ROBERT TRENT JONES
GOLF CLUB 2024

Solheim Cup

Robert Trent Jones Golf Club | Gainesville, VA | Sept. 13-15, 2024

Friday Mid-Day Notes

September 13, 2024

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Course Setup: 36-36 – 72; 6,652 yards
Weather: Overcast skies with humid air and temperatures reching the high-60s, low 70s F
Competition: 2024 Solheim Cup: The Format
Scoring: Win – 1 point, Tie – ½ point, Lose – 0 points
TV/Streaming Times: How to Watch the 2024 Solheim Cup

QUICK LINKS
Interview Transcripts
LPGA Tour Online Media Center
2024 Solheim Cup Record Book
LPGA Statistical Database
Stats Box
Tournament Website
Solheim Cup Photo & Video Assets

OVERALL SCORE: USA 3, EUR 1
See attached scoring sheet for full breakdown of results and scoring

FRIDAY FOUR-BALL PAIRINGS (ALL TIMES LOCAL EST)
12:05 p.m. – Georgia Hall/Leona Maguire (EUR) vs. Nelly Korda/Megan Khang (USA)
12:20 p.m. – Anna Nordqvist/Madelene Sagstrom (EUR) vs. Alison Lee/Lexi Thompson (USA)
12:35 p.m. – Emily Pedersen/Maja Stark (EUR) vs. Lauren Coughlin/Sarah Schmelzel (USA)
12:50 p.m. – Linn Grant/Charley Hull (EUR) vs. Andrea Lee/Rose Zhang (USA)

FRIDAY FOUR-BALL PAIRINGS NOTES

- Solheim Cup rookies **Lauren Coughlin** and **Sarah Schmelzel** are teaming up for afternoon wave of four-ball for the Americans
  - They are the first rookie duo for the Americans to be paired since **Andrea Lee** and **Rose Zhang** in 2023
    - They lost, 2 and 1, to **Emily Pedersen** and **Madelene Sagstrom**
    - The last time two U.S. rookies were paired together and won their match was in 2021 when **Mina Harigae** and **Yealimi Noh** were paired together on Day 2 of afternoon four-balls
  - **Maja Stark** and **Linn Grant** made their Solheim Cup debut in 2023 and went 1-0 in four-ball
- **Emily Pedersen** and **Maja Stark** are making their second start of the day after winning 2-up in the morning foursomes match
- **Leona Maguire** is making her first start of the 2024 Solheim Cup after not appearing in the morning session of foursomes
  - Before this morning, Maguire had not sat out of a Solheim Cup match, she is 7-2-1 overall in 10 previous matches
- **Alison Lee** is making her first appearance at the Solheim Cup since 2015
  - She went 1-3-0 dropping two four-ball matches and one foursomes match
  - She defeated **Gwladys Nocera,** 3&1

THINGS TO KNOW

- This is the fifth time that the Americans have taken at least a three-point lead after the first session of a Solheim Cup and second time in as many years
  - The U.S. is 3-0-1 when recording at least three points after the first session
  - The U.S. was 4-0-0 after the Friday foursomes and ended up tying the Europeans
- Rookies **Lauren Coughlin** and **Sarah Schmelzel** were selected by Captain Lewis to play in the foursomes session this morning.
  - In Spain last year, Lewis put out three rookies in the opening session and all three won their matches; **Andrea Lee** (playing with **Danielle Kang**), **Allisen Corpuz** (playing with **Nelly Korda**) and **Cheyenne Knight** (playing with **Ally Ewing**)
- Corpuz and Korda won their Friday foursomes match, 3 and 2, and are now 3-0-0 in foursomes as a pair
  - No American tandem has ever won three consecutive Solheim Cup foursomes matches, until now
  - The pair are now tied for most foursomes wins (3) in U.S. Team history
    - Paula Creamer/Juli Inkster (3), Pat Hurst/Kelly Robbins (3)
  - They are now tied for second in most foursomes points earned (3) in U.S. Team history
    - Paula Creamer/Juli Inkster (3.5), Pat Hurst/Kelly Robbins (3)
  - They also joined **Cristie Kerr** and **Lexi Thompson** (2-0-1) as the only other undefeated U.S. foursomes pairing with at least three partnerships
- **Emily Pedersen** and **Maja Stark** jumped out to a 4-up lead through the first five holes of their foursomes match on their way to a 2-up victory
  - This is the third time over the last six Solheim Cups (since and including 2015) that either side jumped to a 4-hole lead through five holes of a foursomes match
  - In 2021 Europe's **Mel Reid** and **Leona Maguire** went 4-up through five holes in route to a 5&4 win against Ewing and Korda

MATCH 1 – *Nelly Korda/Allisen Corpuz (USA) def. Esther Henseleit/Charley Hull (EUR), 3 and 2*
No American tandem has ever won three consecutive Solheim Cup foursomes matches, until now. Korda and Corpuz became the first to do so with a 3-and-2 victory over Henseleit and Hull, putting the very first point on the board for the U.S. The two trailed Henseleit and Hull after the Europeans birdied No. 2, and as fast as the Americans could even the match the Europeans took the lead right back with another birdie on 4. The Americans finally took the lead on No. 7 and were 2-up through nine holes, until falling into a tie again on 11. On No. 12, Corpuz sank a 15-foot putt to go 1-up again, which generated huge roars from the crowd, but a short shot into the bunker on 13 put them back in a tie. No. 14 was the difference maker for the Americans. After both balls found water on their approach, Korda bumped it up to just over 10 feet and gave Corpuz another big moment when she sank the putt. On 15, Corpuz's 25-foot putt skimmed the hole, and after Hull missed a 5-footer, Korda tapped it in. Finally, on the par-3 16th, Korda stuck her tee shot within 6 feet of the flag, almost assuring an American victory. After the Europeans made par with two putts in a row, Corpuz got the crowd roaring again when she made the birdie putt to end the match.

"Yeah, we made a really good birdie on 12, and then I hit it in the water for (Nelly) on 14…. But made a really good par putt there," said Corpuz. "I just think any time you make a longer putt, it kind of gives you a little more momentum. It felt like we were playing really well all day long; just burned a lot of edges in the first few holes and was able to see them going in."

MATCH 2 – *Rose Zhang/Lauren Coughlin (USA) def. Celine Boutier/Albane Valenzuela (EUR), 3 and 2*
Home-state hero **Lauren Coughlin** paired with Solheim Cup sophomore Rose Zhang jumped out to an early 1-up lead over the Europeans after birding the par-4 No. 2. The duo did not trail through the entirety of their match even after **Albane Valenzuela** and **Celine Boutier** managed to tie the match up after earning a birdie of their own on No. 9. The Americans retook their lead on No. 12 and added to it with a birdie on No. 13 to take the 2-up lead. The two never trailed again taking a 3-up lead on No. 14 after Valenzuela went for the green in two shots, and landed the ball just short of the green, in the water, and the U.S. duo made a par. Zhang and Coughlin held that until the end taking home the 3&2 victory and the second point for the Americans.

"I think -- I don't know. I think I mentally prepared myself really well," Coughlin said about taking her first opening tee shot at the Solheim Cup. "I was pretty nervous actually yesterday. I wasn't too bad today. I think I'd done a really good job of trying to prepare myself mentally for what I might feel. I don't know, I think I just felt super prepared and was able to hit it right down the middle."

MATCH 3 – *Emily Pedersen/Maja Stark (EUR) def. Ally Ewing/Jennifer Kupcho (USA), 2 up*
Emily Pedersen and **Maja Stark** got off to a hot start jumping into a 4-up lead through the first five holes of their morning match after they rolled in three birdies in-a-row on holes three thru five. On the back nine, American duo **Ally Ewing** and **Jennifer Kupcho** began to make climb back up as back-to-back birdies on 14 and 15 saw the Europeans lead decrease to just 1-up. However, Europe held on with pars on 16 and 17 before an excellent approach on the last by Pedersen saw the European duo win their final hole to finish 2-up and secure their only point of the morning session.

"It's been a lot of fun" Stark said about her day. "I was way less nervous this year than it was last. It was a nice feeling. Coming off a hot start, it gives us a good feeling because we know we can play really well coming off the stretch there. The Americans started playing really well as well. Yeah, it was just a nice first round to get a little bit of excitement as well."

MATCH 4 – *Lilia Vu/Sarah Schmelzel (USA) def. Linn Grant/Carlota Ciganda (EUR), 3 and 2*

Lilia Vu and **Sarah Schmelzel** clinched the third point for the Americans of the morning foursomes after defeating **Linn Grant** and **Carlota Ciganda,** 3 and 2. The Americans took an early 1-up lead after winning the first hole of the day, meanwhile the Europeans made a birdie of their own on the second hole but it didn't last long as Vu and Schmelzel went back ahead on the third and didn't relinquish their lead. The Europeans tried their best taking No. 14 to bring the lead back down to just 2 up but a birdie putt on No. 16 decided the match, taking the third point for the Americans 3 and 2.

"I think we get on great," Vu said about the chemistry with Schmelzel. "We're just going to do our things. We trust each other's games. I trust Sarah. She hits it straight and is always reliable. We have a good time together."

U.S. SOLHEIM CUP TEAM

Captain:	Stacy Lewis		
Vice Captains:	Paula Creamer, Brittany Lincicome, Morgan Pressel, Angela Stanford		
Players:	Allisen Corpuz	Lauren Coughlin	Ally Ewing
	Megan Khang	Nelly Korda	Jennifer Kupcho
	Alison Lee	Andrea Lee	Sarah Schmelzel
	Lexi Thompson	Lilia Vu	Rose Zhang

U.S. Solheim Cup Team Roster and Records
*Average Age: 27.33
**Average Rolex Ranking: 26.75
Combined Solheim Cups played: 22
Combined Solheim Cup record: 20-36-17
Combined Solheim Cup points earned: 37.5
**Ages are based on the date of first match (9/13/24)*
***Rolex Rankings are based on the cutoff date for team selection (8/25/24)*

EUROPEAN SOLHEIM CUP TEAM

Captain:	Suzann Pettersen		
Vice Captains:	Laura Davies, Caroline Martens, Anna Nordqvist, Mel Reid		
Players:	Celine Boutier	Carlota Ciganda	Linn Grant
	Georgia Hall	Esther Henseleit	Charley Hull
	Leona Maguire	Anna Nordqvist	Emily Pedersen
	Madelene Sagstrom	Maja Stark	Albane Valenzuela

European Solheim Cup Team Roster and Records
*Average Age: 28.75
**Average Rolex Ranking: 40.5
Combined Solheim Cups played: 37
Combined Solheim Cup record: 71-55-16
Combined Solheim Cup points earned: 79
**Ages are based on the date of first match (9/13/24)*
***Rolex Rankings are based on the cutoff date for team selection (8/25/24)*