



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

Wednesday Pre-Tournament Notes
Feb. 28, 2024

NOTABLE PLAYERS IN THE FIELD

JIN YOUNG KO (Rolex Rankings No. 6)

“Yeah, I mean, when I think about HSBC, it’s always happy because I won twice. And time flies so fast. I can’t believe it was one year ago. I’m very excited to be back here...I don’t have any pressure because I was lucky to win twice in this tournament, but I don’t want to make me work harder and any pressure from there. This week I’ll just try to best myself and see what happens.” – *Ko on what she enjoys about this tournament and the pressures to win a third time*

- This is Ko’s sixth start at the HSBC Women’s World Championship
 - She won the event in both 2022 and 2023, and returns this week as the defending champion
 - In addition to her two wins, she placed in the top 10 in both 2018 and 2019
 - Her worst finish at the event is a tie for 24th in 2021
 - According to KPMG Performance Insights, Jin Young Ko is going for her third consecutive win in this event this week. Over the past two years, she is a combined 34-under par in this event and gains well over three strokes per round on the field

Jin Young Ko	
Last Two Years at HSBC Women’s World Championship	
Score to Par	-34
SG Total Per Round	+3.34
Birdie or Better Percentage	31.3%
Greens in Regulation	86.1%

- Ko is the only player to win the HSBC Women’s World Championship 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
- She is making her second start of the 2024 LPGA Tour season this week
 - Last week, she competed at Honda LPGA Thailand, finishing in a tie for 20th
 - In 2023, she made 18 official starts, only missing one cut at the U.S. Women’s Open
 - She earned two victories, and claimed four additional top-10 finishes
- 2024 is her seventh season on the LPGA Tour
 - She has 15 victories on the LPGA Tour, including two major championships (2019 Chevron Championship and 2014 Amundi Evian Championship)
 - She earned her first victory on the LPGA Tour as a non-member in 2017
 - Her most recent win came at the Cognizant Founders Cup last May
 - She has 12 wins on the KLPGA Tour
 - Over her career, she has made 116 official starts on the LPGA Tour and made the cut 95 times
 - Ko has earned multiple LPGA awards including Rolex Player of the Year (2019, 2021), Rolex ANNIKA Major Award (2019), Vare Trophy (2019) and Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year (2018)
 - She represented the Republic of Korea in the 2020 Olympic Games, as well as at the 2023 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown

LILIA VU (Rolex Rankings No. 1)

“I think I’m still learning to kind of manage that. I think that’s definitely a new thing for me. I keep saying that the reason I got to this point was because I played each tournament trying to win the tournament and just one shot at a time. So just not getting frustrated with myself, I feel like at the beginning of the season, that was very quick for me to get frustrated whenever I didn't play perfect golf. But golf is not a game of perfect, and I try to keep telling myself that. So I try to kind of stick to my game plan of just having fun, and I just think it's really fun to go to a golf course and try to birdie every single hole. And that's literally my goal, and if I don't birdie, I just move on to the next hole and try again.” - *Vu on the pressures of maintaining her position as World No. 1*

- This will be Vu’s second start at the HSBC Women’s World Championship
 - She finished in a tie for 14th place last year
- This will be her third start of the 2024 LPGA Tour season
 - She finished 18th at the first event of the season, Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions

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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)

- Vu tied for 55th at the LPGA Drive On Championship
- Last week, she earned her first top-10 finish of the season at Honda LPGA Thailand as the defending champion
 - According to KPMG Performance Insights, Vu gained well over a stroke and a half per round on the greens

Lilia Vu Per Round Averages This Season		
	First Two Starts	Last Week
Strokes Gained Putting	-0.32	+1.60
Putts Per Round	32.9	27.8
Feets of putts made	60'1"	83'0"

- In 2023, she won four times (Honda LPGA Thailand, Chevron Championship, AIG Women's Open, The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican)
 - She made 16 cuts in 19 events and earned over \$3.5 million in official season earnings
 - She earned two LPGA Awards at the end of the season including Rolex Player of the Year and ANNIKA Major Award
 - Vu was a member of the 2023 U.S. Solheim Cup team and represented the U.S. at the Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown
- Vu was a 2019 LPGA Tour Rookie
 - She is a graduate of the Epson Tour, earning three victories in 2021 to finish first in the Race for the Card
 - She played collegiate golf at UCLA

PATTY TAVATANAKIT (Rolex Rankings No. 27)

"Yeah, I mean, like I said, it (my body) is not at a hundred percent. But everything is just between the ears. I feel like if I tell myself I'm not tired, then I'm not going to be as tired, in comparison to like, oh, my God, I'm just so tired. It's just really how you talk to yourself. I am working on staying fresh. I kind of moved around, get my body going and feeling a little bit more athletic throughout the week. So, I mean, two weeks ago it was amazing, something that happened to me, but it's also in the past now and I have a lot more golf to look forward to for this week and the rest of the season. So I feel like I'm back to work." – *Tavatanakit on how she is feeling after her two wins in back-to-back starts on professional tours*

- This is Tavatanakit's fourth start at the HSBC Women's World Championship
 - Her best finish came in her debut performance in 2021, where she finished for a tie in third place
 - Last year, she finished in a tie for 52nd
 - With a win this week, she could become the first player to win back-to-back LPGA tournaments since **Celine Boutier** in 2023 at the Amundi Evian Championship and Women's Scottish Open
- This is her third start of the 2024 season
 - In her debut, she finished in a tie for 42nd at the LPGA Drive On Championship
 - Last week, she won the Honda LPGA Thailand
 - This was her first victory since the 2021 Chevron Championship, and her second straight victory on any professional tour
 - She was just the second Thai player to win the event in their home country
 - She currently sits in third for the Rolex Player of the Year award and the Race to the CME Globe
- In 2023, Tavatanakit made 18 cuts in 23 official starts, earning two top-10 finishes
 - She missed four cuts in a row from the Cognizant Founders Cup to the KPMG Women's PGA Championship
 - According to KPMG Performance Insights, she ranked outside the top-70 on the LPGA Tour in bogey avoidance last season. In her sparkling back-to-back victories on the LET and LPGA Tour the last two weeks, she's made just eight bogeys total:

Patty Tavatanakit Bogeys or Worse – Last Season vs. Last Two Weeks	
Last Season	17.0%*
Last Two Weeks	5.6%

*Ranked 73rd on LPGA Tour

- 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

MINJEE LEE (Rolex Rankings No. 5)

"Obviously it's a big year with the Olympics, and all the majors, they are always on the top of my priority list, I guess. Always want to be playing well in those and contending. In terms of this week, obviously I would like to contend and get the trophy on Sunday. It is one of the best events. I'm not going to put too much pressure on myself or put too many expectations. I just want to go out there and have fun." – *Lee on her goals for 2024*

- This is Lee's ninth start at the HSBC Women's World Championship
 - She has finished twice as the runner-up in the event, in both 2019 and 2022
 - Her worst finish at the event was last year, when she finished in a tie for 52nd
- The HSBC Women's World Championship will be her first start of the 2024 LPGA Tour season
- In 2023, she made 18 official starts on the LPGA Tour
 - She earned two victories at the Kroger Queen City Championship presented by P&G and the BMW Ladies Championship, just a little over one month apart from each other
 - She had three additional top-10 finishes including a runner-up finish after losing in a playoff to Jin Young Ko at the Cognizant Founders Cup
 - In her last event of the year, 2023 CME Group Tour Championship, she finished in a tie for 8th place
 - Lee did not miss one cut throughout the year
 - She finished the year as No. 5 in the Race to the CME Globe, and 12th on the Official Money List
 - According to KPMG Performance Insights, Lee led the LPGA tour in strokes gained approach per round in 2023, picking up more than a shot-and-a-half on the field

Minjee Lee Approach Play Ranks – 2023 LPGA Tour Season		
	First Two Starts	LPGA Rank
SG Approach	+1.53	1st
Proximity – 125-150 yards	22'0"	T1
Proximity – 150-175 yards	29'0"	4th

- This is Lee's 10th year on the LPGA Tour
 - She is an 10-time LPGA Tour winner and a two-time major championship winner

- She won the 2021 Amundi Evian Championship and 2022 U.S. Women's Open
- She is a two-time Olympian representing Australia in both the 2016 and 2020 Games
- She also represented Australia at the 2014, 2016, 2018 and 2023 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown

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