 LPGA Tour rookies **Auston Kim** and **Mone Inami** finished T6 and eighth, respectively with Kim making her first LPGA Tour cut ever. Defending champion **Celine Boutier** finished T16 in her first start of 2024 and Rolex Rankings No. 1 **Lilia Vu** finished T55.

**A LOOK AT THE CHAMPION**

CATEGORY	Nelly Korda
2024 Race to CME Globe Rank	2
2024 LPGA Tour Wins	1
2024 LPGA Tour Top 10s	1
2024 Season Earnings	\$286,716
Career LPGA Tour Wins	9
Career LPGA Tour Top 10s	56
Career Money (LPGA)	\$9,223,989
Career LET Wins	3
Career Epson Tour Wins	1

### Rolex Rankings No. 4 Nelly Korda

- Korda hit 10 of 14 fairways, 13 of 18 greens with 33 putts in her last round
  - She had an eagle, one birdie, three bogeys and a double bogey
  - She did not make a par on her last five holes
  - She made an eagle and birdie on her last two holes to force a playoff with **Lydia Ko**
- Korda earns her ninth win on the LPGA Tour and first since the 2022 ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican
  - She becomes the fourth American to earn nine wins on the LPGA Tour
  - It is her sixth win in the United States
- This is her first wire-to-wire win on the LPGA Tour
  - She becomes the first wire-to-wire winner with ties on Tour since **Lydia Ko** at the 2022 CME Group Tour Championship
  - **Hyo Joo Kim** won the 2023 Ascendant LPGA benefiting Volunteers of America wire-to-wire with no ties
- She wins the LPGA Drive On Championship in her fifth start at this event
  - Previously, she had not finished inside the top-10 in her last four starts
    - Last week, she finished tied for 16th
- She joins Ko as the first two winners of the 2024 LPGA Tour season
- She is the first player of the year to win in a playoff
  - Korda's record is now 3-2 in playoffs on the LPGA, with her most recent win from a playoff being at the 2021 ANNIKA by Gainbridge at Pelican against Ko, **Sei Young Kim** and **Lexi Thompson**
- She is the second player this season on Tour to win where they reside
  - Ko is a resident of Lake Nona, Fla. where the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions was held last week
- She becomes the first American to win on Tour this year
- She crosses the \$9 million mark in official career earnings and amass \$9,223,989
  - She becomes the ninth American to earn at least \$9 million in official career earnings
- In 2023, Korda made 18 starts and missed only one cut with nine top-10 finishes
  - Her best finish came at the HSBC Women's World Championship where she finished second
    - Of her nine top-10 finishes, three were in the top five
  - She finished fifth among the Tour in scoring average at 69.85
  - She represented the United States for the third time at the 2023 Solheim Cup
    - She went 2-2 to improve her Solheim Cup record to 7-4-1 overall
  - She also represented the United States at the 2023 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown, where the team placed third
- This is her eighth season on the LPGA Tour
  - She has made 112 cuts in 128 starts and has earned nine wins and 47 additional top-10 finishes over her career
  - She is the defending gold medalist after the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo
  - She is a three-time member of the United States Solheim Cup Team (2019, 2021, 2023)
  - She also represented the United States at the 2023 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown
- She has won on the Ladies European Tour three times
  - Most recently, she claimed the individual title at the Aramco Team Series-London in 2023

### THINGS TO KNOW

- The playoff between Korda and **Lydia Ko** marks the first playoff of the year, and first since the 2023 Maybank Championship
  - There were 12 playoffs in 2023
- **Lydia Ko** finished runner-up this week after shooting a 69 on her last day
  - She had an eagle, four birdies, two bogeys and one double bogey
  - Her and Korda were the only two players to make an eagle on No. 17 in Sunday's round
  - Her playoff record on the LPGA Tour now becomes 5-3
    - The last time she was in a playoff was at the 2021 ANNIKA presented by Gainbridge at Pelican where she tied with Korda, **Sei Young Kim** and **Lexi Thompson**
  - Ko is one point shy of earning her spot in the LPGA Hall of Fame
    - The LPGA Hall of Fame criteria can be found [here](#)
  - Last week, she won the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions
- **Megan Khang** shot a one-over par 72 and finished third
  - She had three birdies in her first nine holes, and four bogeys in the last 10 holes
  - Khang entered the day tied for second and was seeking her second LPGA Tour winner
- **Lucy Li** shot a 69 to move from a tie in 12th to a tie in fourth
  - Her finish today ties for her best finish that she previously had at the 2022 Dana Open
  - Li was a 2023 LPGA Tour rookie after finishing 3rd in the Epson Tour's Race for the Card in 2022
  - She missed the cut in her only previous start at the LPGA Drive On Championship
  - Li played at Q-Series in the fall of 2023 and tied for 17th
- **Ayaka Furue** tied with Li for fourth place with a final-round 73
  - She also had a top-5 finish at the LPGA Drive On Championship last year; solo third
  - Furue earned her sole win on the LPGA Tour at the 2022 Women's Scottish Open in her rookie year
- Rookie **Auston Kim** tied for sixth beside **Xiyu Lin** in her first LPGA Tour start as a member
  - The Vanderbilt University alum tied with Swede **Maja Stark** for the lowest round of the week at seven-under 64
  - She was the lowest rookie in the field, with the next lowest being 2023 TOTO Japan Classic winner **Mone Inami**, who finished eighth
- **Georgia Hall** withdrew after round three
- **Gaby Lopez** withdrew during the final round due to injury

### QUOTABLE

*Auston Kim on the emotions of playing in her first LPGA Tour event as a member*

"It was a very stressful week. I'm not going to lie. But I felt a lot of emotions coming down the last six holes. I'm so grateful to be able to do this for a living. Yeah, I'm just so grateful right now. I didn't think I was going to get this emotional, but I'm so grateful for what I do. I'm so very grateful that this is my job and I have the privilege to be here. I just really enjoyed playing golf this week. I had so much fun. I can't wait to see where this takes me."

*Jasmine Suwannapura on her final round at the LPGA Drive On Championship*

"It's tough. It's tough. Today was tough for sure. But, you know, I did my best. Hit a lot of good iron shot and a couple hole that it didn't really take it, so it's kind of like stay out there and went in trouble couple holes. Especially 18. I hit right at it. I'm like, please be good. And it went straight at the pin and went long. So it happens."

*Lucy Li on what she will be taking away from the tournament*

"A lot of positives to see the stuff that I'm working on start to work. You know, mainly just my mental state, just being able to be free and play golf without too much pressure, I think that's the main thing. Yeah, a lot of positives."

*Lydia Ko on her play in the playoff and during this week*

"I played solid. You know, obviously sucks to miss a three-footer on the last and get it out of my hands. I think that was kind of the goal, the whole goal today. Like whatever happened I want to be able to finish the job in my control. I missed that putt but I actually made a really good stroke and I just misjudged the speed on the first one. And then on the second one I just under-read it. Other than that, I can't really complain when I've hit four decent shots. Just wasn't my time to be and Nelly made a really good up and down on the last. Just wasn't my win."

#### **NOTABLE**

[Final Round Highlights – 2024 LPGA Drive On Championship](#)

[Playoff Highlights- 2024 LPGA Drive On Championship](#)

[Nelly Korda Final Round Highlights](#)

[Lydia Ko Final Round Highlights](#)

[Nelly Korda Final Round Interview](#)

[Lydia Ko Final Round Interview](#)

#### **TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS**

*18 holes:* 63, Celine Borge (R3, 2023), Amy Yang (R3, 2023), Ariya Jutanugarn (R3, 2023), Xiyu Lin (R3, 2022) and Aditi Ashok (R3, 2022)

*36 holes:* Marina Alex (2022) and Leona Maguire (2022)

*54 holes:* 198, Leona Maguire (2022)

*72 holes:* 268, Celine Boutier and Georgia Hall (2023)

*\*every scoring record set on par-72 courses*

#### **TOURNAMENT HISTORY**

*2023:* Played at Superstition Mountain Golf and Country Club, Prospector Course in Gold Canyon, Ariz.

*2022:* Played at Crown Colony Golf & Country Club in Fort Myers, Fla.

*2021:* Played at Golden Ocala Golf & Equestrian Club in Ocala, Fla.

*Oct. 2020:* Played at Reynolds Lake Oconee (Great Waters Course) in Greensboro, Ga.

*Aug. 2020:* Played at Inverness Club in Toledo, Ohio