



# **LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei**

Hoakalei Country Club | Ewa Beach, Hawaii | Oct. 1-4, 2025

## **First-Round Notes**

Oct. 1, 2025

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**Course Setup:** 36-36 – 72, 6,435 yards

Scoring Average: R1: 70.70

**Weather:** Passing showers through the morning and into early afternoon. Temperatures will warm into the mid to upper 80s with sustained winds around 5-10 mph and gusts peaking at 22 mph in

the afternoon.

Race to CME Globe Points: 500 (winner)

Purse: \$3 million USD (winner's prize, \$450,000)

TV/Streaming Times: How to Watch

## **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

## SOCIAL MEDIA

LPGA Tour: @LPGA, @LPGAMedia (X), @lpga\_tour (Instagram, TikTok) Tournament: @lottechampionship (Instagram), @lpgalotte (X), LPGA LOTTE Championship (Facebook)

LEADERBOARD				
	Player	To par	Score	
1	Akie Iwai	-8	64	
T2	Peiyun Chien	-7	65	
T2	Gabriela Ruffels	-7	65	
T2	Nasa Hataoka	-7	65	

#### **COMPETITION HIGHLIGHTS**

- First: Akie Iwai carded an 8-under 64 in Wednesday's opening round
  - Recorded nine birdies and one bogey, including three birdies in her first four holes (Nos. 10, 11, 13)
  - This is her third opening-round score of 64 or better in 2025
    - Shot 64 in the opening round of the 2025 CPKC Women's Open, finished fourth
    - Shot 62 in the opening round of the 2025 Honda LPGA Thailand, finished second

- She hit 13 of 14 fairways, 17 of 18 greens in regulation with 27 putts
- o First time playing in the LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei
- o Fourth time leading after the first round of an LPGA Tour event
  - She led after the first round of the 2025 CPKC Women's Open, the 2025 Honda LPGA Thailand and the 2023 TOTO Japan Classic
- T3: Peiyun Chien, Gabriella Ruffels and Nasa Hataoka carded 7-under 65s in the first round
  - Chien recorded her lowest opening round since the Ford Championship presented by Wild Horse Pass in March
    - Recorded a bogey-free round with seven birdies
    - Hit 12 of 14 fairways, 17 of 18 greens in regulation and recorded 28 putts
    - Missed the cut at this event in 2024
  - o Ruffels carded eight birdies and one bogey in her opening round
    - Went birdie-birdie to open her round
    - Recorded four birdies in a five-hole stretch of Nos. 10, 11, 13, 14
      - Bogeyed No. 12
    - This is her fifth round of 65 or better on the LPGA Tour
    - Hit 12 of 14 fairways, 16 of 18 greens in regulation and had 27 putts
  - Hataoka birdied seven of her last nine holes en route to a first-round 65
    - Carded eight birdies and one bogey
      - Birdied Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 consecutively
      - Her only bogey of the day came on No. 6
    - Hit 9 of 14 fairways, 15 of 18 greens in regulation and had only 25 putts
    - Finished fourth at this event last year
- Defending champion A Lim Kim shot a first round 6-under 66 and currently sits at T5

### A LOOK AT THE LEADER

CATEGORY	Akie Iwai	
2025 Race to CME Globe Rank	12	
2025 LPGA Tour Wins	1	
2025 LPGA Tour Top 10s	5	
2025 Official Season Earnings	\$1,204,229	
Career LPGA Tour Wins	1	
Career Official LPGA Tour Top 10s	5	
Career Official Money	\$1,204,229	

#### **ABOUT THE LEADER**

#### Rolex Rankings No. 24 Akie Iwai

- First start at the LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei
- 2025: 14 cuts made in 20 starts with three top-five finishes
  - Won The Standard Portland Classic to become a Rolex First-Time Winner
  - Surpassed the \$1 million mark in season and career official earnings at the FM Championship
- Career: Two career victories, eight top 10s with \$2.7 million in official career earnings

- Twin sister Chisato Iwai is also a 2025 LPGA Tour rookie
- o Six-time winner on the JLPGA Tour
- Made 11 career starts on the LPGA Tour before becoming a member and collected three top-10 finishes, two at major championships

#### TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS

18 holes – 62, Lizette Salas (R4, 2013) and Cristie Kerr (R3, 2017)

36 holes – 128, Yuka Saso (2021)

54 holes – 195, Lydia Ko (2021)

72 holes – 260, Lydia Ko (2021)

\*All records from 2021 were set at Kapolei Golf Club; all records prior to 2021 were set at Ko Olina Golf Course

### **QUOTABLE**

Akie Iwai (1, -8) on what is going to be important to her through the next rounds "I just have smiling, just have confidence. Yeah, that's it."

Gabriela Ruffels (T2, -7) on her second year on the LPGA Tour

"Second year, I started off pretty good my first year, my rookie year, and then expectations I feel like went up a little bit. I didn't have a great start to this year, but I feel like things are kind of getting there a little bit more. I'm definitely seeing the improvement and the hard work with my coach. Yeah, I feel like I'm starting to play a bit better and still have a few tournaments left for the rest of the year."

Nasa Hataoka (T2, -7) on playing with Japanese rookies Rio Takeda and Miyu Yamashita "They are playing so good. They are good ball-strikers. They are consistent. So, yeah, it was really fun to play with them. I'm looking forward play tomorrow, too."

A Lim Kim (T5, -6) on her focus for the rest of the week

"I focus on the same things: On my line and I hit it. That's all. Because golf is sometimes hard; sometimes easy. That's not my, that is not in my control, so go through there, right there."

Jessica Porvasnik (T8, -5) on her advice to those competing in the Epson Tour Championship this week "I think just don't put too much pressure on yourself. Go out there and have fun and whatever happens, happens."

Allisen Corpuz (T12, -4) on the representation of Hawaiian golf in the field

"It's so special just to see how strong Hawaii golf has been. I grew up playing junior golf with Mariel, so it's extra special to have her on Tour with me this year, and Alexa and Honorine and up-and-coming juniors as well. It's just great to see all the Hawai'i girls playing this week. I love to see the trend of having more girls out on tour."

Nelly Korda (T25, -3) on playing in Hawaii for the first time since 2021

"It's great to be back in Hawaii. The weather is always amazing. Everyone is very friendly and just being back

here, it's nice to play in front of the Hawaiian fans. A little bit of an up-and-down round, but overall, you know, happy to get it in at 3-under par. Definitely have a long way to go to get in contention."

## **ON LPGA.COM**

Stacy Lewis Reflects on LPGA Tour Career

Featured Groups: 2025 LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei

On This Date: LPGA Charter is Signed at 1950 U.S. Women's Open

Official Dates Unveiled for 2028 Solheim Cup

## **SOCIAL SNAPSHOT**

Akie Iwai's putter was hot hot hot

A Lim Kim is ready to defend

Bianca Pagdanganan and Savannah Grewal joined @gohawaii and @oahuvb for a tour of the Waia'nae coast

Some of our @EpsonTour grads wanted to wish the players good luck this week at the Epson Tour

Championship

Following the announcement of her retirement, Stacy Lewis reflects on her incredible career and her legacy in the game