

## 2025 Honda LPGA Thailand

Siam Country Club, Old Course | Pattaya, Chonburi, Thailand | Feb. 20-23, 2025

# **Second-Round Notes**

Feb. 21, 2025

Media Contact: Carly Lyvers, +1 (386) 214-9105

Course Setup: 36-36—72, 6,490 yards **Scoring Average**: R1: 71.306; R2: 70.695

Weather: Mostly cloudy skies with temperatures ranging between

79-88 F and south/southwest winds between 7-13 mph

Race to CME Globe Points: 500 (winner) Purse: \$1.7 million (winner's prize, \$255,000)

TV/Streaming Times: How To Watch

## **QUICK LINKS**

**Interview Transcripts** 

LPGA Tour Online Media Center

(OMC)

**Tournament Website** 

### **SOCIAL MEDIA**

LPGA Tour: @LPGA, @LPGAMedia (X), @lpga tour (Instagram, TikTok) Tournament: @HondaLPGATh (X), @HondaLPGAThailand (Instagram)

<u>LEADERBOARD</u>				
	Player	To par	Score	
1	Akie Iwai	-15	62-67 – 129	
2	Angel Yin	-13	67-64 – 131	
Т3	Jeeno Thitikul	-12	68-64 – 132	
T3	Moriya Jutanugarn	-12	66-66 – 132	
5	Esther Henseleit	-9	68-67 – 135	

#### **COMPETITION HIGHLIGHTS**

- Akie Iwai shot a second-round 67
  - Shot a bogey-free round with 5 birdies; hit 10/14 fairways, 13/18 greens in regulation with 28 putts
    - She is 1 of 2 players (including Linn Grant) to go bogey free in R2
    - This is her second consecutive bogey-free round
    - She is the only player with 0 bogeys through 36 holes
  - Sits at a total of 129, just one shot of tying the 36-hole tournament scoring record
  - o 129 is her lowest 36-hole score on the LPGA Tour
    - Her previous best was 132 at the 2023 TOTO Japan Classic
  - Ranks T1 across the field in most birdies made through 36 holes (15)
    - In R2, she birdied holes 1, 4, 7, 13 and 15
  - This is her first second-round lead on the LPGA Tour

- She has now held three post-round leads on the LPGA Tour; 2023 TOTO Japan Classic (R1), 2025 Honda LPGA Thailand (R1, R2)
- Angel Yin tied for the low round of Friday with a 64
  - Had just 1 bogey and 9 birdies including a streak of 3 birdies from Nos. 13-15
  - Hit every green on her front nine
  - o Tied for 1st with A. Iwai, Thitikul for most birdies across the field through 36 holes (15)
  - Tied for 1st with Rio Takeda at 32/36 greens in regulation through 36 holes
  - Only missed one fairway through 36 holes (R2, No. 7, par-5)
  - o Fifth appearance at Honda LPGA Thailand; her best finish is T3 in 2021
- Jeeno Thitikul also shot a 64 in R2
  - Recorded 5 birdies in her first 6 holes
  - Shot a 30 on her front nine in R2
  - o Finished with birdies on her last 2 holes
  - o Thitikul is looking to continue her streak of consecutive top-10 finishes in professional starts
    - Her streak began at the 2024 FM Championship and continues as she won the 2025 PIF Saudi Ladies International last week
  - Sixth appearance at the Honda LPGA Thailand
    - First played as an amateur in 2017
    - Missed the 2024 edition due to an injury
- Moriya Jutanugarn shot her second consecutive 66
  - o Recorded 7 birdies and 1 bogev in R2
  - Had a streak of 4 birdies from holes 12-14
- Esther Henseleit shot a second-round 67
  - Was 6-under through her last 7 holes
  - Was one of three players to record an eagle on Friday
  - Was one of two players (Hinako Shibuno) to make eagle on No. 15 in R2
  - Was the only person to record a birdie on No. 16 in R2, the hardest hole through two rounds
  - o Third appearance at Honda LPGA Thailand; best finish is T12 in 2022
  - In 2024, notably won a bronze medal in the 2024 Paris Olympics and was a rookie on the European Solheim Cup Team
- Defending champion Patty Tavatanakit is -5 through two rounds
  - Recorded three straight birdies on her last three holes of R2
  - Yani Tseng is the only player to successfully defend their Honda LPGA Thailand title (2011, 2012)
- Amateurs Pimpisa Rubrong and Gianna Clemente shot 71 and 68 respectively
  - Clemente is currently the low amateur in T31
    - Recorded seven birdies and three bogeys on Friday
    - Had 24 putts in R2 compared to 32 putts in R1
  - o Rubrong is T47, even par
- No. 16 (par 3) ranks as the hardest hole through two rounds with an average of 3.160
- No. 1 (par 5) ranks as the easiest hole through two rounds with an average of 4.528
- No. 15 was played as a reachable par-4 on Friday at 257 yards
- There were only 3 eagles made on Friday compared to 14 across the field on Thursday

CATEGORY	Akie Iwai
2025 Race to CME Globe Rank	-
2025 LPGA Tour Wins	0
2025 LPGA Tour Top 10s	0
2025 Official Season Earnings	\$0
Career LPGA Tour Wins	0
Career Official LPGA Tour Top 10s	0
Career Official Money	\$0
JLPGA Tour Wins	6

### **ABOUT THE LEADER**

Rolex Rankings No. 33 Akie Iwai

- Third appearance at event; 2024, T60; 2023, T38
- Second start of 2025 season
  - Missed one cut in first start at Founders Cup presented by U.S. Virgin Islands
- 2025 LPGA Tour rookie
  - Finished T5 at 2024 Final Qualifying to earn Membership this season
  - o Her twin sister, Chisato, is also a 2025 rookie
- Prior to 2025, A. Iwai made 11 starts on the LPGA Tour
  - She played in every major championship on the LPGA Tour in 2024
  - She notably played in the U.S. Women's Open and AIG Women's Open in 2023
- Her best finish on the LPGA Tour was at the 2024 AIG Women's Open (T7)
- A. Iwai has six wins on the JLPGA Tour including three in 2023 and three in 2024

### **TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS**

18 holes: 62, Akie Iwai (R1, 2025), Yuka Saso (R4, 2022) and Jessica Korda (R2, 2018)

36 holes: 128, Nasa Hataoka (2022), Su Oh (2022), Patty Tavatanakit (2021) and Jessica Korda (2018)

54 holes: 195, Nanna Koerstz Madsen (2022)

72 holes: 262, Nanna Koerstz Madsen and Xiyu Lin (2022)

### **QUOTABLE**

### Akie Iwai's (-15, 1st) thoughts heading into the weekend

"I don't care result, and then I just stick with my game plan, yes. Just keep going, so stay focused, focus my golf, yeah, until finish the holes."

# Angel Yin (-13, 2nd) on deciding to pin seek or be conservative at Siam CC

"I think being conservative. My shot going into the last hole I was in the rough. I was trying to roll it up. I wasn't in the most optimum position to be going to be the green nor the pin, so green was nice. Also the placement of where you want to be on the green. Like long was going to be a very difficult putt. Jin Young and Nanna had a really good putt coming down. You could make a mistake easily from there. I wanted to be kind of below the hole. These are just wants. To be able to execute it also generates a lot of looks, so just pretty lucky out there."

Jeeno Thitikul (-12, T3) on what it is like to manage her schedule outside of golf

"Yeah, I mean, a lot of things, a lot of work. Just trying to, you know, like enjoy all the ride that we had, you know, because like time is so fast. Then once you look up it's like, whoa, it's almost -- this year is almost my fourth year on the Tour, which is so fast. I just trying to enjoy all the things. I know it's tired, but at least which mean you're in a good position-wise and everything."

### Moriya Jutanugarn (-12, T3) on her four-hole birdie streak on the back nine

"I guess I got a lot like good chances. You know, hit them like into a certain distance. Like I give myself a good chance. So, yeah, and then just what I say. When the putter works then you kind of felt like everything is kind of going smooth."

# Esther Henseleit (-9, 5th) following her exciting season in 2024

"Yeah, I mean, last year was great, but I try to keep improving and keep climbing up the rankings and working on my game. Yeah, just worked really hard this winter to get ready and now really excited that we're playing again."

### Chanettee Wannasaen (-8, T6) on what it is like to be back in her home country playing this week

"It's hot. The weather is always hot. Like I play in Honda LPGA is very nice fifth time already. Every year is hot. Hot every year. But I feel good because I'm play in my country and it is hard to find a moment I play in front of my family."

# Auston Kim (-8, T6) on what she learned from her rookie year on the LPGA Tour

"There were a lot of lessons last year, but I think it's important for me to remember that I'm out here for a reason. I earned my card. All the girls out here are really, really good. For a person to earn their spot out here is a really big deal. For me to be playing here at a limited field event, it's something that I really cherish and very grateful for. Just got to believe in myself more."

## Chisato Iwai (-7, T8) on her -7 round today

"So it was so fun today. Good weather and good conversation between my caddie and many birdie made. Just fun."

## Gianna Clemente (-3, T31) on comparing her first and second rounds

"Yeah, yesterday was a bit rough. Just didn't make as many putts as I wanted to. I missed couple really important putts yesterday, so I spent quite a lot of time on the putting green yesterday, so I got something figured out. I had 24 putts today, so, yeah, I just kind of got the putts rolling really early. Yeah, it was just easy out from there."

#### **ON LPGA.COM**

LPGA Announces Q-Series Dates for 2025

Rookie Review: Get to Know Some of the 2025 LPGA Tour Rookiesv

#### **SOCIAL SNAPSHOT**

Swinging into Round 2 📆

World No. 2 @Jeeno atthaya's hot streak continues in Thailand 💫

Back-to-back birdies to finish off Round 2 for Jeeno Thitikul

A long birdie give @angelyinlol solo second 🕅