



Performance Insights

2025 TOTO Japan Classic

PRE-TOURNAMENT INTELLIGENCE PACK

KPMG Insight of the Week

*This week's defending champion, Rio Takeda, has been one of the best approach players on the LPGA Tour in 2025. Consider this: overall, players gain two or more strokes with their approach play in just 12.1% of their rounds this season. Takeda has done that in a staggering 32% of her rounds.

Rounds With 2+ SG Approach LPGA Tour This Season

LPGA average	12.1%
Rio Takeda*	32.0%

*Ranked 3rd on LPGA in SG Approach per round (+1.13)

Minjee Lee

*The last time we saw Minjee Lee, she went unbeaten at the Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown on her way to leading Team Australia to victory:

Minjee Lee Performance Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown

Match Record	4-0-1
Holes Played	88
Holes Won	22
Total Birdies	29

*Minjee Lee will look to record her 13th consecutive top 25 finish on the LPGA Tour this week, a stretch that dates to the Mizuho Americas Open back in May:

Minjee Lee Performance LPGA Tour – Last 12 Starts

Top 3 Finishes	4
Top 25 Finishes	12
Score to Par	-108
Birdie or Better Pct.	26.2%
SG Total	+2.47
SG Putting	+1.18



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*Only three players have made more putts this season of 15+ feet than Minjee Lee has:

Most Putts Made of 15+ Feet LPGA Tour This Season

Jin Hee Im	94
Miyu Yamashita	89
Jeeno Thitikul	88
Minjee Lee	78
Hye Jin Choi	78

Miyu Yamashita

*Miyu Yamashita started the final round of last week's Maybank Championship eight shots off the lead before winning in a playoff. Her comeback to win ties the largest on the LPGA Tour over the last ten seasons. Lilia Vu was eight back last year at the Meijer LPGA Classic.

Largest 54-Hole Comeback to Win LPGA Tour Last 10 Seasons

	Tournament	Deficit
Miyu Yamashita	'25 Maybank Championship	8 back
Lilia Vu	'24 Meijer LPGA Classic	8 back

*Miyu Yamashita's greatest strength this season has been her putter, and she relied on that part of her game again last Sunday to help lift her to victory. Yamashita led the field in strokes gained putting in the final round, gaining nearly four full shots on the green alone.

Miyu Yamashita Putting Maybank Championship – Final Round

Total Putts	27
Feet of Putts Made	120'
Putts Made of 10+ Feet	5
Putting from 10-20 Feet	5-for-9
SG Putting	+3.91*

*Most of any player in field



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*It has been an amazing rookie season for Miyu Yamashita on the LPGA Tour, winning twice including a major championship at the AIG Women's Open. For the season, she ranks inside the top 5 in a myriad of categories:

Miyu Yamashita Performance LPGA Tour – This Season

		Rank
SG Putting	+1.33	1st
Putts made of 10+ feet	184	1st
Top 10 Finishes	11	2nd
Bogey Avoidance	11.2%	3rd
Rounds in 60s	39	3rd
Scoring Average	69.82	4th

*Yamashita averaged over 2 strokes gained putting per round during her victory at the Maybank Championship last week, the 5th time she reached that mark in a single event this season:

Miyu Yamashita 2+ SG Putting per Round LPGA Tour – This Season

	SG Putting	Finish
HSBC Women's World Championship	+2.27	T-21
FM Championship	+2.23	T-7
Blue Bay LPGA	+2.15	T-8
AIG Women's Open	+2.12	Won
Maybank Championship	+2.11	Won

*Yamashita has been on fire over her last 8 starts on the LPGA Tour, recording 6 top 10 finishes including a pair of wins (excludes Walmart NW Arkansas). Over that span, she is more than -100 combined, gaining close to 2.5 strokes per round including an incredible +1.87 strokes per round on the greens alone:

Miyu Yamashita Performance LPGA Tour – Last 8 Starts

Wins	2
Top 10 Finishes	6
Score to Par	-102
Bogey Avoidance	9.4%
SG Total	+2.43
SG Putting	+1.87



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*Miyu Yamashita shot a bogey-free final round 65 to come from 8 strokes back to win last week at the Maybank Championship. It was her 13th bogey-free round of the season, tied for the most of any player on the LPGA Tour:

Miyu Yamashita Bogey Avoidance LPGA Tour – This Season

		Rank
Bogey-Free Rounds	13	T-1st
Bogey Avoidance	11.2%	3rd
Birdie to Bogey Ratio	2.08	4th

Rio Takeda

*Rio Takeda has been one of the best iron players in the world in 2025. She leads the LPGA Tour in greens in regulation percentage at 77% - currently on pace to be the best ever single season mark in that metric by a player from Japan.

Rio Takeda Ranks This Season – LPGA Tour

		Rank
Greens in regulation	77.0%*	1st
GIR after missed fairway	60.2%	3rd
SG Approach	+1.13	3rd
Proximity 150-175 yards	28'2"	T-4th

*Best single-season percentage by player from Japan all-time

*Takeda's opening round this week will be her 100th of the season, most of any player by far:

Most Rounds Played LPGA Tour This Season – Entering Week

Rio Takeda	99
Minami Katsu	87
Jin Hee Im	85

*Rounds counting towards Vare Trophy



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*Takeda's torrid pace to begin the season – 6 top-10s in 12 starts – has slowed down of late:

Rio Takeda

On LPGA Tour This Season

	Top 10s	SG Total per round
First 12 Starts	6	+1.89
Last 15 Starts	2	+1.26

Ayaka Furue

*Over her last 4 starts, Ayaka Furue is averaging +1.39 strokes gained approach per round, nearly a full stroke increase from her average through the first 16 starts of 2025 (individual stroke play events):

Ayaka Furue SG Approach

LPGA Tour – This Season

	SG Approach
First 16 Starts	+0.43
Last 4 Starts	+1.39

*Furue: Ranked 4th at Maybank Championship in SG Approach (+1.95)

*After a breakout 2024 where she finished inside the top 10 in half of her starts, it has not quite been the follow-up season Ayaka Furue was hoping for, recording just 4 top 10 finishes:

Ayaka Furue Season Comparison

LPGA Tour – 2024 vs. 2025

	2024	2025
Starts	24	22
Top 10 Finishes	12	4
Missed Cuts	1	4
Scoring Average	70.0	70.5
Bogey Avoidance	11.2%	13.5%
SG Total	+1.88	+1.09



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*One of the biggest reasons for her dip in play this season has been the putter, which has not quite been up to the standard she set early in her career when she ranked inside the top 10 in each of her first 3 full seasons on the LPGA Tour:

Ayaka Furue SG Putting LPGA Tour – Career

	SG Putting	Rank
2022	+1.23	3rd
2023	+0.94	9th
2024	+0.82	10th
2025	+0.28	50th

Chisato Iwai

*Chisato Iwai ranks 15th on the LPGA Tour this season in strokes gained tee to green, picking up over a full stroke gained per round in that category. The putter has not been as cooperative, however, ranking outside the top 80 in strokes gained:

Chisato Iwai Strokes Gained LPGA Tour – This Season

	SG	Rank
Tee to Green	+1.14	15th
Putting	+0.02	T-82nd

Akie Iwai

*When Akie Iwai's putter gets hot, watch out. Last week in Malaysia was the third time this season she has averaged over a full stroke gained putting per round in a tournament this season, going on to finish inside the top 5 on all 3 occasions:

Akie Iwai Best SG Putting Weeks LPGA Tour – This Season

	SG Putting	Finish
Honda LPGA Thailand	+1.30	2nd
The Standard Portland Classic	+1.13	Won
Maybank Championship	+1.06	T-4
LOTTE Championship	+0.84	T-4



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*Akie Iwai's T-4 last week at the Maybank was her 6th top 5 finish of the season, tied for the third-most of any player on the LPGA Tour:

Most Top 5 Finishes LPGA Tour – This Season

Jeeno Thitikul	11
Miyu Yamashita	7
Akie Iwai	6
Minjee Lee	6
Nelly Korda	6
Sei Young Kim	6