



—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

Wednesday Pre-Tournament Notes

July 29, 2026

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PRE-TOURNAMENT AVAILABILITY HIGHLIGHTS

Rolex Rankings No. 1 Nelly Korda

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

Korda on how comfortable she is being considered the flag bearer for women's golf

"I think if you asked me two years ago I maybe would've lied up here and said I'm fine with it, but I think that I'm at a stage in my career and at a stage where I'm just going to be myself. If people don't like it, that's fine. If that inspires the next generation, that's great. That's what I would like. I just had to learn that I'm not going to - no one is going to make me go this direction, that direction. I'm going to go the direction I want and be very authentic. I feel like when I'm not it drains my battery a lot, of doing what I don't want to do. I feel like I've kind of figured it out where I'm like, okay, I enjoy doing this; I'm going to say yes to this because that's what I want to do. If that grows the game and makes people watch me, I think that's great. But I have had to learn that. It's not something that just like came with it. I feel like in 2024 it was a lot at once and I had to go through last year to even embrace it. Because I know like athletes, this isn't our forever thing. We're going to be here and the next generation will come and they will be inspiring the next generation. So I really have to embrace where I am and appreciate every moment."

Rolex Rankings No. 2 Jeeno Thitikul

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

Thitikul on competing against Korda and what she brings to the game of women's golf

"Nelly, she's dominant like year by year. A lot of fans ask me what happened to her last year. I was like, it's golf. She's playing great. She just not win one. It doesn't mean she is playing bad golf. For me to have, you know, a high level, like competition, not just with her but with all the players in the Tour, it's really challenging me every week that I can't stop improving on my game and I can't stop improving what I have to do and I can't just think like, oh, I'm the top players and I don't have to do anything right now. I feel like it's kind of like put I think more work than I have ever in my life. That's what I need. But we just not like facing each other and then, hey, let's have a competition. I feel like every day that I like been there on the golf course I beating myself, my inner side. The negative side not going to overcome me, so that's why I -- if the negative side overcome me, that's when my highest performance is showing on. So that's really like my strategy of, you know, hitting and then playing on Tour."

Rolex Rankings No. 3 Haeran Ryu

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

Ryu on being the only person to shoot a 60 in a major championship

"Yeah, I can't believe it, because before my low number is 62. I think about it like I think this is my lowest score in my life. But I make some 60, so is it for sure my score? Is it right? So I counted again and my caddie after the 18 holes. But it's 11-under par and par 71 in the Evian, so, oh, my God, it's a 60. Still I can't believe it, but a lot of proud myself because that course is so tricky because a lot of hilly and the green is tricky and the lie is tricky."

Rolex Rankings No. 5 Lottie Woad

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

Woad on competing alongside English players she has looked up to like Georgia Hall

"Yeah, definitely. I always looked up to the likes of her and Charley and all the other English players. When I was younger I was watching them and watching them compete and play well, and definitely was inspiring watching her win that. Yeah, it is kind of weird now playing with them, so it's kind of a little bit different. But, yeah, it's great."

Defending Champion and Rolex Rankings No. 6 Miyu Yamashita

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

Yamashita on her brother being in attendance this week and her relationship with him

"My brother, has had a mixed run of results it's fair to say since he started on the TOUR, but we often practise together. My father is both our coach and we practise together at home and it's actually his first event that he's seeing me outside of Japan. So hoping he can enjoy to this week and I think it's something he's really looking forward to as well as am I."

Rolex Rankings No. 7 Charley Hull

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

Hull on the prize money this week and if that is important to players

"Yeah, obviously great for AIG for raising the bar. I think in the last few years the majors have really gone up in prize money and it's really, really good to see. It's just now the Tour's job to, you know, as players to make it

really exciting for everyone to get more people come and make it a massive event for the sponsors. I think it's great what they've done. It's nice and it's good because I love playing for money. I'm not going to lie. That's why I think I play so well in the majors. Even if I'm quite a lot behind I am like, make loads of birdies today, extra dollars, for me and him to get."

Rolex Rankings No. 12 Lydia Ko

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

Ko on what keeps her motivated

"I mean, I think I would be lying if I said it's not result based obviously. Every week I tee it up I want to play well. You know, now I have a mediocre or a bad day on the golf course, I still get frustrated. I think the day it doesn't frustrate me it probably means I don't care anymore, and I don't know if that's a good thing. But this is a very humbling game. You could have all things fall your way one day and then the next day you could shoot a ten-shot difference..."

Rolex Rankings No. 294 Georgia Hall, who won the last AIG Women's Open at Royal Lytham and St Annes Golf Club

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

Hall on picking up a club for the first time since giving birth to her son, Conor

"Yeah, I first picked up a club when I was-- six weeks after giving birth. I was in Ireland and went to a local driving range. I was really excited because I didn't know how I was going to hit it and thought I might top it or something, but I actually hit it pretty good, but my rotation, like there is no rotation at all. Yeah, I went there for an hour and I was pleasantly surprised. I was leaving that thinking, okay, let's see if I can get back to Lytham. Yeah, it was good. I enjoyed the progress coming back. I think majority of it was rehab, like pelvic floor, you know, gym, cardio, stuff like that."

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[The stats are stacked between these two](#) 🧠

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