



—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

Tuesday Pre-Tournament Notes

July 28, 2026

ON-SITE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

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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)

MEDIA AVAILABILITY SCHEDULE

(All times are local, five hours ahead of EST, and subject to change; Any changes to press conference times will be made on the [AIG Women's Open Virtual Media Hub](#))

Wed., July 29

9:30 a.m. – Miyu Yamashita

11:40 a.m. – Lydia Ko

1 p.m. – Georgia Hall

1:30 p.m. – Nelly Korda

NOTABLE PLAYERS

- [Rolex Rankings No. 1 Nelly Korda](#)
 - Korda is making her 10th start at the AIG Women's Open
 - Her best finish is T2 in 2024
 - Only recorded missed cut is in her first playing in 2017
 - Remains two points away from the point threshold to be eligible for the LPGA Hall of Fame
 - With a win this week, she would earn the final two points needed
 - Would become the first player since Lydia Ko in 2024 to be inducted into the LPGA Hall of Fame
 - Would complete the Grand Slam with a win at the AIG Women's Open

- Has won the KPMG Women's PGA Championship (2021), The Chevron Championship (2024, 2026) and the U.S. Women's Open presented by Ally (2026)
- Leads in points for the Rolex ANNIKA Major Award
 - Has 126 points after two major championship victories and a T8 finish at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship
 - Is six points ahead of Haeran Ryu, who also won two major championships this year
 - Would be her second Rolex ANNIKA Major Award after earning it in 2024
- Remains \$761,612 away from passing Annika Sorenstam to become the career official money leader on the LPGA Tour
 - Sorenstam has held the record for more than 25 years (since May 6, 2001)
 - With the \$10 million purse, Korda needs a win or solo second finish to pass Sorenstam
- Through four major championships (14 rounds) this year, Korda's major stats include:
 - Scoring average: 69.35
 - Total under par: -31
 - Rounds in the 60s: 7
 - Win percentage: 50%
- 2026: Four wins including two major championship victories, nine top-10s and 12 events played
 - Won the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions, The Chevron Championship, Riviera Maya Open at Mayakoba and U.S. Women's Open presented by Ally
 - Missed the cut at The Amundi Evian Championship
- Career: 19 wins, four major championship victories, 84 top 10s, \$21.8 million in official career earnings
 - 2024 Rolex Player of the Year and Rolex ANNIKA Major Award winner
 - Two-time Olympian for the United States, 2020 Gold Medal winner in Tokyo
 - Four-time U.S. Solheim Cup Team member; clinched her spot on the 2026 team
- Rolex Rankings No. 3 Haeran Ryu
 - Fourth start at the AIG Women's Open
 - Her best finish is T21 in her first playing
 - Has never missed the cut at the event
 - Has the potential to win the Rolex ANNIKA Major Award this week
 - Must finish better than Korda for a chance to win the award for the first time
 - Would be the fourth player from the Republic of Korea to win the award following Inbee Park (2015), So Yeon Ryu (2017) and Jin Young Ko (2019)
 - Was the Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year in 2023
 - Entering the final major championship of the year, Ryu's stats from the previous three major championships she played in include:
 - Scoring average: 68.67
 - Total under par: -36
 - Rounds in the 60s: 6
 - Win percentage: 66.67%
 - 2026: Two major championship victories, 8 top-10 finishes in 12 starts

- Shot a 60 in the third round of The Amundi Evian Championship with a putt stopping short for a 59
 - In her last three starts, she finished solo second or better including wins at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship and The Amundi Evian Championship
- Career: Five wins, two major championships, 32 top 10s, \$9.9 million in official career earnings
 - Participant at the 2025 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown representing the Republic of Korea
 - Has five wins on the KLPGA Tour
- **Rolex Rankings No. 6 and Defending Champion Miyu Yamashita**
 - Fifth start at the AIG Women's Open
 - Became a Rolex First-Time Winner at this event in 2025
 - Was one of 47 players to earn their first LPGA Tour win at a major championship
 - Was one of 15 rookies to win a major championship
 - Became the second player from Japan to win the AIG Women's Open
 - This is the first time she will be defending a title on the LPGA Tour
 - 2026: One win, 8 top-10 finishes in 15 starts
 - Won the Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give
 - In her last two events, she finished T5 or better
 - Career: Three wins including one major championship, 20 top 10s, \$5.5 million in official career earnings
 - 2025 Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year
 - Participant at the 2025 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown representing Japan
 - Represented Japan at the 2024 Paris Olympics

NOTABLE TOURNAMENT INFO

- **Kiara Romero** is in the field through her exemption as the 2025 McCormack Medal recipient
 - Is one point away from reaching the point threshold to be eligible for LPGA Membership through the [LPGA Elite Amateur Pathway \(LEAP\)](#)
 - If she makes the cut this week, she would earn her final point
 - Would be the second player to earn LPGA Membership through LEAP following Lottie Woad in 2025
- The AIG Women's Open is the final qualifying event for the European Solheim Cup Team
 - The U.S. Team's cutoff event is the CPKC Women's Open
- Rolex Rankings No. 12 **Lydia Ko** could surpass Annika Sorenstam to become the leading all-time career money leader; currently sits \$348,792 behind Sorenstam
- **In Gee Chun, Minjee Lee** and **Nelly Korda** all need a win at the AIG Women's Open to complete the Grand Slam

STAT LEADERS

Official Money: Nelly Korda, \$5,712,524

Scoring Average: Nelly Korda, 69.05

Greens in Regulation: Haeran Ryu, 80.37%

Scrambling Percentage: Miyu Yamashita, 69.31%

Average Driving Distance: Riley Smyth, 288.74 yards

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 an \$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.

- Nelly Korda remains in first with 3,463.625 points
- Following the ISPS HANDA Women's Scottish Open, several players moved up in the rankings:
 - **Jenny Shin** won and moved up 43 spots to No. 23
 - **A Lim Kim** finished 2nd and moved up 14 spots to No. 15
 - **Pajaree Anannarukarn** finished 3rd and moved up 24 spots to No. 32
 - **Esther Henseleit** finished 4th and moved up 15 spots to No. 43

Aon Risk Reward Challenge:

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.

- **Ryann O'Toole** leads at -1.111
- There is no Aon Risk Reward Challenge hole during the week of the U.S. Women's Open presented by Ally

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.

- The last ace was made by **Brooke Henderson** at The Amundi Evian Championship
- \$280,000 has been donated in 2026, bringing the all-time amount donated to \$3.64 million