



HSBC Women's World Championship
Sentosa Golf Club – The Tanjong Course | Singapore | Feb. 29-March 3, 2024

Tuesday Pre-Tournament Notes
Feb. 27, 2024

MEDIA AVAILABILITY SCHEDULE

All times are local to Singapore, 13 hours ahead of Eastern Time

No Zoom link; all pre-tournament press conferences will be uploaded to the Online Media Center and transcripts will be available on ASAP Transcripts

Wednesday, Feb. 28 (Immediately following morning pro-am rounds)

TBD – Celine Boutier

TBD – Lilia Vu

THINGS TO KNOW ABOUT THE 2024 HSBC WOMEN'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

- Professional competition format: 66 players, 72 holes of individual stroke play over four days with no cut
 - This is the second of three LPGA tournaments in Asia this spring
- This is the 16th official playing of the HSBC Women's World Championship in Singapore
 - The tournament has been played at the Tanjong Course at Sentosa Golf Club since 2017
 - Previously, the tournament was contested at the Serapong Course, the other course located at Sentosa Golf Club
 - It was played at Serapong for four years, from 2013 to 2016
 - From the tournament's inaugural event until 2012, it was hosted at Tanah Merah C.C.
- Sentosa Golf Club was founded in 1974, by then Prime Minister of Singapore, Mr. Lee Kuan Yew
- There are three past champions in the field this week; **Jin Young Ko** (2022, 2023), **Hyo Joo Kim** (2021) and **Jiyai Shin** (2009)
 - Ko is the only player to win this tournament in consecutive starts
 - She is the second player to win the event twice, alongside **Inbee Park** who won in 2015 and 2017
 - With a win this week, Ko would become the 10th player to win three consecutive times at the same tournament and the first player since Park
 - Park won the KPMG Women's PGA Championship from 2013 to 2015
 - In addition to her two victories, Ko has placed in the top-10 twice; T6 in 2018 and T3 in 2019
 - She currently sits at No. 6 in the Rolex Women's Golf World Rankings
 - Current Rolex Rankings No. 9 Kim earned her fourth career LPGA victory in 2021 at the HSBC Women's World Championship, and has won twice since then
 - Last year, she finished in a tie for 8th place
 - Kim has finished in the top-10 three additional times
 - Shin won the championship in 2009, her fourth LPGA Tour victory
 - Her 2009 win at the HSBC Women's World Championship helped her earn Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year
 - Past champions not in the field are **Sung Hyun Park** (2021), **Michelle Wie West** (2018), **Inbee Park** (2015, 2017), **Ha Na Jang** (2016), **Paula Creamer** (2014), **Stacy Lewis** (2013), **Angela Stanford** (2012), **Karrie Webb** (2011), **Ai Miyazato** (2010) and **Lorena Ochoa** (2008)
 - Former champion Ochoa holds most of the tournament scoring records at the HSBC Women's World Championship including the 36-hole record (131), 54-hole record (200) and the 72-hole record (268)
- There are two 2024 LPGA Tour winners in the field this week
 - The first winner of the year, **Lydia Ko**, is in the field and earned her 20th career victory this season
 - With her win, Ko became the seventh woman in LPGA Tour history to reach 20 wins before age 27, joining **Nancy Lopez**, **Karrie Webb**, **Se Ri Pak**, **Mickey Wright**, **Lorena Ochoa** and **Kathy Whitworth**
 - She also became the 29th different player in Tour history to earn at least 20 official wins
 - She also landed in a playoff with **Nelly Korda** for the LPGA Drive On Championship
 - Korda pulled away with the win, and Ko finished runner-up in her second start of the LPGA Tour season
 - Rolex Rankings No. 7 Ko currently sits one point short of the minimum threshold of 27 points for LPGA Hall of Fame induction
 - LPGA Hall of Fame criteria can be found [here](#)
 - The LPGA Tour's most recent winner, **Patty Tavatanakit** is also in the field after her victory at the Honda LPGA Thailand
 - She earned her first victory since the 2021 Chevron Championship, and her second-straight victory on any professional tour
 - She became the second Thai player to win the Honda LPGA Thailand
 - Tavatanakit is in her fifth season on the LPGA Tour
 - She was a member of the winning Thailand team at the 2023 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown
 - She represented Thailand in the most recent Olympic Games
 - Tavatanakit was also the Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year and Rolex ANNIKA Major Award winner in 2021
- There is one 2024 LPGA Tour rookie in the field this week, **Mone Inami**
 - She made her first official start as a Member at the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions
 - She also played in the LPGA Drive On Championship, where she earned a top-10 finish (8th)
 - Inami won the 2023 TOTO Japan Classic
 - She has 13 JLPGA career wins
- There are eight players within the top-10 of the Rolex Women's World Golf Ranking in the field this week
 - No. 1 **Lilia Vu** is making her second start at the HSBC Women's World Championship this week
 - Last year, she finished in a tie for 14th place
 - Vu won four times on the LPGA Tour last year, including two major championships
 - She won the Rolex Player of the Year honors
 - No. 3 **Celine Boutier** also won four times last year including one major championship
 - The 30-year-old was a 2017 LPGA Tour Rookie
 - Her most recent victory came after a nine-hole playoff at the Maybank Championship in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 - No. 4 **Ruoning Yin** is making her HSBC Women's World Championship debut this week
 - Yin used to be a part of the CGA-HSBC China Junior Golf Program
 - No. 5 **Minjee Lee** makes her ninth start at the HSBC Women's World Championship this week
 - She has finished as a runner-up in the event twice, in both 2019 and 2022
 - Lee is in her 10th season on the LPGA Tour, earning her ninth and 10th victories last year
 - No. 10 **Xiyu Lin** is making her fifth start this week
 - She has played in the event every year since 2021, and also played in 2016
 - Lin earned a tie for third place finish in 2021
- There are five sponsor invitations in the field this week; **Xingtong Chen (a)**, **In Gee Chun**, **Muni He**, **Miranda Wang** and **Emily Kristine Pedersen**

LPGA ON-SITE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Carly Lyvers
Coordinator, LPGA Communications
Carly.Lyvers@lpga.com
+1 (386) 214-9105

QUICK LINKS

[Interview Transcripts](#)

[LPGA Tour Online Media Center](#) (OMC): includes links to daily tournament notes, statistics and photo/video assets

[LPGA Statistical Database](#): Request access to LPGA Tour data from 1980 to present

[Stats Box](#): Includes all-time records, major records, purse breakdowns, stats documents, scoring files, points structures, and tournament histories

[Media Assets](#): For access to tournament photos and videos, please contact the on-site LPGA Communications team

[Tournament Website](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

LPGA Tour: @LPGA, @LPGAMedia (X), @lpga_tour (Instagram, TikTok)

Tournament: @HWWCgolf (X), @HSBCwomensgolf (Instagram)

TV/STREAMING TIMES (All times EST)

Thursday, Feb. 29: 9:30 p.m. – 2:30 a.m. (Golf Channel/Peacock)

Friday, March 1: 9:30 p.m. – 2:30 a.m. (Golf Channel/Peacock)

Saturday, March 2: 9:30 p.m. – 2:30 a.m. (Golf Channel/Peacock)

Sunday, March 3: 9:30 p.m. – 2:30 a.m. (Golf Channel/Peacock)

2024 LPGA TOUR STATISTICS

Official Money: Lydia Ko, \$388,689

Scoring Average: Hyo Joo Kim, 67.750

Birdies: Brooke Henderson, 49

Eagles: Nelly Korda, Hye-Jin Choi, Albane Valenzuela and A Lim Kim, 3

Holes in One: 0

Greens in Regulation: Paula Creamer, 88.9%

Average Driving Distance: Natthakritta Vongtaveelap, 294.000 yards

2024 Award Standings

| Rolex Player of the Year | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------|-----------|
| 1 | Lydia Ko | 42 points |
| T2 | Nelly Korda | 30 points |
| T2 | Patty Tavatanakit | 30 points |

| Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year | | |
|---------------------------------------|------------|-----------|
| 1 | Mone Inami | 88 points |
| 2 | Auston Kim | 62 points |
| 3 | So Mi Lee | 38 points |

| #AonRiskReward Challenge | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------|
| 1 | Olivia Cowan | -1.500 |
| 1 | Rose Zhang | -1.500 |
| 1 | Auston Kim | -1.500 |

| Vare Trophy | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|--------|
| 1 | Lydia Ko | 67.750 |
| 1 | Natthakritta Vongtaveelap | 67.750 |
| 3 | Jaravee Boonchant | 68.250 |

| Race to the CME Globe Points | | |
|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------|
| 1 | Lydia Ko | 820 points |
| 2 | Nelly Korda | 552 points |
| 3 | Patty Tavatanakit | 510.429 points |

[Aon Risk Reward Challenge:](#) No. 13, par 5

Though bunkers protect both sides of the 13th fairway at Sentosa GC, this hole values approach play far more than the tee shot. Over the last two years, this hole has had the lowest value placed on driving accuracy anywhere on the course. Twenty-nine percent of the field has gone for this green in two since 2022 – those who have gain nearly one-quarter of a stroke over players who lay up. Despite holding the final round lead, **Jin Young Ko** was among the 29% last year, leading to a birdie that boosted her win probability from likely (64%) to 97%).

Through the first three tournaments of the 2024 LPGA Tour season, there is currently a three-way tie for first place between 27-year-old player from Germany, **Olivia Cowan**, 2023 LPGA Tour Rookie and Mizuho Americas Open champion **Rose Zhang** and 2024 LPGA Tour Rookie **Auston Kim**. They each it with an average score of -1.500. There are three players tied for second place with an average score of -1.250.

The Aon Risk Reward Challenge is a season-long competition across the LPGA Tour that highlights the game’s best players as they navigate some of the most strategically challenging holes on Tour. Players will take their best two scores from each Challenge hole, with the winners having the best average score to par at the end of the regular season. The winning woman will take home the Aon trophy and an equal \$1 million prize.

[Race to CME Globe Update:](#)

The Race to CME Globe Race continues at the HSBC Women’s World Championship this week with players vying for 500 points in just the fourth event of the 2024 season.

In the opening event of the 2024 LPGA Tour season, now 20-time LPGA Tour winner **Lydia Ko** claimed a victory at the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions as well as the first 500 points of the season. After playing in the first two events of the year, Ko has 820 points in the Race for the Globe. The following week, Ko landed in a playoff with **Nelly Korda**, who ultimately won and earned her ninth LPGA Tour victory. Korda now sits in second place with 552 points. In third place is the LPGA’s most recent champion, **Patty Tavatanakit** with 510.429 points.

The Race to the CME Globe is a season-long points competition with LPGA Tour Members accumulating points in every official LPGA event to qualify for the season-ending tournament, the CME Group Tour Championship. The player who wins the CME Group Tour Championship is named the “Race to the CME Globe Champion.” The top 60 points earners and ties earn a spot into the season finale with the entire field competing for a \$11 million purse, increased from \$7 million last season, and is highlighted by a \$4 million winner’s check, which is the largest single prize in the history of women’s golf.

[CME Group Cares Challenge – Score 1 for St. Jude Update:](#)

The CME Group Cares Challenge is a season-long charitable giving program that turns aces into donations. CME Group donates \$20,000 for each hole-in-one made on the LPGA Tour in 2024, with a minimum guaranteed donation of \$500,000 to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, which is leading the way in how the world understands, treats and defeats childhood cancer and life-threatening diseases. Last season, there were 20 aces on Tour, including two from In Gee Chun, the most of any player on Tour in 2023.