



Grant Thornton

INVITATIONAL

Grant Thornton Invitational

Tiburon Golf Club | Naples, FL | Dec. 12-14, 2025

First-Round Notes

December 12, 2025

Media Contact: [Matt Jesus](#), +1 (402) 957-4674;

[Annika Mayers](#), +1 (386) 212-2128

Course Setup: 36-36 – 72, 6,788 yards (LPGA), 7,382 yards (PGA TOUR)

Weather: Mostly sunny skies with temperatures climbing into the high 70s. Westerly afternoon winds as sea breeze develops.

Purse: \$4 million, \$2 million each Tour (winning team's prize \$1 million, \$500,000 to each player)

TV/Streaming Times: [How to Watch](#)

Format: Three-round 54-hole stroke-play event with 16 teams of two. **R1/Scramble**, R2/Foursomes, R3/Modified Four-Ball

- Each player hits a tee shot and then the team selects the ball to be used for the next stroke. From there, both players hit their next shots from that spot. This process continues until the ball is holed.

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](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

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

Tournament: @grantthorntoninv (Instagram, Facebook) @gtinvitational (X)

LEADERBOARD

Pos.	Team	To par	Score
T1	Hull/Brennan	-17	55
T1	Thompson/Clark	-17	55
3	Coughlin/Novak	-15	57
T4	Zhang/Kim	-14	58
T4	Kupcho/Gotterup	-14	58
T4	N. Korda/McCarthy	-14	58
7	Tavatanakit/Knapp	-13	59
T8	Yin/Hoge	-12	60
T8	Ko/Day	-12	60
T10	Lee/Horschel	-11	61

T10	Henderson/Conners	-11	61
T10	Vu/Finau	-11	61
T13	Stark/Shiple	-10	62
T13	J. Korda/Cauley	-10	62
15	Woad/Clanton	-9	63
16	Khang/Mitchell	-8	64

ABOUT THE LEADERS

Charley Hull (World No. 5) & Michael Brennan (World No. 35)

Hull on her conversations with Brennan on the course

"I feel like we're both pretty calm. I like asking a lot of questions because I like to learn off the guys, and he's got a really good game. So he probably thought I was super nosey on what he's hitting, but I was just learning. It was pretty calm out there."

Brennan on the nature of a team event

"I was kind of nervous to start like more than a normal tournament. I just didn't want to let Charley down. It's a different format, you know, I'm not used to playing and like having a partner to rely on, but I felt like -- I don't know how you felt, but after a couple holes I felt like we kind of found our flow."

- Hull and Brennan set the new tournament scoring record in the scramble format at 17-under
 - The prior record of -16 was first set by Nelly Korda and Tony Finau in 2023
- The two went bogey-free with two eagles and 13 birdies
- Hull is making her second start at this event and first since 2023
 - She played with Justin Rose that season and finished T9
- Brennan is making his first appearance at this tournament
- Hull joined the LPGA Tour in 2015 and has three career victories including one in 2025
- Brennan is a rookie on the PGA TOUR and has one win at Bank of Utah Championship

Lexi Thompson (World No. 76) & Wyndham Clark (World No. 39)

Thompson on her approach to this event as the last of the year

"Grant Thornton does great things for this event. To bring the PGA TOUR and LPGA together, it's kind of what we want to end our year on, a nice, more relaxed tournament. But still at the same time we want to compete and play well."

Clark on what went well and how their games matched

"I feel like we kind of have similar games to be honest. She hits it really far off the tee, and if one of us is in play, we're significantly past kind of the competitors and we have our advantage there. She's a great putter. Yeah, I mean, really I felt like our games complement each other perfectly and I didn't think there was any flaws in her game. Yeah, we had a lot of fun out there."

- The two tied the tournament scoring record in the scramble format at 17-under, joining Hull and Brennan
- The pair recorded 13 birdies and two eagles
- Thompson is making her third start at this event

- Played the previous two years with Rickie Fowler, finished 14 in 2024 and T6 in 2023
- Thompson joined the LPGA Tour in 2012
 - Has 11 victories on Tour, including one major championship
- This is Clark's first appearance at this event
- Clark joined the PGA TOUR in 2019
 - Has three victories on Tour, including one major championship

COMPETITION HIGHLIGHTS

- Third: **Lauren Coughlin & Andrew Novak**
 - The two are making their first start as partners
 - They went bogey-free with 15 birdies
 - Coughlin was paired with Cameron Young in 2024 and finished T7 while Novak is making his first start at the Grant Thornton Invitational
 - Coughlin finished 2025 with five top 10s and Novak had six top 10s including a win at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans
- T4: Three teams
 - **Rose Zhang & Michael Kim**
 - The two recorded two eagles and 10 birdies in their opening round
 - Both are making their first start together at the Grant Thornton Invitational
 - Zhang played with Sahith Theegala in 2023 and the two finished T9 and Kim is making his debut at this tournament
 - Zhang had two top-10 finishes in 2025 and Kim finished with four top 10s
 - **Jennifer Kupcho & Chris Gotterup**
 - The duo recorded 14 birdies in their opening round including one on every hole on the front
 - The two are paired together for the first time at this event
 - Kupcho competed with Akshay Bhatia in 2024 and finished third
 - Gotterup is making his first start
 - Both recorded wins on their respective Tours this season with Kupcho winning the ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Ace and Gotterup winning the Genesis Scottish Open
 - **Nelly Korda & Denny McCarthy**
 - The two ended their day with two eagles and 10 birdies in their opening round
 - They are playing together at this event for the first time
 - Korda is making her third start and played with Tony Finau in 2023 and Daniel Berger in 2024
 - McCarthy played with Megan Khang in 2023 and finished T4
 - Korda did not miss a cut in 2025 in 19 starts and had nine top 10s
 - McCarthy had two top 10s in 2025
- Defending champions **Patty Tavatanakit & Jake Knapp** finished seventh at 13-under
 - This is the second-straight year the two are playing together at the Grant Thornton Invitational
 - The two had an eagle and 11 birdies
 - Tavatanakit had three top 10s in 2025 including a T7 finish at the CME Group Tour Championship, also held at Tiburon Golf Club

- Knapp had four top 10s in 2025
- **Jessica Korda** finished her first competitive round since 2023 at 10-under-par with partner **Bud Cauley**
 - This is both players first appearance at this event
 - Recorded 10 birdies, including three consecutive on hole Nos. 16-18

QUOTABLES

Rose Zhang on getting to learn the personalities and games of a new teammate this week

"It was honestly really cool. I think right off the bat we had a good Tuesday practice round and we just, we had a good time out there. Just hit a couple shots, got to see each other hit a little bit. But we didn't really put too much pressure on each other or ourselves. I feel like that's what you want in a team competition, especially when you're with someone for the first time. So we all had just a really good time. And his coach Sean was also out there just talking a lot."

Michael Kim on how they complement each other's game

"Well, Rose hits it down the middle of the fairway every time. I just tried to hit as far as I could, yeah, depending on the tee box. Sometimes I have a little bit of a length advantage so I tried to help out there where I could. You know, we both played really well today."

Lauren Coughlin on how she works with Andrew Novak on the course

"I was able to kind of keep us in the fairway and he was able to kind of just hit away if he needed to. But he was hitting his irons really, really good. He naturally birdied every par 3 today on his own ball. Yeah, I think we just -- like I said, we just ham-and-egged it really good. I feel like we're really similar players, we don't hit it super far but we hit it really straight, especially our irons. We both putted really well."

Andrew Novak on what it is about team golf that he's able to have success

"I do like team golf. I think it's just a little bit different aspect to it. I've been lucky to have two good partners this year and the vibes have been good during the tournament. We're just out there having a lot of fun, making birdies and not taking it too seriously, just doing our job."

Angel Yin on the team strategy heading into foursomes

"Yeah, we actually just talked about it. So I'm going to play off odds and he's going to play off evens because his iron game is just so good, not to use that on par 3s and take advantage of that. I think it's going to work out pretty good."

Tom Hoge on how the partnership came together

"Yeah, I didn't really know. I was just hoping for a spot in the field and I think Angel needed a partner so she got stuck with me. This is my third year playing. It's a great week here and I always look forward to coming back. Just enjoying this nice weather."

Tournament Scoring Records:

Scramble: 55 (-17), Charley Hull & Michael Brennan and Lexi Thompson & Wyndham Clark (2025)

Foursomes: 64 (-8), Jeeno Thitikul & Tom Kim (2024)

Modified Four-Ball: 60 (-12), Madelene Sagstrom & Ludvig Aberg (2023)

18 holes – 55 (-17), Charley Hull & Michael Brennan and Lexi Thompson & Wyndham Clark (2025)

36 holes – 124 (-20), Patty Tavatanakit & Jake Knapp (2024), Lydia Ko & Jason Day (2023)

54 holes – 189 (-27), Patty Tavatanakit & Jake Knapp (2024)

ON [LPGA.COM](https://www.lpga.com)

[Jessica Korda Returns to Competition at Grant Thornton Invitational](#)

[Field Breakdown: 2025 Grant Thornton Invitational](#)

[Five Things to Know About the 2025 Grant Thornton Invitational](#)

[Epson Tour Releases 2026 Tournament Lineup](#)

[Notable Names Who Secured 2026 Status Via LPGA Q-Series, Final Qualifying Stage](#)

ON LPGA SOCIAL

[Patty and Jake are always cheering each other on](#)

[Back at it](#)

[Nelly's making moves to end on a high note](#)

[Rose Zhang shoots her team up with this clutch eagle](#)

[Don't worry, Billy. Gen-z slang isn't for everyone](#)

[Wyndham Clark sinks this for him and Lexi to card a 55 🤖](#)

[Nelly's making moves to end on a high note over here 🙌](#)

[Unbelievable 🗿 Charley Hull was robbed of this eagle putt](#)

[Lydia Ko hit this KILLER approach shot to give her a team a birdie tap in 🐦](#)

[Rose Zhang shoots her team up with this clutch eagle 🦅](#)

[From off the green, Lexi sinks this eagle putt 🦅](#)