



**LOTTE**  
CHAMPIONSHIP  
PRESENTED BY Hoakalei

**LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei**  
Hoakalei Country Club | Ewa Beach, Hawaii | Oct. 1-4, 2025

### Pre-Tournament Notes

September 30, 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](#)

#### SOCIAL MEDIA

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

Tournament: @lottechampionship (Instagram), @lpgalotte (X), LPGA LOTTE Championship (Facebook)

### NOTABLE PLAYERS

- [Rolex Rankings No. 2 Nelly Korda](#)
  - Korda is making her third start at the LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei and her first since 2022
    - 2022 – T2, 2019 – 8
  - 2025: 16 cuts made in 16 starts with seven top-10 finishes
    - Finished T5 in her last outing (the Kroger Queen City Championship presented by P&G due to the cancellation of the Walmart NW Arkansas Championship presented by P&G)
    - Her best finish of the season is runner-up at the U.S. Women's Open presented by Ally and the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions
    - Has not missed a cut this season
  - Career: 15 wins, two major championship victories, 73 top 10s, \$15.4 million in official career earnings
    - In 2024, earned seven wins, including five in consecutive starts
      - Became the first player since 2011 to win seven times in a single season
      - Became the third player in LPGA Tour history to have a season with six or more wins, capture a team victory in the Solheim Cup and earn Player of the Year honors, alongside Beth Daniel (1990) and Annika Sorenstam (2003)

- 2024 Rolex Player of the Year and Rolex ANNIKA Major Award winner
- Two-time major champion (2024 The Chevron Championship, 2021 KPMG Women's PGA Championship)
- Two-time Olympian for the United States, 2020 Gold Medal winner in Tokyo
- Four-time U.S. Solheim Cup Team Member
- Member of the U.S. Team at the 2023 and 2025 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown

- **Rolex Rankings No. 5 Charley Hull**

- Hull is making her second start at the LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei and her first since 2019
  - 2019 – T68
- 2025: 11 cuts made in 13 starts with one win and three top 10s
  - Won the Kroger Queen City Championship presented by P&G in her last start to end her 1,077-day winless drought
  - Finished T2 at the AIG Women's Open and T2 at the Aramco Houston Championship on the Ladies European Tour
  - Has only missed one cut this season, coming at The Chevron Championship
    - WD during The Amundi Evian Championship due to illness
  - Will be part of the inaugural World Team at the 2025 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown
    - She will join Brooke Henderson, Lydia Ko and Wei-Ling Hsu
- Career: Three wins, 41 top 10s and \$10.6 million in official career earnings
  - Won the 2022 Ascendant LPGA Benefiting the Volunteers of America and the 2016 CME Group Tour Championship
  - Seven-time member of the European Solheim Cup Team
  - Youngest member of the European Solheim Cup team at 17 years, 4 months and 25 days
  - Has represented England at two International Crowns (2016, 2018) and two Olympics (2016, T7 and 2024, T27)
  - Also competes on the Ladies European Tour
    - Has four career victories
    - Was named 2013 LET Rookie of the Year
    - Won the 2014 Order of Merit and Player of the Year

- **Rolex Rankings No. 6 Miyu Yamashita**

- Making her first career start at this event
- 2025: 16 cuts made in 18 starts with one win and nine top 10s in her rookie season
  - Won the AIG Women's Open to claim her first career victory
    - Became the first player since 2022 to make the AIG Women's Open her first career win
    - The 12th player to make the AIG Women's Open her first major championship victory
    - Became the sixth Japanese player to win a major championship
  - Currently leads the standings for the Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year award
  - Third in the Race to the CME Globe
  - Will represent Japan at the 2025 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown in South Korea

- Career: Earned medalist honors at the Final Qualifying portion of LPGA Q-Series to earn LPGA Membership for the 2025 season
  - Made 12 starts on the LPGA Tour before earning Membership
  - Finished T4 at the 2024 Paris Olympics
  - Competed on the JLPGA and won 13 times including three major championships
  - Earned JLPGA Player of the Year honors in 2022 and 2023
  - Leading money winner on the JLPGA in 2022 and 2023
- KPMG Performance Insight:
  - Yamashita has made 134 putts of 10+ feet in length this season, trailing only Minjee Lee for the most of any player:
    - Most putts made of 10+ feet this season:
      - Minjee Lee – 138
      - Miyu Yamashita – 134
      - Jin Hee Im – 131
      - Hye-Jin Choi – 117
      - Celine Boutier – 116
- Rolex Rankings No. 33 and Defending Champion A Lim Kim
  - Making her fourth start at this event
    - 2024 – 1, 2022 – T48, 2021 – T10
  - 2025: 14 made cuts in 18 starts including a win and five top 10s
    - Won the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions in January
    - Finished T4 at the AIG Women's Open for her best major finish of the season
  - Career: Won the 2020 U.S. Women's Open as a non-member and deferred her acceptance of LPGA Membership to 2021
    - Became the fifth player in championship history to win in her debut at the 2020 U.S. Women's Open
    - Became a Rolex First-Time Winner at the 2024 LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei
      - Made a hole-in-one on the ninth hole during round three
    - Won three events on the KLPGA Tour before joining the LPGA Tour

### NOTABLE TOURNAMENT INFO

- This is the 13th playing of the LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei and fourth held at Hoakalei Country Club
- Defending champion A Lim Kim became a Rolex First-Time Winner at this event last season
  - Defeated runner-up **Nataliya Guseva** by two strokes
  - Shot all four rounds in the 60s (66-69-67-68 – 270, -18)
  - Made a hole-in-one on the ninth hole during round three
  - Has never missed a cut at this event
- Three past champions are in the 2025 field
  - A Lim Kim (2024), Hyo Joo Kim (2022), Brooke Henderson (2019, 2018)

### KPMG PERFORMANCE INSIGHTS OF THE WEEK

Approach play will be crucial at Hoakalei Country Club this week – players who finished inside the top 10 at this event last season gained over 45% of their strokes on the field in that area:

Top-10 Strokes Gained by Category 2024 LOTTE Championship	
Off the Tee	13.0%
Approach	45.7%*
Around Green	11.3%
Putting	30.0%

\*LPGA season average: 35.2%

### 2025 HANWHA LIFEPLUS INTERNATIONAL CROWN UPDATE

- The 2025 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown field will comprise teams from the United States, the Republic of Korea, Japan, Thailand, Sweden, Australia and the People's Republic of China
  - Countries were determined by the combined Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings of the top four players from each country as of the Rankings published after the KPMG Women's PGA Championship
- The final field of 32 players and the country seedings were determined via the Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings published after the conclusion of the 2025 AIG Women's Open
  - The United States secured the top seed with 42 points
- One World Team will be included for the first time this year and was determined at the Player deadline following the AIG Women's Open
  - **Brooke M. Henderson, Charley Hull, Wei-Ling Hsu and Lydia Ko** will make up the World Team
- See here for the full release: [United States, Japan Secure Top Seeds for 2025 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown](#)

### 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 2,939.950 points
  - Won the Mizuho Americas Open
  - Ten additional top-10 finishes this season
  - Finished runner-up at The Amundi Evian Championship, FM Championship and Kroger Queen City Championship presented by P&G
- 2nd: **Minjee Lee** remains in second with 2,340.295 points
  - Won the 2025 KPMG Women's PGA Championship

- Has six additional top-10 finishes this season, including a solo second at the CPKC Women's Open
- 3rd: **Miyu Yamashita** took over third with her third-place finish at the Kroger Queen City Championship
  - Has 1,843.528 points
  - Won the AIG Women's Open
  - Has eight additional top-10 finishes
- Additional moves following the Kroger Queen City Championship presented by P&G
  - **Charley Hull** moved into the No. 9 spot after her win at TPC River's Bend
  - Fellow countrywoman **Lottie Woad** moved up 10 places to No. 34 following a top-five finish
  - **Mary Liu** finished T5, propelling her to No. 74 heading into the final stretch of the season

#### Aon Risk Reward Challenge: No. 18, par 5 at Hoakalei Country Club

*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.*

- Perrine Delacour and Jeeno Thitikul share first place in the Aon Risk Reward Challenge with a -0.900 score to par
- Minjee Lee is in third with -0.875 score to par
- No. 18: The 18th hole at Hoakalei Country Club will provide players a decision to make on this final hole with water all along the right side; players will need to decide whether to play as a three-shot hole or try to reach the green in two
  - Players who found the greenside bunker after going for the green in two gained an average of 0.12 strokes; despite being the fourth-most common bunker landing zone on a par 5, the 18th hole proved uncharacteristically rewarding from that spot.
  - With only 2.7% of the field finding the green in two last season, the critical decision on this hole is where players aim their second shot; while reaching the green is unlikely, choosing the right miss will be the key to success
  - Coming down the stretch, the 17th hole provides a scoring opportunity for the field, given players can avoid the water off the tee

#### 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 15 hole-in-ones so far in the 2025 season
  - There were no aces at the Kroger Queen City Championship presented by P&G
  - **Ariya Jutanugarn** recorded an ace in the final round of the FM Championship on the 16th hole at TPC Boston
  - Two aces were recorded at The Standard Portland Classic
    - **Haeran Ryu** aced the 16th hole during R3

- **Caroline Masson** made a hole-in-one during R1 on hole 2
- The total for 2025 is now \$300,000 donated toward St. Jude Children's Research Hospital

#### **PRE-TOURNAMENT AVAILABILITY HIGHLIGHTS**

##### **Defending Champion A Lim Kim**

[Transcript](#) | [Video](#)

*A. Kim on winning the 2024 LOTTE Championship and LOTTE's support*

"I'm so proud to be a part of this LPGA tournament sponsored by Korean company. It's quite rare. In this aspect it's very meaningful to all of us I think."

##### **Rolex Rankings No. 17 and LOTTE Sponsor Hye-Jin Choi**

[Transcript](#) | [Video](#)

*Choi on how she is enjoying the week in Hawaii*

"Actually, as Hyo Joo just mentioned I also visit here almost every year, but this year is quite different because last week I didn't have my regular tournament so I was here one week prior to this week. I enjoyed snorkeling for the first time here in Hawai'i and also enjoyed some local food, such as poke. So it's a new experience for me this year."

##### **Rolex Rankings No. 9 and LOTTE Sponsor Hyo Joo Kim**

[Transcript](#) | [Video](#)

*H.J. Kim on the LOTTE Championship being in prime-time broadcast in Korea*

"It was a shame that many Korean fans cannot actually watch other LPGA tournaments held world wide because of time zone and time difference. This time I think it's a great chance for our Korean fans to support our Korean women golfer. So I think it's going to be a great opportunity for us to show our play this time."

##### **Rolex Rankings No. 2 Nelly Korda**

[Transcript](#) | [Video](#)

*Korda on the global nature of the LPGA Tour and LOTTE's support*

"Yeah, we get some amazing support from companies across the world. Our Tour is so diverse and global that it's amazing to see LOTTE step up and support our Tour for so many years. And not only just the Tour. You see a bunch of Korean girls supported by LOTTE. So that's the most amazing thing about this game, is how diverse and global we are and how many different markets we hit. Always have to thank the sponsors, have to thank LOTTE for coming in and stepping up and sporting women's golf."

##### **Two-time LOTTE Championship winner Brooke Henderson**

[Transcript](#) | [Video](#)

*Henderson on what she looks forward to through the rest of the 2025 season*

"Yeah, for me, I'm really excited to be heading over a Asia soon after this for three weeks over there. Really proud and happy to be a part of International Crown. I've been looking forward to it all year. It's been a super exciting thing to have on my schedule since there has never been a World Team before. To have the opportunity, I'm pretty pumped about it. I have a great team so it'll be a lot of fun. I think took a little bit time off before this after CPKC Women's Open and after Boston to have some down time, try to refresh and get prepared for the rest of the year. So have seven events left and looking forward to them."

##### **Hawaii Local Allisen Corpuz**

[Transcript](#) | [Video](#)

*Corpuz on how it feels to play in her home state after traveling the world for tournaments*



“Yeah, absolutely. I mean, just the exposure that we have and how global the Tour is, you just meet so many great people out here. Yeah, coming home, too, it's nice to just feel really comfortable at home and also just -- I grew up watching this event so it really is like, wow, I'm the one playing now. Really is kind of a full-circle moment for me to be back.”

#### Akie Iwai, Chisato Iwai and Rio Takeda in Japanese

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

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

Featured Groups: 2025 LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei

Anne van Dam Appointed Vice Captain for 2026 European Solheim Cup Team

Field Breakdown: 2025 LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei

Five Things to Know About the 2025 LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei

Different Winners Streak Rolls on at LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei

How to Watch the 2025 LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei

#### **ON LPGA SOCIAL**

When in Hawaii... Ahead of the LOTTE Championship, our players enjoyed all that Hawaii has to offer!

A little dose of perfection from A Lim Kim and her Titleist Pro V1 #LPGAlookback

There are only a few weeks left in the #RaceToCMEGlobe and these players are currently on the bubble

The field this week is strong

Grace Kim reliving her first LPGA Tour win at the LOTTE Championship

Sloooooowin' down defending champ A Lim Kim's swing