

**DOW CHAMPIONSHIP****2025 Dow Championship**

Midland Country Club | Midland, MI | June 26-29, 2025

**Tuesday Pre-Tournament Notes**

June 24, 2025

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**QUICK LINKS**[Interview Transcripts](#)[LPGA Tour Online Media Center \(OMC\)](#): includes links to daily and archival tournament information, Stats Box, LPGA Statistical Database, photo/video assets and more[Tournament Website](#)[How To Watch – TV/Streaming Times](#)**SOCIAL MEDIA**

LPGA Tour: @LPGA, @LPGAMedia (X), @lpga\_tour (Instagram, TikTok)

Tournament: @dowchampionship (Instagram, TikTok, X)

**MEDIA AVAILABILITY SCHEDULE**

(Zoom link available upon request; all times are local and subject to change)

**Wednesday, June 25**10:30 a.m. – **Megan Khang & Lexi Thompson**Following Pro-Am – **Ruoning Ying & Jenno Thitikul**, 2024 Dow Championship champions**NOTABLE PLAYERS**

- [Rolex Rankings No. 2 Jeeno Thitikul](#) and [Rolex Rankings No. 4 Ruoning Yin](#)
  - Second time pairing together at the Dow Championship
    - 2024 – Won
    - In their win last year, in both four-ball rounds, they recorded just one bogey and 13 birdies
    - Yin is making her fourth start at this event
      - She missed two cuts prior to winning, not paired with Thitikul
    - Thitikul made her first start at this event last year
  - 2025: **Thitikul** has 10 cuts made in 11 starts, with one win and seven additional top-10 finishes
    - Won the Mizuho Americas Open for her fifth career LPGA Tour victory

- Set the 54-hole and 72-hole tournament scoring record in her win at Liberty National
    - Currently No. 1 in the Race to the CME Globe
- Career: **Thitikul**: Five wins, 48 top 10s, \$11.5 million in career earnings
  - Won twice in 2024, including the season-ending CME Group Tour Championship
    - Broke the single-season earnings record set by Lorena Ochoa in 2007
  - Won twice in 2022, earning Lousie Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year honors
  - Winner of the Vare Trophy in 2023 with a scoring average of 69.53 for the season
  - Four wins on the Ladies European Tour
  - Represented Thailand in the 2024 Olympics in Paris (T18)
  - Member of the Thailand team that won the 2023 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown
- 2025: **Yin** has made 10 cuts in 10 starts, with three top-10 finishes
  - Has not missed a cut this season
  - Recorded runner-up finishes as both The Chevron Championship and the Black Desert Championship presented by Greater Zion
- Career: **Yin** has five wins, 20 top 20s, \$7.3 million in career earnings
  - Won three times in 2024 and twice in 2023 including a major championship at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship
  - Represented the People's Republic of China in the 2024 Paris Olympics (T10)
  - Won her first three events in a row on the CLPGA in 2020, a record for the tour
  - Competed on Team China at the 2023 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown
- [Rolex Rankings No. 5 Haeran Ryu](#) and [Rolex Rankings No. 48 Rose Zhang](#)
  - First time pairing together at the Dow Championship
    - 2024: Haeran Ryu finished T23 with partner Somi Lee
    - 2024: Rose Zhang finished T29 with partner Alexa Pano
  - 2025: **Ryu** has made 11 cuts in 12 starts, with one win and an additional top-10
    - Won the Black Desert Championship presented by Greater Zion for her third LPGA Tour victory
  - Career: **Ryu** Three wins, 21 top 10s, \$5.3 million in career earnings
    - Earned the Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year in 2023
    - Was one of 10 players to earn at least \$2 million during the 2024 LPGA Tour season
  - 2025: **Zhang** has made three cuts in six starts
    - Finished top-10 at the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions
  - Career: **Zhang** has 10 career top 10s and two LPGA Tour wins
    - Won the 2024 Founders Cup
    - Won the 2023 Mizuho Americas Open
    - Represented the United States at her first Olympic games in Paris in 2024, finished T8
    - Represented the United States during the 2023 and 2024 Solheim Cup
- [Rolex Rankings No. 32 Megan Khang](#) and [Rolex Rankings No. 43 Lexi Thompson](#)
  - First time pairing together at the Dow Championship
    - **Khang** previous best finish: T6, 2019 (paired with Annie Park)
    - **Thompson** previous best finish: T8, 2024 (paired with Brooke Henderson)
  - 2025: **Khang** has made eight cuts in 10 starts
    - Finished in the top-10 twice
      - T10 at the Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give

- Finished third at the Founders Cup presented by U.S. Virgin Islands
- Career: **Khang** has one win, 44 top-10s and \$6.8 million in career earnings
  - Won the 2023 CPKC Women's Open
  - Represented the United States on the 2019, 2021, 2023, and 2024 Solheim Cup teams
- 2025: **Thompson** has made 5 cuts in 7 starts, including a top-10
  - Finished T4 at Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give
- Career: **Thompson** has 11 LPGA Tour wins, 92 top-10s, and \$15.2 million in career earnings
  - Represented the United States at the Solheim Cup in 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019, 2021, 2023 and 2024
  - Represented the United States in the 2016 Rio Olympics (T19) and 2020 Tokyo Olympics (33)
- [Rolex Rankings No. 25 Akie Iwai](#) and [Rolex Rankings No. 27 Chisato Iwai](#)
  - First appearance in the Dow Championship
  - Fourth set of sisters to appear on the same team at the Dow Championship
    - **Ariya** and **Moriya Jutanugarn** won the event as a duo in 2021
    - **Nelly** and **Jessica Korda** have played together three times
    - **Vivian** and **Yu-Sang Hou** played as a team in 2022
  - **Akie Iwai** has three career top-10s and \$647.5k in career earnings
    - Finished T7 at Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give
    - Finished solo second at JM Eagle LA Championship presented by Plastpro
    - Finished solo second at Honda LPGA Thailand
  - **Chisato Iwai** has one career win, two career top-10s and \$1.2 million in career earnings
    - Became the Tour's fifth Rolex First-Time Winner after her win at the MEXICO Riviera Maya Open at Mayakoba
    - Finished T4 at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship for her best finish in a major championship

### NOTABLE TOURNAMENT INFO

- This is the sixth playing of the Dow Championship, with the first Championship taking place in 2019
- This was the first known, official team event added to the LPGA Tour
  - Several unofficial team competitions have occurred on Tour previously including: Solheim Cup (1999-present), International Crown (2014-present) and others
- This is the second event in Michigan this year following the Meijer LPGA Classic presented by Simply Give
- There are three former champion duos in the field, and two former champions with different partners
  - **Ruoning Yin** and **Jeeno Thitikul** won in 2024 with a 22-under-par score of 258
    - **Thitikul** secured the team's win with her final putt to beat out competitors **Jennifer Kupcho** and **Ally Ewing** by one stroke
  - **Elizabeth Szokol** and **Cheyenne Knight** won in 2023 with a 23-under-par score of 257
  - **Ariya** and **Moriya Jutanugarn** won in 2021 with a 24-under-par score of 256
  - 2022 champion and 2024 runner-up **Jennifer Kupcho** is in the field but partnered with Leona Maguire

- 2019 champion **Jasmine Suwannapura** is in the field but paired with **Haeji Kang** (was partnered with **Cydney Clanton** in 2019)
- There are 2 sponsor invite teams in the field including **Kaleigh Babineaux** and **Jessica Jolly** as well as **Bailey Davis** and **Allyn Stephens**
  - Davis won the John Shippen Award and is making her second start on Tour this season (Meijer LPGA Classic)

### KPMG PERFORMANCE INSIGHT OF THE WEEK

- **Jeeno Thitikul** and **Ruoning Yin** have averaged more than 2 strokes gained per round as a team this season, more than half a stroke higher than the next closest team in the field this week.

Average Strokes Gained Total per Round Leaders (Teams in Field This Week)	
Jeeno Thitikul/Ruoning Yin	+2.27
Jin Hee Im/Somi Lee	+1.64
Miyu Yamashita/Rio Takeda	+1.61
Akie Iwai/Chisato Iwai	+1.47

- **Rio Takeda** and **Miyu Yamashita** have combined for 11 top 10 finishes on the LPGA Tour this season, the most of any team in the field this week.

Most Combined Top 10 Finishes (Teams in Field This Week)	
Rio Takeda/Miyu Yamashita	11
Jeeno Thitikul/Ruoning Yin	10
Carlota Ciganda/Gaby Lopez	8
Jin Hee Im/Somi Lee	6

### SEASON-LONG INITIATIVES

#### [Race to CME Globe](#)

*The Race to the CME Globe is a season-long points competition with LPGA Tour Members accumulating points in every official LPGA Tour 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, highlighted by a \$4 million winner's check, which is the largest winner's prize in the history of women's golf.*

- 1st: **Jeeno Thitikul** continues her lead of the Race to the CME Globe with 1,752.700 points
  - Last time out, finished T4 at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship, her best finish at a major this season
  - Won the Mizuho Americas Open
  - Six additional top-10 finishes this season

- 2nd: **Minjee Lee** jumped from 11th into second place following her win at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship
  - Captured her third major championship and first since 2022
  - Three additional top-10 finishes this season including a runner-up finish at the Blue Bay LPGA
  - Has not missed a cut all season
- 3rd: **Rio Takeda** dropped back one spot to No. 3
  - Finished T23 at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship
  - Has one win at the Blue Bay LPGA and five additional top-10 finishes
  - Finished runner-up at the U.S. Women's Open presented by Ally
- Additional moves following the KPMG Women's PGA Championship:
  - **Chanettee Wannasaen** finished T2 and moved up 21 spots to No. 24
  - **Auston Kim** also finished T2 and climbed 22 spots to No. 27

Aon Risk Reward Challenge: No Aon Risk Reward Challenge hole this week

*The Aon Risk Reward Challenge is a unique, season-long competition on 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 Aon Risk Reward Challenge hole, with the winners having the best average score to par at the end of the regular season. The winner will take home the Aon trophy and a \$1 Million prize.*

- **Nasa Hataoka** took the lead in the Aon Risk Reward Challenge with a -1.000 to par
- **Jennifer Kupcho** is in second with -0.909 to par
- **Nelly Korda** moved up four spots to No. 3 with -0.889 to par

CME Group Cares Challenge

*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 2025, 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.*

- There have been eight hole-in-ones so far in the 2025 season
  - The last ace on Tour was Brianna Do at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship who recorded her second career ace
    - She hit her 7-iron 150 yards on the par-3 No. 4 at Fields Ranch East in the third round
- The total for 2025 is now \$160,000 donated toward St. Jude Children's Research Hospital
- In 2024: 29 aces counted towards the challenge, \$580,000 raised