

**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

Tuesday Pre-Tournament Notes

Oct. 13, 2026

LPGA ON-SITE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Luke Otto, LPGA Communications

Luke.otto@lpga.com

+1 (386) 795-6236

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)

NOTABLE PLAYERS

- **Rolex Rankings No. 2 Jeeno Thitikul**
 - Third start at the Buick LPGA Shanghai
 - Won the event in 2025 and finished T5 in 2024
 - 2026: 15 cuts made in 17 starts with four wins and nine additional top 10s
 - Earned victories at The Standard Portland Classic, Honda LPGA Thailand, Mizuho Americas Open, and LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei
 - Has finished inside the top 10 in eight of her last ten starts
 - Her only missed cuts this year have come at The Chevron Championship and the Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give
 - Career: 11 wins, 65 top 10s with \$20.2 million in official career earnings
 - 2023 Vare Trophy recipient
 - 2022 Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year
 - Member of the Thailand Team at the 2023 and 2025 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown and represented Thailand at the 2024 Paris Olympics
- **Rolex Rankings No. 4 Miyu Yamashita**
 - Second start at the Buick LPGA Shanghai
 - Competed in 2025 and finished T4
 - 2026: 18 cuts made in 20 starts with two wins and 12 additional top 10s
 - Won the CPKC Women's Open and the Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give
 - Finished third in her last start on the LPGA at the LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei
 - Is the second Japanese player to record multiple wins in consecutive seasons

- The other was **Ayaka Okamoto** with three straight multi-win seasons, 1986-1988
- Career: Four wins including one major championship, 24 top 10s with \$6.3 million in official career earnings
 - Has four wins in four different countries (Canada, United States of America, Malaysia, Wales)
 - Only the second player to earn all four or more of her wins in four or more unique countries (Other was **Ha Na Jang** who earned her five career wins in United States, Singapore, Chinese Taipei, Australia and Republic of Korea)
 - 2025 Louise Suggs Rolex Rookie of the Year
 - Represented Japan at the 2025 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown
 - Finished T4 at the 2024 Paris Olympics
 - Competed on the JLPGA and won 13 times including three major championships
 - Earned JLPGA Player of the Year honors in 2022 and 2023
 - Leading money winner on the JLPGA in 2022 and 2023
- **Rolex Rankings No. 6 Ruoning Yin**
 - Fifth start at the Buick LPGA Shanghai
 - Finished T26 in 2025 and won the event in 2024
 - Has not missed a cut in her four previous starts
 - 2026: 15 cuts made in 17 starts with one win and six additional top 10s
 - Won the FM Championship in her last start on the LPGA Tour
 - It was her first victory since the 2024 Maybank Championship
 - Has only finished outside the top 40 three times this season
 - Career: Six wins, 27 top 10 finishes, and \$10.0 million in career earnings
 - Won the 2023 KPMG Women's PGA Championship to earn her first major
 - Represented the People's Republic of China at the 2024 Paris Olympics (T10)
 - Became the second player from the People's Republic of China to win on the LPGA Tour with her victory at the 2023 DIO Implant LA Open
 - Represented the People's Republic of China in the 2023 and 2025 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown
 - Had three career victories on the CLPGA before joining the LPGA Tour

NOTABLE TOURNAMENT INFO

- This is the sixth playing of the Buick LPGA Shanghai and the first held at Sheshan Golf Club
 - Sheshan Golf Club previously hosted the WGC-HSBC Champions for 14 editions of the event
- Defending champion is **Jeeno Thitikul**
 - Won in a five-hole playoff over Minami Katsu
- There are four sponsor invites: Ziyang Meng (a), Ningyao Xu (a), Linn Grant, and Danielle Kang
 - Meng is the 186th ranked amateur in the world
 - Has competed on the CLPGA 12 times
 - Is making her second start on the LPGA Tour
 - Played in the 2026 Blue Bay LPGA
 - Xu is the 265th ranked amateur in the world
 - Has made nine starts between the CLPGA and Thai LPGA

- Making her first start on the LPGA Tour
- Grant is the Rolex Ranking No. 73
 - Making her first start at the Buick LPGA Shanghai
 - Has made 10 cuts in 19 starts in 2026
 - Has two top 10 results
 - Two-time winner on the LPGA Tour
 - 2025 The ANNIKA driven by Gainbridge at Pelican
 - 2023 Dana Open
- Kang is a two-time champion of the Buick LPGA Shanghai
 - Won in 2018 and 2019
 - Has six career wins on the LPGA Tour, including one major
 - Won the 2017 KPMG Women's PGA Championship
 - Has played in every edition of the Buick LPGA Shanghai

STAT LEADERS

Official Money: Nelly Korda, \$6,220,214

Scoring Average: Nelly Korda, 69.38

Strokes Gained Total: Nelly Korda, 3.03

Greens in Regulation: Haeran Ryu, 79.04%

Scrambling Percentage: Miyu Yamashita, 67.73%

Average Driving Distance: Riley Smyth, 288.55 yards

SEASON-LONG INITIATIVES

Race to CME Globe

The Race to CME Globe is a season-long points competition in which LPGA Members accumulate points in every Official LPGA Tournament to gain entry into the season-ending CME Group Tour Championship. The player who wins the CME Group Tour Championship will be named the "Race to the CME Globe Champion."

- **Nelly Korda** remains in the lead with 3,713.875 points
- Following the LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei the following players moved up in the rankings:
 - **Jeeno Thitikul** moved up two spots to No. 2 after her win in Hawaii
 - **Ina Yoon** jumped into the top 10 at No. 7 after runner-up result
 - **A Lim Kim** climbed 5 spots to No. 16

Aon Risk Reward Challenge No. 16, par 4 at Sheshan Golf Club

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 -.917
- O'Toole is not competing the rest of 2026 in preparation for the birth of her first child
 - The Par-4 16th hole at Sheshan Country Club provides players ample opportunity to make up shots as they close out their round. While drivable, the hole has a narrow green complex with trouble on both the right and left side leaving players a tough up-and-down if they miss the green. With only four events remaining in the ARRC after this week, this hole will provide

opportunity for those competitors looking to make eagles and climb up the rankings. However, aggressiveness in the challenge needs to be tempered by the risk this hole provides with hazards affecting drives off the mark.

- The fact sheet for this week can be found [here](#)

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 2026, 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.

- There were no aces made during the LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei
- The last aces were at the Walmart NW Arkansas Championship presented by P&G
 - **Yealimi Noh, Mao Saigo, Benedetta Moresco and Nataliya Guseva** all recorded their first career hole-in-one at Pinnacle Country Club
- \$400,000 has been donated in 2026, bringing the all-time amount donated to \$3.76 million