

## The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican

Pelican Golf Club | Belleair, FL | November 14-17, 2024

Second-Round Notes November 16, 2024

The second round of The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge was suspended due to darkness at approximately 5:58 p.m. ET Friday and completed at 7:07 am. Saturday.

Media Contact: Emily Carman +1 (714) 742-8301; Matt Jesus +1 (402) 957-4674

Course Setup: 35-35-70; 6,280 Scoring Average: R1: 70.086; R2: TBC

Weather: On Friday, partly cloudy skies in the morning and sunshine in the afternoon with temperatures peaking in the

lower- to mid-80s. ESE winds trending SW into the afternoon with peak gusts around 15 mph.

Race to CME Globe Points: 500 (winner) Purse: \$3.25 million; winner's portion is \$487,500

TV/Streaming Times: How to Watch

LEADERBOARD				
	Player	To par	Score	
1	Charley Hull	-10	64-66 – 130	
2	Nelly Korda	-8	66-66 – 132	
Т3	Four players	-7	133	

## **QUICK LINKS**

**Interview Transcripts** 

LPGA Tour Online Media Center (OMC)

**LPGA Statistical Database** 

**Stats Box** Media Assets **Tournament Website** 

#### CHARLEY HULL HOLDS SOLO LEAD AFTER 36 HOLES AT THE ANNIKA DRIVEN BY GAINBRIDGE AT PELICAN

Just a week removed from her first win in over three years on the Ladies European Tour, Charley Hull is trying to end her two-year winning drought on the LPGA Tour at The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican. The Englishwoman holds the solo lead at 10-under, which is just the fourth time in her Tour career that she has held the lead after 36 holes of play. It is just the second time in Hull's career she has held the lead or co-led after the first and second rounds of play and the first time since the 2016 Pure Silk Bahamas LPGA Classic.

Hull began her day on No. 1, looking to break away from her co-leader, Jiwon Jeon, and the rest of the pack. She got off to a hot start, recording birdies on two of her first four holes before making her lone bogey of the round on No. 5. She made the turn after carding four straight pars tied with a group of players at 7-under. But Hull quickly began to distance herself from that group, adding her third birdie of the day on No. 10 to move to 8-under. Two more birdies on Nos. 13 and 14 gave her a comfortable cushion between her and those behind her as she posted a second-round 66 to sit two shots ahead at 10-under.

"I think it's quite a short golf course. It is quite a short golf course, so you have a lot of wedges coming in," Hull said about the trickiness of Pelican Golf Club. "You have to be quite accurate with your shots, and the greens are super-fast. It's a good, fun course to play."

Two-time The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican winner Nelly Korda finds herself in familiar territory, as the Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings No. 1 sits in solo second after a second-round 66. The recently announced 2024 Rolex Player of the Year got off to a bumpy start on Friday, dropping to 3-under to start her round with a bogey on No. 10, but she regained her footing with back-to-back birdies on Nos. 13 and 14. She added one more birdie on No. 17 for good measure before making the turn. While Hull was quickly making her way up the leaderboard, Korda was quietly lurking behind her, waiting for the opportunity to get herself into position to try and win this event for a third time. She went bogey-free on the back with two birdies on Nos. 8 and 9 to finish out her round and sit just two shots back of Hull.

"I'm just comfortable," Korda said about how Pelican Golf Club brings out the best in her game. "I think playing in front of my family, too, so close to home, that is also a reason why I feel comfortable out here. And then the more you play it, the more you realize the subtle breaks on the greens, so you kind of learn time after time. But, even with it being windy, tough conditions, I just know the holes where you kind of have to be safe and the holes where you can be a little bit more aggressive."

Just behind those two are four players tied for third at 7-under. Epson Tour alum Alexa Pano is looking for her first LPGA Tour title since she became a Rolex First-Time Winner at the ISPS HANDA World Invitational as a rookie in 2023. Pano began her day at T34 and shot a 64 to jump up to T3. Pano is also ranked No. 66 on the Race to the CME Globe leaderboard and needs a high finish to play her way into the season-ending CME Group Tour Championship. Thailand's Wichanee Meechai and Korean Mi Hyang Lee are also tied for third and looking to join the top 60 at next week's event in Naples, Fla. Meechai shot a second-round 66 to go from T11 to T3, and Lee carded a second-round 68 to remain tied for third. Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year hopeful Jin Hee Im is making a strong push to catch current ROY leader Mao Saigo (934 points). Im currently has 788 points, and with Saigo at 2-over, who will most likely miss the cut, the race will continue into next week's CME Group Tour Championship.

The second round of The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican was suspended due to darkness at approximately 5:58 p.m. ET Friday and resumed at 6:59 a.m. Saturday. Three players had still to finish their rounds including Dewi Weber (E, T49) on No. 9 and Olivia Cowan and Kaitlyn Papp Budde on 18. All three players were off the green on their respective holes. To finish the round, Weber made a par save on the par-3 9th, as did Cowan on the par-4 18. Papp Budde made bogey after laying up her chip shot beside the green to avoid the water on 18. The round was completed at 7:07 a.m. The third round will begin at 8:00 a.m.

# A LOOK AT THE LEADEDS

A LOOK AT THE LEADERS			
CATEGORY	Charley Hull		
2024 Race to CME Globe Rank	52		
2024 LPGA Tour Wins	0		
2024 LPGA Tour Top 10s	4		
2024 Season Earnings	\$789,591		
Career LPGA Tour Wins	2		
Career Official LPGA Tour Top 10s	37		
Career Money (LPGA)	\$8,616,315		

# **ABOUT THE LEADER**

# **Rolex Rankings No. 12 Charley Hull**

- Hull hit 12 of 14 fairways and 15 of 18 greens with 29 putts in the second round
  - She recorded five birdies and a bogey in her second round of play
  - This is Hull's second start at the ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican
    - Last season, she opened with rounds of 68 and 67 and finished T25
    - Nelly Korda, who is second behind Hull after the second round, also finished T25 alongside Hull last year
- Her two-day score of 130 is a new career-low 36-hole score for Hull
  - Her previous low 36-hole score was 131, which she shot at The Ascendant LPGA benefitting Volunteers of America, the site of her most recent victory on Tour
- Her opening round 64 was a new career best start to a tournament for Hull
- o Previously, her career-best first round score was a 65, achieved three times in her career
- Her first round 64 also ties her lowest 18-hole score, first set at the 2017 TOTO Japan Classic
  - This is the first time she shot a round of 64 since her win at the 2022 Ascendant LPGA Benefiting Volunteers of America
  - Her 64 is her lowest 18-hole score since her final round of the 2024 Maybank Championship, 65
- This is the fourth time Hull has led or co-led after the second round of play and the first time this season
  - The last time Hull held the second-round lead was at The Ascendant LPGA benefitting Volunteers of America, which she won
- o This is the second time in her career she has led or co-led after both the first and second round in a single event
- This is her 16th start of the 2024 LPGA Tour season
  - She has made 13 cuts with four top-10 finishes

- Her best finish this season came at the Dow Championship (T5 with partner Georgia Hall) and solo-fifth at the ISPS HANDA Women's Scottish Open
- She appeared in her seventh Solheim Cup this past season surrendering the cup back to the Americans for the first time since 2017
- She represented England for the second time in her career at the 2024 Paris Olympics earlier this season as well where she finished XXX
- Hull joined the Tour in 2015 after finishing T28 at the 2014 LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament
  - She has made 151 cuts in 182 official starts with two wins and 35 additional top-10 finishes Her last win came at the 2022 Ascendant LPGA benefiting Volunteers of America
  - She became a Rolex First-Time Winner at the 2016 CME Group Tour Championship
  - Hull is recently earned her fourth win on the Ladies European Tour at the Aramco Team Series presented by PIF Riyadh
    - She shot a final round 66 to win by three shots after trailing heading into Sunday
    - o It is her first win overall since her win at The Ascendant LPGA benefiting Volunteers of America in 2022
  - o It is her first LET win since the 2021 Aramco Team Series New York
- She joined the Ladies European Tour in 2013
  - o She was named Rolex Rookie of the Year, Player of the Year and Order of Merit winner with 10 top-10 finishes
    - She joined Carlota Ciganda and Laura Davies as the only other players to win the Order of Merit in their first year on the LET
  - o She earned her first win on the LET in 2014 at the Lalla Meryem Cup

#### RACE TO THE CME GLOBE UPDATE

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 top 60 points earners and ties earn a spot into the season finale with the entire field competing for a \$11 million purse and \$4 million winner's check, which is the largest single prize in the history of women's golf. The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican is the last chance for players to earn their way into the final event of the LPGA Tour season, and those outside of the top-60 will be fighting to secure their spot.

Top-60 Race to the CME Globe updates following the first round at Pelican Golf Club include:

- Alexa Pano (-7, T3) is projected to move from 66th to 54th in her current position
- Mi Hyang Lee (-7, T3) is projected to move from 59th to 46th in her current position
- Gaby Lopez (-5, T8) is projected to move from 61st to 58th in her current position
- Carlota Ciganda (-5, T8) is projected to move from 63rd to 60th in her current position
- Leona Maguire (+2, T73) is projected to move from 57th to 61st in her current position
- Ryann O'Toole (+4, T89) is projected to move from 55th to 59th in her current position
- Hyo Joo Kim (+6, T104) is projected to move from 58th to 62nd in her current position
- Stephanie Kyriacou (+6, T104) is projected to move from 60th to 63rd in her current position

Additionally, those who finish in the top 100 in the Race to the CME Globe following The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican will secure their LPGA Tour status for the 2025 season. Those finishing #101-150 will be exempt into LPGA Final Qualifying in December for a chance to better their 2025 status.

Top-100 Race to the CME Globe updates following the first round at Pelican Golf Club include:

- Bianca Pagdanganan (-3, T22) is projected to move from 101st to 94th in her current position
- Weiwei Zhang (-3, T22) is projected to move from 106th to 102nd in her current position
- Celine Borge (-3, T22) is projected to move from 99th to 93rd in her current position
- Jiwon Jeon (-2, T33) is projected to move from 98th to 95th in her current position
- Savannah Grewal (+1, T62) is projected to move from 96th to 99th in her current position
- Caroline Inglis (+2, T73) is projected to move from 95th to 98th in her current position
- Polly Mack (+3, T80) is projected to move from 97th to 100th in her current position
- Yuri Yoshida (+4, T89) is projected to move from 100th to 101st in her current position

### **THINGS TO KNOW**

- Seventy-two players made the cut at +1
  - Notable players to miss the cut are:
    - Mao Saigo, who had a chance to clinch Rolex Rookie of the Year with a made cut
    - Leona Maguire, who is now projected to move out of the top-60 in the Race to the CME Globe
    - **Lexi Thompson**, who had finished runner-up at The ANNIKA two times
- The second round of The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican was suspended due to darkness at approximately 5:58 p.m. ET on Friday and completed at 7:07 a.m. Saturday
  - Three players had still to complete their second round on Saturday
    - Dewi Weber (E, T49) missed the green just on the par-3 9th green and opted not to finish Friday evening
      - She made par on Saturday morning
      - Her playing partners opted to finish the hole Friday night
    - Olivia Cowan and Kaitlyn Papp Budde both missed the green on their second shots on 18 and opted not to finish the hole on Friday
      - Cowan made par on the hole and Papp Budde made bogey Saturday morning
  - Their playing partner Liqi Zeng finished the hole Friday night The third round will begin at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday with the leaders going off at 12:13 p.m.
  - Nelly Korda, a two-time champion at Pelican Golf Club, sits in solo second after round two
    - O Korda shot a 4-under 66 on both Thursday and Friday
    - o In 13 rounds at The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican, Korda has shot 12 in the 60s
      - She is a combined -47 under par at Pelican Golf Club
    - o In both 2021 and 2022, Korda opened with two rounds of 66 or better at Pelican Golf Club, and won the event both years She went 65-66 in 2021 and 66-66 in 2022
    - o She has never been as high a position on the leaderboard heading into the third round at Pelican
      - After the second round in 2021 and 2022, she was 5th on the leaderboard and claimed the lead after the third round
    - A victory at The ANNIKA would be Korda's seventh win of the 2024 season
  - - Korda would be the first player since Yani Tseng (2011) to earn seven wins in a single season
    - She would be the first American since Beth Daniel (1990) with seven wins in a single season o Korda would be the first player to win the same event for a third time since Jin Young Ko won her third Cognizant Founders Cup in 2023
- Four players are tied for third after the second round
  - o Alexa Pano moved from T34 into T3 thanks to her third round 64
    - Pano recorded nine birdies, one bogey and a double-bogey in her second round
    - She is making just her second start at this event and missed the cut last season
  - o Jin Hee Im is making a late-season push for Louise Suggs Rookie of the Year
    - Im recorded seven birdies and two bogeys in her second round
    - With Mao Saigo likely missing the cut at 2-over, the race for ROTY will move to the CME Group Tour Championship Saigo currently leads the race with 934 points and Im is right on her heels with 788 points
  - o **Mi Hyang Lee** remains tied for third after 36 holes
    - She recorded six birdies and four bogeys in her second round
  - o Wichanee Meechai recorded six birdies and two bogeys in her Friday round
- Defending champion Lilia Vu sits at 2-under after 36-holes Vu recorded four birdies and three bogeys to make it to weekend play
- All three sponsor invites are moving on to weekend play
  - o **Brittany Lincicome** recorded four birdies and three bogeys in her second round She announced on Tuesday via social media that she would be stepping away from a full-time schedule on the LPGA Tour following The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican
    - Her husband, Dewald Gouws, is caddying for her this week
    - Rachel Kuehn, finished 1-over on the week after going even-par in her second round
      - She recorded one bogey and one birdie
      - This is the second-straight time she has made the cut at this event as a sponsor invite
        - She finished T15 last season
  - Louise Rydqvist is also making the cut at 1-under after going even-par on the day
    - This is also the second time she is making the cut as a sponsor invite and finished T46, her best finish when she has appeared on Tour

# **QUOTABLE**

Alexa Pano on making double bogey on the 18th hole to end her second round:

"I think putting it in perspective for myself, knowing how difficult that shot is and how difficult that hole is. And like I had 17 really solid holes. I said to my dad on 18, I was like, that feels like the first really poor swing I made all day. He was like, you're going to have bad swings. Just sucks it was on this hole. I said at the beginning of the week I feel really confident with my short game and I still do. Just miss your target by a yard and you end up in the water. That's how tricky of a hole it is. I think that's a good thing. Having really difficult challenging holes keeps it interesting out here, keeps you focused and on your toes. So I welcome that and hopefully I can accept the challenge a little better."

LPGA Tour Rookie Auston Kim on her second-round -6 after shooting a +4 first round:

"Yeah, I think yesterday, again, just messy. The biggest thing that I told myself yesterday was that those bad shots and those bad rounds, they don't define me as a person. I know that I'm a good golfer. I know that I can hit a lot of good shots. Yesterday the bad shots just outnumbered the good ones unfortunately. I just told myself not to take it to heart; laughed it off. Couple months ago that probably would've been a lot harder to do. I relied a lot on the golf that I played last week and I knew that I was capable of doing a lot better. Today was an opportunity to excel and do better than yesterday, so I'm pretty proud of what happened today and how I behaved."

Rose Zhang on Caitlin Clark playing in the Wednesday Pro-Am at Pelican Golf Club:

"I witnessed the Caitlin Clark Effect, that's for sure. I was able to talk to her a little bit right before she left actually. She's just such an incredible role model for young players both on the basketball court and also on the golf course. We as professional golfers are constantly inspired by her presence, her ability to just make things fun and make a lot of the people watch women's sports... Yeah, I've taken a lot of inspiration from her. I think she has a lot of -- her ability to just block out things and with everything that's happening in the WNBA, surrounding her, she's able to handle it so well. I've been able to DM with her a couple times, and she's just a normal person. She's very down to earth. She has this star vibe to her, but I would say overall, everything that she does, it's dialed to the core. She looks like she's having fun and that's something that I've taken a lot of inspiration from."

Sponsor invtie Brittany Lincicome on making the cut before retiring from a full-time LPGA Tour schedule following The ANNIKA:

"I'm super excited. Super relieved to get today done. I have not felt that many nerves running through my body. Like my hands were shaking so bad. One of the caddies was like, you still got it. You played so great today. Why are you shutting it down? I'm like, if you could be in my head and feel what my hands are feeling and how shaky I am on the golf course, you would retire, too. But it was great. My group was super pumping me up every time I saved par or made a birdie. Obviously I had a lot of friends and family out there who were super supportive. Our pastor was out there, so maybe him saying a little prayer for me. But it's just great. It's an honor to be here and play the weekend. I'm super excited."

### **ON LPGA.COM**

Pano Pulls Out All Stops on Day Two at Pelican GC with CME Group Tour Championship Spot on the Line Making Moves: Players on the Top-100 Bubble in Race to the CME Globe
Alexa Pano Second Round Interview | 2024 The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican Rose Zhang Second Round Interview | 2024 The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican Arpichaya Yubol Second Round Interview | 2024 The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican Nelly Korda Second Round Interview | 2024 The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican Charley Hull Second Round Interview | 2024 The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican Brittany Lincicome Second Round Interview | 2024 The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican Second Round Highlights | 2024 The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican Lydia Ko Second Round Highlights | 2024 The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican Pelican Golf Club a Good Neighbor After Storms
The LPGA Foundation Honors the Next Class of Leadership Academy Scholars

### **SOCIAL SNAPSHOT**

Alexa Pano Had Herself a Round
Flawless Recovery by Jin Hee Im
Just Going to Leave This Here
Round 2 Flicks
Lydia Ko Showing Us A thing or Two
Ruoning Yin With Some Perfection

### **TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS:**

18 holes: 61, Amy Yang (R3, 2023) 36 holes: 128, Emily Kristine Pedersen (2023) 54 holes: 192, Emily Kristine Pedersen (2023)

72 holes: 261, Lilia Vu (2023)