



Meijer LPGA Classic for *Simply Give*
Blythefield Country Club | Belmont, MI | June 13-16, 2024

Wednesday Pre-Tournament Notes
June 12, 2024

NOTABLE PLAYERS IN THE FIELD

Nelly Korda (Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings No. 1)

"I think perfect is just impossible. You're going to drive yourself mad trying to be perfect, so you just got let it go. I just learned that you make more mistakes when you're trying to be perfect, so I think the way I try to look at it is it's okay to make mistakes and it's okay to bounce back. But if you're scared to make mistakes you're bound to make even more mistakes." – *Korda on missing the cut at the U.S. Women's Open*

- This is Korda's sixth start at the Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give
 - She has four consecutive top-10 finishes at Blythefield Country Club, including a win in 2021
 - Results: 2022 – T2; 2021 – Won; 2019 – T7; 2018 – T9; 2017 – T43
 - In 2022, Korda finished T2 after losing in a three-way playoff with **Leona Maguire** and **Jennifer Kupcho**
 - Kupcho ultimately won with a birdie on the second playoff hole
 - Korda made par on the first playoff hole and was eliminated when Maguire and Kupcho made birdie
 - In 2021, Korda defeated Maguire by two strokes to earn her fifth LPGA Tour victory
 - That year, she shot her career-low round on Tour (62) during the third round of the Meijer LPGA Classic
 - Korda has the highest win probability this week, at 14.6% according to the KPMG Predictive Insights
 - There is a 7% difference between her and the nearest player, Atthaya Thitikul at 7.6% win probability
 - Korda holds the 54-hole scoring record at Blythefield (196) alongside **Lexi Thompson** (2017)
 - She also holds the 72-hole scoring record (263) alongside **Brooke Henderson** (2017)
- Korda is making her 10th start of the 2024 Tour season at the Meijer LPGA Classic
 - She has had a historic season so far with six wins, a T7 result, a T14 finish and one missed cut
 - The LPGA Tour announced on Monday that Korda has clinched her spot on the 2024 U.S. Solheim Cup Team, with nine events left to qualify
 - Korda's last win came at the Mizuho Americas Open, her sixth win in 2024 and 14th of her career
 - She is the first player since **Inbee Park** (2013) to record six wins in a single season
 - She is the first American player to win at least six times in an LPGA Tour season since **Beth Daniel** in 1990, who won seven times
 - With a win this week, Korda would become just the fourth American player to win 7+ times in a season on the LPGA Tour since 1970

7+ Wins in a Season American Players since 1970	
	Wins
1990 Beth Daniel	7
1979 Nancy Lopez	8
1978 Nancy Lopez	9
1973 Kathy Whitworth	7

- Korda tied Sorenstam as the fastest player to win six times in an LPGA Tour season since 1980
 - Sorenstam earned her sixth win of the 2005 Tour season in her eighth start that year
 - Korda was on a historic win streak earlier this season, tying the record for most wins in consecutive starts with five
 - She won the LPGA Drive On Championship, FIR HILLS SERI PAK Championship, Ford Championship presented by KCC, T-Mobile Match Play presented by MGM Rewards and The Chevron Championship
 - She tied Sorenstam (2004-2005) and Lopez (1978) for most wins in consecutive starts
 - Korda also tied **Kathy Whitworth** (1969), **Mickey Wright** (1962, 1963), Sorenstam (2001) and Ochoa (2008) for most consecutive Tour wins in scheduled events with four in a row
 - In her most recent start on Tour, Korda missed the cut at the U.S. Women's Open by two strokes
 - It was her first missed cut since the 2023 KPMG Women's PGA Championship almost one year ago
- According to the KPMG Performance Insights, there are several factors that account for Korda's dominance this season
 - Korda is hitting the green in regulation more often than any player on the LPGA Tour in 2024

Nelly Korda Greens in Regulation This Season		
		Rank
Overall	74.8%	1st
After hit fairway	83.3%	2nd
After missed fairway	59.1%	6th

- So far in 2024, she ranks inside the top-25 in each of the four major strokes gained categories, something no other player can boast

Nelly Korda Strokes Gained LPGA Tour – This Season		
	SG	Rank
Off the tee	+0.79	2nd
Approach	+0.72	21st
Around the green	+0.49	3rd
Putting	+0.69	16th

- This is Korda's eighth season on the LPGA Tour
 - She has won 14 LPGA Tour titles and is a two-time major champion
 - She has amassed \$11,880,981 in career earnings with 14 victories and 62 career top-10s
 - She has been on three U.S. Solheim Cup teams (2019, 2021, 2023) and will soon be making her fourth appearance in 2024
 - Korda also has one Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown U.S. team appearance (2023)
 - She is the reigning Olympic gold medalist and will be defending her title this year at the 2024 Paris Olympic Games

Brooke Henderson (Rolex Rankings No. 14)

"You know, those two tournament victories (at the Meijer LPGA Classic) really made a huge impact on my career and gave me a lot of confidence and motivation moving forward. I'm excited to be back on a course where I have so many great memories. Hopefully I can try to recreate some of them and put myself in a good position on the weekend." – *Henderson on what her wins at the Meijer LPGA Classic meant for her career*

- Henderson is making her eighth start at the Meijer LPGA Classic
 - She is the only player to win the event more than once, with two victories at Blythefield CC

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

TV/STREAMING TIMES (All times EST)

Thursday, June 13: 3:00-6:00 p.m.
(Golf Channel/Peacock/International)
Friday, June 14: 3:00-6:00 p.m.
(Golf Channel/Peacock/International)
Saturday, June 15: 3:00-6:00 p.m.
(Golf Channel/Peacock/International)
Sunday, June 16: 1:00-2:00 p.m. (Golf Channel/International); 2:00-4:00 p.m. (CBS)

- Henderson won the event in 2017 by two strokes over **Michelle Wie West** and **Lexi Thompson** for her fourth LPGA Tour victory
 - She earned her ninth LPGA Tour victory at the 2019 playing of the event, defeating **Nasa Hataoka**, **Su Oh**, Thompson and **Brittany Altomare** by one stroke
 - In addition to her two wins, Henderson has one additional top-10 result
 - Results: 2023 – T42; 2022 – T9; 2021 – MC; 2019 – Won; 2018 – T44; 2017 – Won; 2016 – T21
 - She holds the 36-hole tournament scoring record (128) and the 72-hole tournament scoring record (263), which she shares with Korda
- This will be Henderson’s 13th start of the 2024 Tour season
 - She has five top-10 finishes including three top-three results
 - She finished solo third at the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions, T3 at the HSBC Women’s World Championship and T3 at The Chevron Championship
 - She also has two T9 results at the Honda LPGA Thailand and T-Mobile Match Play presented by MGM Rewards
 - She has only missed one cut, at the U.S. Women’s Open
 - In her last start on Tour, she finished T27 at the ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer
- KPMG Performance Insights show how Henderson’s approach play and performance off the tee have contributed to a solid season for the Canadian
 - Henderson has improved her approach play from 2023 to this season, gaining nearly half a stroke per round with her irons
 - Part of the reason for this improvement is her proximity to the hole, where she ranks better than the LPGA Tour average from a variety of distances
 - 100-125 yards – Tour Average: 20’ 7”; Henderson: 16’ 0”
 - 125-150 yards – Tour Average: 25’ 5”; Henderson: 24’ 0”
 - 150-175 yards – Tour Average: 32’ 4”; Henderson: 29’ 0”
 - 175-200 yards – Tour Average: 38’ 1”; Henderson: 36’ 0”
 - She has also improved her performance off the tee this season, jumping from 32nd in strokes gained driving a year ago to the top-ten
 - She’s picking up three-tenths of a stroke more per round with her tee shots in 2024 – which adds up to a stout 1.2 shots over the course of 72 holes
- This is Henderson’s 10th year on the LPGA Tour
 - She has 13 wins including two major championships (2016 KPMG Women’s PGA Championship, 2022 Amundi Evian Championship)
 - This year, the KPMG Women’s PGA Championship is at Sahalee Country Club, where Henderson won her first major championship in 2016
 - She has won every year she has been on the LPGA Tour except 2020
 - She is the winningest Canadian golfer and has earned over \$13 million over her career
 - In 2019, she won the LPGA’s Founders Award
 - She represented Canada in the 2016 Rio Olympics and 2020 Tokyo Olympics, and will again represent her country this year in Paris

Ayaka Furue (Rolex Rankings No. 19)

- This will be Furue’s third start at the Meijer LPGA Classic
 - Her best result was in 2023, where she finished T13
 - She also finished T24 in 2022
 - She shot one of her lowest rounds on Tour (64) during the final round of the Meijer LPGA Classic in 2022
- Ayaka will be making her 14th start of the season this week
 - She has seven top-10 finishes so far this year, with a season-best result of T2
 - She finished T2 last week at the ShopRite LPGA Classic Presented by Acer
 - She also has four total top-5 results this year
 - She has just two finishes outside the top-25 in her 13 starts
- Ayaka has been one of the most consistent players on Tour this season, according to the KPMG Performance Insights
 - She leads the Tour this season in rounds in the 60s (23), rounds under par (34) and total birdies made (191), and is tied with Korda in top-10 finishes (7)
 - Her prowess with both her approach play and putting position her well for success, as she is the only player this season to rank inside the top-20 in strokes gained in both areas

Ayaka Furue Approach Play and Putting LPGA Tour- This Season		
	Per Round	Rank
Approach	+0.85	14th
Putting	+0.73	14th

- Furue has made 94 putts from 10 feet or longer this season, 10 more than any other player
- This is Furue’s third season on the LPGA Tour
 - She has won LPGA Tour victory at the 2022 Women’s Scottish Open
 - She has \$3,659,793 in career earnings with one win and 19 career top-10 finishes
 - She represented Japan in the 2023 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown
 - She is currently qualified to represent Japan in the 2024 Paris Olympics

Leona Maguire (Rolex Rankings No. 32)

“I feel like in '21 I played some incredible golf and Nelly just played even better that year. Then to get into a playoff the next year, it was kind of a case of what do I need to do here to get this done. But, yeah, it’s funny. I’ve done it some very different ways. I’ve gone out low the first two days. Last year finished strong over the weekend. So there is a lot of different ways to do it around here. Scoring is always low, so it is kind of, yes know you have to make a lot of birdies, but sometimes you have to be patient. Last year it was sort of patience right down to the very end, and then on the last six holes went on that run and nice to finish it off in style.” – *Leona on what it takes to be successful at the Meijer LPGA Classic*

- Maguire is the defending champion at this year’s Meijer LPGA Classic
 - She has not finished worse than second in her last three playings of this event
 - Results: 2023 – Won; 2022 – T2; 2021 – 2
 - Maguire is a combined -62 at the Meijer LPGA Classic over the past 3 seasons, 12 strokes better in relation to par than any other player

Lowest Score to Par Meijer LPGA Classic – Last 3 Seasons	
Leona Maguire	-62
Jennifer Kupcho (2022 Champion)	-50
Xiyu Lin	-44
Carlota Ciganda	-43
Nelly Korda (2021 Champion)	-43

- Leona has relied on her short game the past two seasons at this event, averaging nearly 2.5 strokes gained per round with her play around the green and putting

Leona Maguire Strokes Gained Meijer LPGA Classic – Last 2 Seasons	
SG Ball Striking	+1.07
SG Short Game	+2.49

- Maguire is making her 12th start of the season at Blythefield CC this week
 - Her best finish is solo second at the T-Mobile Match Play presented by MGM Rewards, where she lost 4&3 in the final match to Korda
 - She has three additional top-15 finishes this year
 - This season, Maguire is ranked 12th on the LPGA Tour in strokes gained around the green per round, her third consecutive season among the leaders in that metric

Leona Maguire Strokes Gained Around the Green – Since 2022		
	Per Round	LPGA Rank
2022	+0.29	9th
2023	+0.45	5th
2024	+0.39	12th

- This is Maguire’s fifth season on the LPGA Tour
 - She has two career wins, at the 2022 LPGA Drive On Championship at Crown Colony Golf and Country Club and 2023 Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give
 - She has 21 career top-10s and has earned \$4,411,273 in Official Money
 - She has made two appearances on the European Solheim Cup team (2021, 2023)
 - She is currently qualified for the 2024 team through the Rolex Rankings
 - She represented Ireland in the 2016 and 2020 Olympic Games

KPMG INSIGHT OF THE WEEK

Putting carried the most weight among contenders at the Meijer LPGA Classic each of the previous two years. In each year, putting accounted for well over 50% of the total strokes gained for the top-ten finishers, proving it has been an important separating factor

Strokes Gained by Category Meijer LPGA Top-10 Finishers – Last 2 Seasons		
	2022	2023
Off the tee	18.4%	15.0%
Approach	22.7%	20.1%
Around the green	5.2%	12.6%
Putting	53.7%	52.3%

OLYMPIC CORNER

34 Past Olympians in the field: Aditi Ashok (India), Laetitia Beck (Israel), Celine Boutier (France), Ashleigh Buhai (South Africa), Matilda Castren (Finland), In Gee Chun (Republic of Korea), Carlota Ciganda (Spain), Daniela Darquea (Ecuador), Maria Fassi (Mexico), Sandra Gal (Germany), Brooke Henderson (Canada), Wei-Ling Hsu (Chinese Taipei), Ariya Jutanugarn (Thailand), Hyo Joo Kim (Republic of Korea), Nanna Koerstz Madsen (Denmark), Nelly Korda (United States), Minjee Lee (Australia), Stacy Lewis (United States), Xiyu Lin (People's Rep. of China), Pernilla Lindberg (Sweden), Leona Maguire (Ireland), Caroline Masson (Germany), Stephanie Meadow (Ireland), Azahara Munoz (Spain), Anna Nordqvist (Sweden), Bianca Pagdanganan (Philippines), Emily Kristine Pedersen (Denmark), Mel Reid (United Kingdom), Madelene Sagstrom (Sweden), Yuka Saso (Philippines*), Alena Sharp (Canada), Kelly Tan (Malaysia), Lexi Thompson (United States), Amy Yang (Republic of Korea)
**has since played under the Japanese flag*

Olympic hopefuls in the field (currently in the top 60 of the Olympic Golf Ranking as of June 10): Aditi Ashok (India), Celine Borge (Norway), Celine Boutier (France), Ashleigh Buhai (South Africa), Peiyun Chien (Chinese Taipei), Carlota Ciganda (Spain), Maria Fassi (Mexico), Alexandra Forsterling (Germany), Georgia Hall (United Kingdom), Brooke Henderson (Canada), Esther Henseleit (Germany), Wei-Ling Hsu (Chinese Taipei), Nanna Koerstz Madsen (Denmark), Nelly Korda (United States), Minjee Lee (Australia), Xiyu Lin (People's Rep. of China), Leona Maguire (Ireland), Stephanie Meadow (Ireland), Morgane Mettraux (Switzerland), Azahara Munoz (Spain), Bianca Pagdanganan (Philippines), Emily Kristine Pedersen (Denmark), Paula Reto (South Africa), Alena Sharp (Canada), Atthaya Thitikul (Thailand), Lilia Vu (United States)

Moves on the Olympic Golf Ranking (OGR) following the Cognizant Founders Cup

- Ayaka Furue moves to No. 17 in the Olympic Golf Ranking to grab the second spot for Team Japan following her T2 finish at the ShopRite LPGA Classic
- Noora Komulainen of Team Finland replaces Daniela Darquea of Team Ecuador
- Ursula Wikstrom of Team Finland replaces Natasha Oon of Team Malaysia

Countdown to the beginning of the Women's Golf Competition (Aug. 7-10):

Thursday, June 13: 55 days until August 7

Friday, June 14: 54 days

Saturday, June 15: 53 days

Sunday, June 16: 52 days

Overview on the Olympic Golf qualification process: the Olympic field is restricted to 60 players for each of the men's and women's competitions. For the women's golf competition, the International Golf Federation (IGF) uses the Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings to create the Olympic Golf Rankings as a method of determining eligibility. The top-15 world-ranked players will be eligible for the Olympics, with a limit of four players from a given country. Beyond the top 15, players will be eligible based on their Rolex Rankings position, with a maximum of two eligible players from each country that does not already have two or more players among the top-15. The host country – France – gets a minimum of one spot in each competition, regardless of rankings.

The OGR Top-15:

OGR	Player	Country
1	Nelly Korda	United States
2	Lilia Vu	United States
3	Celine Boutier	France
4	Ruoning Yin	People's Rep. of China
5	Hannah Green	Australia
6	Jin Young Ko	Republic of Korea
7	Rose Zhang	United States
8	Yuka Saso	Australia
9	Charley Hull	Great Britain
10	Minjee Lee	Australia
11	Atthaya Thitikul	Thailand
12	Hyo Joo Kim	Republic of Korea
13	Xiyu Lin	People's Rep. of China
14	Brooke Henderson	Canada
15	Lydia Ko	New Zealand

OGR	Player	Country
1	Nelly Korda	United States
2	Lilia Vu	United States
3	Celine Boutier	France
4	Ruoning Yin	People's Rep. of China
5	Hannah Green	Australia
6	Jin Young Ko	Republic of Korea
7	Rose Zhang	United States
8	Yuka Saso	Australia
9	Charley Hull	Great Britain
10	Minjee Lee	Australia
11	Atthaya Thitikul	Thailand
12	Hyo Joo Kim	Republic of Korea
13	Xiyu Lin	People's Rep. of China
14	Brooke Henderson	Canada
15	Lydia Ko	New Zealand

For the full Women's Olympic Golf Ranking, click here: <https://www.igfgolf.org/olympic-golf-ranking/overview>

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[Gemma Dryburgh Just Being Herself on LPGA Tour](#)

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[Lilia Vu is back on the LPGA Tour](#)

[The support Lilia Vu has been receiving is incredible](#)

[One year later and we're still asking... how did this not go in?!?!? #lpgalookback](#)

[We asked some of our players what their dream jobs were](#)

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