



—ROYAL LYTHAM &—
ST ANNES 2026

2026 AIG Women's Open

Lytham St Annes, Lancashire, England | Royal Lytham & St Annes Golf Club | July 30-August 2, 2026

Third-Round Notes

August 1, 2026

Media Contacts: [Olivia McMillan](#) (The R&A), [Carly Lyvers](#) (LPGA), [Nicola Kenton](#) (LET)

Course Setup: 35-36—71, 6,554 yards

Weather: Saturday Forecast

Race to CME Globe Points: 650 (winner)

Purse: \$10 million (\$1.5 million winner's purse)

TV/Streaming Times: [How to Watch the 2026 AIG Women's Open](#)

QUICK LINKS

[AIG Women's Open Virtual Media Hub](#)

[Interview Transcripts](#)

[LPGA Tour Online Media Center \(OMC\):](#)

[Tournament Website](#)

SOCIAL MEDIA

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

Tournament: @AIGWomensOpen (X, Instagram)

LEADERBOARD

	Player	To par	Score
1	Yealimi Noh	-7	67-70-69 – 206
T2	Esther Henseleit	-4	73-69-67 – 209
T2	Lucy Li	-4	72-68-69 – 209
T2	Jeeno Thitikul	-4	64-73-72 – 209
T2	Shiho Kuwaki	-4	66-70-73 – 209
T2	Haeran Ryu	-4	66-69-74 – 209

COMPETITION HIGHLIGHTS

- Over the last 15 LPGA Tour seasons, players who lead a major championship by three strokes entering the final round have won 5 of 7 times
- Leader: **Yealimi Noh** has a three-shot lead entering the final round
 - This is the first time she is solo leading following any round in a major championship
 - Has 14 birdies through 54 holes, tied for the most amongst the field
 - Has just 5 bogeys through 54 holes, tied for the least amongst the field
 - Had 26 putts in R3, tied for the least on Saturday
 - One of seven players to record a round in the 60s in R3
 - Her best finish at the AIG Women's Open is T13
 - [Yealimi Noh Third Round Interview](#)
- T2: Five players enter the final round behind Noh including **Esther Henseleit**, **Lucy Li**, **Jeeno Thitikul**, **Shiho Kuwaki** and **Haeran Ryu**
 - Henseleit shot one of the lowest rounds of the day with a 5-under 67

- Finished solo fourth last week at the ISPS HANDA Women's Scottish Open
- This is her best position entering the final round of a major championship
- [Esther Henseleit Third Round Interview](#)
- Li recorded her second consecutive round in the 60s in R3
 - Her best finish in a major championship is T12 at the 2025 KPMG Women's PGA Championship
 - [Lucy Li Third Round Interview](#)
- Thitikul's first-round 64 is still the lowest round of the week
 - Has hit 44/54 greens in regulation, the most of any player in the field
 - Has five bogeys through 54 holes, tied for the least amongst the field
 - Has 11 top-10 finishes in major championships, and has never won one
- Kuwaki shot a third-round 73
 - Was two-over par on holes 4-6 today compared to three-under par in R1 and R2
 - Is not a member of the LPGA Tour; would be the 12th non-member to win a major championship since 1950 and the first since **Yuka Saso** at the 2021 U.S. Women's Open
- Second-round leader Ryu dropped from first place with a three-over 74 today
 - Has 14 birdies through 54 holes, tied for the most across the field
 - Did not rank in the top 15 in any statistical category in R3

WITH A WIN

Yealimi Noh

- Would earn her first major championship victory
 - Would be the 13th player to win the AIG Women's Open as their first major championship and second consecutive player to do so following **Miyu Yamashita** in 2025
- Would be the fifth American to win the AIG Women's Open and first since **Lilia Vu** in 2024
- Would be the third major championship victory by an American this season
- Would claim her second LPGA Tour win and first since the 2025 Fortinet Founders Cup

Esther Henseleit

- Would be the seventh player to become a Rolex First-Time Winner at the AIG Women's Open
 - Would be the second consecutive player to do so following **Miyu Yamashita** in 2025
 - Would be the second consecutive player to do so at Royal Lytham & St Annes following Georgia Hall in 2018
- Would earn her first major championship victory
 - Would be the 13th player to win the AIG Women's Open as their first major championship and second consecutive player to do so following **Miyu Yamashita** in 2025
- Would be the second German player to win the AIG Women's Open joining **Sophia Popov** in 2020

Lucy Li

- Would be the seventh player to become a Rolex First-Time Winner at the AIG Women's Open
 - Would be the second consecutive player to do so following **Miyu Yamashita** in 2025
 - Would be the second consecutive player to do so at Royal Lytham & St Annes following Georgia Hall in 2018
- Would earn her first major championship victory

- Would be the 13th player to win the AIG Women's Open as their first major championship and second consecutive player to do so following Yamashita in 2025
- Would be the fifth American to win the AIG Women's Open and first since **Lilia Vu** in 2024
- Would be the third major championship victory by an American this season

Jeeno Thitikul

- Would earn her first major championship victory
 - Would be the 13th player to win the AIG Women's Open as their first major championship and second consecutive player to do so following **Miyu Yamashita** in 2025
- Would be the second player from Thailand to win the AIG Women's Open joining **Ariya Jutanugarn** in 2016
- Would earn her 10th LPGA Tour victory and third of the 2026 season

Shiho Kuwaki

- Would earn her first major championship victory
 - Would be the 13th player to win the AIG Women's Open as their first major championship and second consecutive player to do so following **Miyu Yamashita** in 2025
- Would be the first non-Member to win the AIG Women's Open since **Sophia Popov** in 2020
- Would be the first non-Member to win a major championship since **Yuka Saso** at the 2021 U.S. Women's Open

Haeran Ryu

- Would earn her third major championship victory in three consecutive starts
 - Would be the third player since 1950 to do so following **Inbee Park** (2013) and **Babe Zaharias** (1950)
 - Would be the fifth time in LPGA Tour history a player won three major championships in a single season joining Park (2013), **Pat Bradley** (1986), **Mickey Wright** (1961), and Zaharias (1950)
- Would be the seventh time a player from the Republic of Korea won the AIG Women's Open and first since **In-Kyung Kim** in 2017
- Would earn her sixth LPGA Tour victory and third of the 2026 season

A LOOK AT THE LEADER

CATEGORY	Yealimi Noh
2026 Race to CME Globe Rank	95
2026 LPGA Tour Wins	0
2026 LPGA Tour Top 10s	0
2026 Official Season Earnings	\$209K
Career LPGA Tour Wins	1
Career Official LPGA Tour Top 10s	18
Career Official Money	\$3.6M

ABOUT THE LEADER

[Rolex Rankings No. 69 Yealimi Noh](#)

- Sixth start at the AIG Women's Open
 - Has missed the cut in her last three appearances
 - Best finish is T13 in 2021
- 2026: Seven cuts made in 14 starts
 - Her best finish is T12 at The Chevron Championship
 - Missed her last three cuts entering the AIG Women's Open
- Career: One win, 18 top 10s, \$3.6 million in official career earnings
 - Won the 2025 Fortinet Founders Cup
 - Member of the 2021 U.S. Solheim Cup Team
 - Member of the 2025 U.S. Team at the Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown

CHAMPIONSHIP SCORING RECORDS (SINCE IT BECAME A MAJOR IN 2001):

18 holes – 62, Minea Blomqvist (R3, 2004); Mirim Lee, (R1, 2016)

36 holes – 132, Ashleigh Buhai (2019)

54 holes – 199, In-Kyung Kim (2017); Ashleigh Buhai (2022)

72 holes – 269, Karen Stupples (2004)

QUOTABLES

Yealimi Noh (1st, -7) on her fiancé helping her enjoy the game

"To-be husband, but, yes. Yeah, he's been the best supporter, my biggest supporter besides my parents. I really wouldn't be able to do anything without him, especially out on the golf course. You know, we're always so stressed, and whether it's going good or bad it's a lot with golfers. He's been really great supporter. He also plays golf and he's really good so he understands a lot of it. Yeah, last week I was able to relax more. He reminded me that golf could be fun like I said yesterday, just that it's just a game. So he's really helped me be in a good mindset for this week."

Esther Henseleit (T2, -4) on what her mentality is when she makes a ton of birdies out here

"I mean, you just have to keep going. There are so many good golfers out here. You know that it's not going to be enough that if you make one or two birdies. You just have to keep going. Yeah, I mean, I would say the first nine holes are probably the easier ones, so I kind of want to take advantage of that, take advantage of the par-5s and the shorter holes. So, yeah, very happy I managed to do that today."

Lottie Woad (7th, -3) on her experience last year in Wales

"Yeah, I think just the more times you're in that position the more comfortable you get. Like I know I can play well in this tournament and I have done the last two years and had that experience, you know, being in the mix. And even this year obviously a few weeks ago I was leading at Evian, so kind of could use that experience as well. The more times you put the yourself in that position is obviously a good thing."

ON LPGA.COM

[Third Round Highlights](#)

[Ashleigh Buhai Third Round Interview](#)

[Lottie Woad Third Round Interview](#)

[Brooke Henderson Third Round Interview](#)

[Carla Tejedó Mulet Third Round Interview](#)

Chanattee Wannasaen Third Round Interview

Esther Henseleit In Contention at AIG Women's Open with Solheim Cup Berth on Her Mind

SOCIAL SNAPSHOT

Haeran Ryu's joining some legendary company 🙏

🙏 Hey @AIGWomensOpen leaders 🙏

Expected nothing less from these two 🙏

Elite performance from these six 🙏