

**BUICK
LPGA**

S H A N G H A I

Buick LPGA Shanghai

Sheshan Golf Club | Shanghai, People's Republic of China | Oct. 15-18, 2026

First-Round Notes

Oct. 15, 2026

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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](#)**SOCIAL MEDIA**

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

Tournament: @buicklpgashanghai2026 (Instagram)

LEADERBOARD

	Player	To par	Score
1	Hye-Jin Choi	-8	64
2	Carlota Ciganda	-5	67
T3	Four players tied	-4	68

COMPETITION HIGHLIGHTS

- Leader: **Hye-Jin Choi**
 - Went bogey-free with eight birdies
 - One of three bogey-free rounds in R1
 - The 64 is her best opening round score of the season
 - Ties a career-best opening round
 - 64 is her lowest round of the year
 - Last shot a 64 at the 2025 Maybank Championship in R1
 - Finished the event T2
- 2nd: **Carlota Ciganda**
 - Opened the event with eight birdies and three bogeys
 - Her eight birdies are tied for the most in the field with Hye-Jin Choi
 - Matches her low round of the season
 - This is her second straight round of 67 on the LPGA Tour
 - Shot a 67 in the final round of the Walmart NW Arkansas Championship presented by P&G
 - Matches her best opening round score of the season

- Shot a 67 in R1 at the Riviera Maya Open at Mayakoba
- Defending champion **Jeeno Thitikul** opened her tournament with a 3-under 69
 - Has shot 70 or better in every round she has played at the Buick LPGA Shanghai

A LOOK AT THE LEADER

CATEGORY	Hye-Jin Choi
2026 Race to CME Globe Rank	15
2026 LPGA Tour Wins	0
2026 LPGA Tour Top 10s	4
2026 Official Season Earnings	\$1.1M
Career LPGA Tour Wins	0
Career Official LPGA Tour Top 10s	33
Career Official Money	\$7.2M

ABOUT THE LEADER

- Fourth start at the Buick LPGA Shanghai
 - 2025 – T11, 2024 – T5, 2023 – T3,
- 2026: 17 cuts made in 22 starts with four top 10s
 - Finished runner-up at the Dow Championship with partner Hyo Joo Kim
 - Finished T13 in her last start at the LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei
- Career: 33 top 10s and \$7.2M in official career earnings
 - Represented the Republic of Korea in the Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown (2023 and 2025)
 - 12-time winner on the KLPGA
 - Finished second in the 2022 Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year standings behind Jeeno Thitikul

TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS:

18 holes – 61, Minami Katsu (R1, 2025)

36 holes – 131, Minami Katsu (2025)

54 holes – 198, Mao Saigo (2024)

72 holes – 263, Ruoning Yin (2024)

*All Records were set at Qizhong Garden Golf Club

QUOTABLES

Hye Jin Choi (1, -8) on playing Sheshan Golf Club bogey-free

“I really feel like I'm kind of exhausted, and today was -- like I feel like I really did hard work today. Some of the situations I felt like couldn't make a par save but I made a good shot and good putt on the par saves, and I'm really satisfied about myself.”

Carlota Ciganda (2, -5) on the Solheim Cup and what it means for her season

“Yeah, Solheim is always special. I always love playing I always say for the team, for the teammates, for the Cup. It's such a fun week and I enjoy every day and I'm a little bit depressed once the week is over. I miss

everyone. No, yeah, it's just a fun week playing, yeah, team event, playing match play, four-ball with your partners. I really enjoy that week."

Grace Kim (T3, -4) on if you need to take advantage of the shorter holes

"I guess, yes, but in a sense, like, you know, golf in general, just try not to force it. Yeah, making sure you have the right game plan and strategy speaking with your caddie, and even if it feels weird laying up with an iron knowing your wedge game is strong to make that birdie and pitch it close I think really gets the ball rolling."

Chanette Wannasaen (T3, -4) on what she needs to continue to do to play well

"Well, I would say I have to like, you know, calm down, because I play really fast. But this course is tough if you don't hit in the fairway and then, you know, like because it's pretty long, then if you hit in a fairway, that give a chance to like hit on the green and made the putt."

Ruoning Yin (T3, -4) on playing in front of a home crowd

"I mean, the fans are amazing and they're rooting for me if I play bad or no matter I played bad or good, they just always cheering for me, which I really appreciate it. But, you know, I still want to have a better performance for the next three days. Just, you know, make them proud."