CME Group Tour Championship

Tiburon Golf Club |Naples, Fla. | November 19-22, 2026

First-Round Notes

November 19, 2026

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Course Setup: 36-36 – 72; 6,762 yards
Weather: Thursday Forecast
Race to CME Globe Points: Winner becomes Race to the CME Globe Champion
Purse: $11 million ($4 million– winner's purse)
TV/Streaming Times: How to Watch

QUICK LINKS

Interview Transcripts
LPGA Tour Online Media Center (OMC)
Tournament Website

SOCIAL MEDIA

LPGA Tour: @LPGA, @LPGAMedia (X), @lpga_tour (Instagram, TikTok)
Tournament: @CMEgrouptourchamp (Instagram, Facebook), @CMEGroupLPGA (X)

LEADERBOARD

	Player	To par	Score
T1	Jeeno Thitikul	-7	65
T1	A Lim Kim	-7	65
T1	Karis Davidson	-7	65
T3	Nine players	-6	66

COMPETITION HIGHLIGHTS

- Leaders: **Jeeno Thitikul**, **A Lim Kim** and **Karis Davidson**
  - **Thitikul** opened her title defense with a 7-under par 65
    - Had five consecutive birdies on the last five holes
      - This ties her career long streak for consecutive birdies on the LPGA Tour
    - Carded two bogeys and nine birdies, tied with A Lim Kim for the most in the field
    - Thitikul's 65 is the eighth in a row at Tiburon Golf Club, tying **Jin Young Ko's** record for longest such streak
  - **Kim** also had two bogeys and nine birdies
    - Kim was 1-under par through nine holes, and went on to record six birdies in the back nine
    - Hit 13/14 fairways and 15/18 greens in regulation
    - Has three top 10 finishes in her last five starts
    - This is the second time this season she has held a co-lead or better after 18-holes

- **Davidson** recorded a bogey-free round
  - This is her first start at the CME Group Tour Championship
  - Began the day with four consecutive birdies
  - Her 65 ties her season low round
    - Davidson also shot a 65 in the first round at the KPMG Women's PGA Championship
  - This is the second time this season she has been a co-leader after the first round
    - The only other time was at the BMW Ladies Championship where she opened with a 66

- T3: Nine players
  - **Haeran Ryu, Hye-Jin Choi, Auston Kim, Lauren Coughlin, Charley Hull, Somi Lee, Jenny Bae, Ayaka Furue, Pauline Roussin-Bouchard**
    - This is **Roussin-Bouchard's** first start at the CME Group Tour Championship
    - **Ryu, Choi,** and **Kim** all recorded bogey-free rounds
    - This was **Furue's** 17th consecutive round of par or better at Tiburon Golf Club, the longest streak of any player
      - In that stretch she has a combined score of -45
    - **Hull's** 66 is her lowest career opening round at the CME Group Tour Championship
      - Hull earned her first-career victory at this tournament in 2016

A LOOK AT THE LEADERS

CATEGORY	Jeeno Thitikul	A Lim Kim	Karis Davidson
2026 Race to CME Globe Rank	4	15	55
2026 LPGA Tour Wins	4	0	0
2026 LPGA Tour Top 10s	11	9	2
2026 Official Season Earnings	$2.9 M	$1.4 M	$886.7K
Career LPGA Tour Wins	11	3	0
Career LPGA Tour Top 10s	66	33	6
Career Official Money	$20.3 M	$6.2 M	$1.6 M

ABOUT THE LEADERS

Rolex Rankings No. 2 Jeeno Thitikul

- Fifth start at the CME Group Tour Championship
  - 2025 – WIN, 2024 – WIN, 2023 – 5, 2022 – T10
- 2026: 17 cuts made in 19 starts with four wins and seven additional top 10s
  - Earned victories at the LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei, The Standard Portland Classic, Honda LPGA Thailand, and defended her title at the Mizuho Americas Open
  - Her only missed cuts this year have come at The Chevron Championship and the Meijer LPGA Classic for Simply Give
  - Finished T46 in her most recent start at the TOTO Japan Classic
- Career: 11 wins, 66 top 10s with $20.3 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. 27 A Lim Kim

- Sixth start at the CME Group Tour Championship
  - 2025 – T43, 2024 – 25, 2023 – T16, 2022 – 51, 2021 – T38
- 2026: 18 cuts made in 23 starts with nine top 10s
  - Season-best finish of runner-up at the ISPS HANDA Women's Scottish Open
  - Has not missed a cut since the FM Championship in August
  - Three top-10 finishes in her last five starts
- Career: Three career victories with one major championship, 33 top 10s with $6.2 million in official career earnings
  - Won the 2020 U.S. Women's Open presented by Ally as a non-member to earn Tour membership
  - Won at the 2024 LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei for her first win as a LPGA Tour member and the 2025 Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions
  - Has three wins on the KLPGA Tour

Rolex Rankings No. 70 Karis Davidson

- First start at the CME Group Tour Championship
- 2026: 18 cuts made in 20 starts with two top 10s
  - Her best finish was T5 at the Aramco Championship
  - Her only two cuts came back-to-back at the ISPS Handa Women's Scottish Open and the AIG Women's Open
- Career: 55 cuts made in 79 career starts, six top 10 finishes, and $1.6 million in official career earnings
  - Finished T41 in the LPGA Q-Series to earn LPGA Tour membership for the 2022 season
  - Was a member on the JLPGA Tour from 2018 to 2021

TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS

18 holes – 62, Gaby Lopez (R3, 2025) and Lydia Ko (R2, 2016)
36 holes – 130, Jeeno Thitikul (2025), Celine Boutier (2021), Alison Lee and Nasa Hataoka (2023)
54 holes – 194, Jeeno Thitikul (2025)
72 holes – 261, Amy Yang (2023)

QUOTABLES

Karis Davidson (T1, -7) on what she learned about Tiburon coming into this week
"Well, the greens are quite grainy, so you've really got to be aware of that, and just missing it in the right spots. A lot times we're hitting hybrids into the greens, so just being aware of that."

A Lim Kim (T1, -7) on what the key to success at this course is
"Since I play six time from here, so course layout is very comfortable from now. Just last year my homework is green read, so I'm still work on green read from now. So today it was good."

Jeeno Thitikul (T1, -7) on the five consecutive birdies to close out the round
*"*I mean, like I'm not had, you know, the irons and the driver on pointe like first couple holes, but my putter kind of save it all. And then all that five straight birdie, I think I give all the credit to the putter because it's just sink all in. I didn't hit it that close, but, I mean, like the putter is on fire today."

Auston Kim (T4, -6) on hitting out of the pine straw
"Yeah, you know, like looking back at the drive now it wasn't like catastrophic. It was a double cross, so of course it's going to be catastrophic unfortunately. Thankfully it stayed in the pine straw and I had a -- like I had a perfect line through the palm trees. I was sitting on an up slope, too, so it was quite easy to get it over that first palm tree. The wind happened to be into a little bit, so accentuated my cut; happened to hit the green and roll back a little bit; just didn't make the putt. But it was a good shot and I'm pretty proud of executing in that moment."

Charley Hull (T4, -6) on what was working off the tee
"Yeah, I felt pretty good. I kind of like lost my swing feels end of last week because my hip was very tight, and it just like started rerouting my golf swing. Today I was nervous on the first tee. I felt like I had no swing feels. Then as the round developed, I felt like I hit it really nice. I'm not going to go to the range after."

Jenny Bae (T4, -6) on what aspects of the golf course plays to her strengths
*"*I feel like, one, it's just really -- it fits my eye in terms of being a draw hitter. I can almost hit it and start it right anywhere however much I want and I know that I'm not going to be in a bad position. So I feel like that definitely helps my confidence."

Ayaka Furue (T4, -6) on her initial impressions on how the course is playing
"It is a little bit soft, so I need to get more aggressive. So just trust like small wind and that soft green. Also stay on the fairway then just focus on the course. Still got to aggressive play and trust in me and then just go get more birdie."