



DOW CHAMPIONSHIP



2026 Dow Championship

Midland Country Club | Midland, Mich. | June 11-14, 2026

First-Round Notes

June 11, 2026

Media Contact: [Annika Mayers](#), +1 (386) 212-2128; [Matt Jesus](#), +1 (402) 957-4674

Course Setup: 35-35—70, 6,158 yards

Scoring Average: R1: 71.792

Weather: Warm conditions persist with feels-like temperatures near 90F by the afternoon. West to southwesterly flow is forecasted to increase to 6-13 mph with occasional gusts within 20-25 mphs possible.

Race to CME Globe Points: 410 (winners)

Purse: \$3.3 million; winning team will split \$805,382 (winner's prize, \$402,691)

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: @dowchampionship (Instagram, TikTok, X)

LEADERBOARD

| | Player | To par | Score |
|----|------------------------------------|--------|-------|
| T1 | Gurleen Kaur/Hira Naveed | -3 | 67 |
| T1 | Camille Boyd/Michelle Zhang | -3 | 67 |
| T1 | Gemma Dryburgh/Nicole Broch Estrup | -3 | 67 |
| T4 | Nine teams | -2 | 68 |

COMPETITION HIGHLIGHTS

- Co-Leaders: Hira Naveed and Gurleen Kaur
 - Naveed and Kaur are paired up for the first time at this event
 - The two had four birdies and one bogey in their first round
 - Kaur is part of Team Dow and is one of the four golfers selected between the Epson Tour and LPGA Tour that will receive financial support from Dow to help alleviate the week-to-week costs of traveling on their respective Tours
 - This is the first time Naveed has led or co-led anytime in her career
 - [Gurleen Kaur and Nira Naveed Pre-Tournament Press Conference | 2026 Dow Championship](#)
- Co-Leaders: Gemma Dryburgh and Nicole Broch Estrup
 - First time Dryburgh and Broch Estrup are paired up together
 - The duo had five birdies and two bogeys

- Second time Dryburgh led/co-led after the first round at this event, played last season with **Cassie Porter**
- They are both two of the newest moms on the LPGA Tour
 - Broch Estrup is mom to son Max, 2025
 - Dryburgh is mom to son Leo, 2025
- Today is Dryburgh's 33rd birthday
- [Nicole Broch Estrup and Gemma Dryburgh First Round Interview | 2026 Dow Championship](#)
- Co-Leaders: Michelle Zhang and Camille Boyd
 - Boyd and Zhang are also teaming up for the first time at the Dow Championship
 - They also recorded five birdies and two bogeys in their first round
 - They are one of five duos of rookies on the LPGA Tour teaming up this week
 - This is the first time either player has led after the first round of an LPGA event in their rookie season
 - This is both of their first appearances at the Dow Championship
 - [Camille Boyd and Michelle Zhang First Round Interview | 2026 Dow Championship](#)

A LOOK AT THE LEADERS

| CATEGORY | Hira Naveed | Gurleen Kaur | Gemma Dryburgh |
|-----------------------------------|-------------|--------------|----------------|
| 2026 Race to CME Globe Rank | 164 | 127 | 119 |
| 2026 LPGA Tour Wins | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2026 LPGA Tour Top 10s | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2026 Official Season Earnings | \$25.2K | \$92.9K | \$81K |
| Career LPGA Tour Wins | 0 | 0 | 1 |
| Career Official LPGA Tour Top 10s | 2 | 1 | 12 |
| Career Official Money | \$562.2K | \$522.2K | \$2.4M |

| CATEGORY | Nicole Broch Estrup | Michelle Zhang | Camille Boyd |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|----------------|--------------|
| 2026 Race to CME Globe Rank | 126 | 148 | 155 |
| 2026 LPGA Tour Wins | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2026 LPGA Tour Top 10s | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| 2026 Official Season Earnings | \$26.6K | \$22K | \$32.9K |
| Career LPGA Tour Wins | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Career Official LPGA Tour Top 10s | 7 | 0 | 0 |
| Career Official Money | \$1.5M | \$22K | \$32.9K |

ABOUT THE LEADERS

[Rolex Rankings No. 361 Hira Naveed](#)

- Third appearance at the Dow Championship
 - 2025: Paired with **Sofia Garcia**, missed cut
 - 2024: Paired with Garcia, finished T17
- 2026: Two cuts made in five starts
 - Has a season-best finish of T46 at the JM Eagle LA Championship presented by Plastpro
- Career: Two career top 10s with \$562.2K made in official career earnings

- Finished runner-up at the 2024 Ford Championship in her second start as an LPGA Tour Member
- Has a T8 finish at the 2025 Mizuho Americas Open
- Finished 15th at the LPGA Q-Series to first earn LPGA Tour Membership for 2024
- Competed on the Epson Tour since 2020 and has eight career top 10s

[Rolex Rankings No. 179 Gurleen Kaur](#)

- Third start at the Dow Championship
 - 2025: Paired with Savannah Grewal, missed cut
 - 2024: Paired with Isabella Fierro, missed cut
- 2026: Six cuts made in 10 starts
 - Has a season-best finish of T34 at the HSBC Women's World Championship
 - Finished 65 at the U.S. Women's Open presented by Ally her last time out
- Career: One career top 10 with \$522.2K in official career earnings
 - Finished runner-up at the 2025 Standard Portland Classic, her career best finish
 - Made two cuts in five starts on the Epson Tour in 2023 and has a runner-up finish at the Epson Tour Championship
 - Competed collegiately at Baylor University
 - The first four-time All-American in program history
 - Represented the U.S. at the 2022 Arnold Palmer Cup

[Rolex Rankings No. 474 Michelle Zhang](#)

- First start at the Dow Championship
- 2026: Two cuts made in five starts
 - Season high finish at T35 at the Riviera Maya Open at Mayakoba
- Career: 2026 rookie, has played the last three seasons on the Epson Tour
 - Made 17 of 19 cuts on the Epson Tour in 2025
 - Finished 13th in the Epson Tour's Race for the Card to earn LPGA Tour membership for the 2026 season

[Rolex Rankings No. 532 Camille Boyd](#)

- First start at the Dow Championship
- 2026: Two cuts made in seven starts
 - Season high finish of T37 at the JM Eagle LA Championship presented by Plastpro
- Career: 2026 rookie, played the 2025 season on the Epson Tour
 - Made 15 of 20 cuts on the Epson Tour in 2025
 - Finished T10 at LPGA Q-Series, Final Qualifying to earn LPGA Tour membership for the 2026 season
 - Played collegiate golf at the University of Washington

[Rolex Rankings No. 185 Gemma Dryburgh](#)

- Fourth appearance at the Dow Championship
 - 2025: Paired with **Cassie Porter**, finished T6
 - 2022: Paired with **Charlotte Thomas**, missed cut
 - 2021: Paired with **Jaclyn Lee**, missed cut

- Career: One win, 12 career top 10s with \$2.4M in official career earnings
 - Won the 2020 TOTO Japan Classic
 - Represented Europe at the 2023 Solheim Cup
 - Finished T13 at the 2017 LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament to first earn LPGA Tour Membership for 2018
 - Played collegiately at Tulane University
 - Won two times and earned All-Conference Honors

Rolex Rankings No. 479 Nicole Broch Estrup

- Third start at the Dow Championship
 - 2024: Paired with **Nanna Koerstz Madsen**, finished T3
 - 2022: Paired with **Caroline Masson**, missed cut
- 2026: One cut made in one start
 - Finished T14 at the ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern
- Career: Seven career top 10s with \$1.5M in official career earnings
 - Has a career-best finish of runner-up at the 2019 CPKC Women's Open
 - Represented Denmark at the 2016 Rio Olympics
 - Finished T24 at the 2016 LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament to earn Priority List Category 17 status for the 2017 LPGA Tour season
 - Also competes on the Ladies European Tour
 - Has one win at the 2015 Helsingborg Open
 - Named 2015 LET Player of the Year after finishing third on the LET Order of Merit

TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS:

18 holes (Foursomes/alternate shot) – 62, Cheyenne Knight & Elizabeth Szokol (2023, R3)

18 holes (Four-ball/best ball) – 58, Celine Boutier & Yuka Saso (2024, R2), Minjee Lee & Jin Young Ko (2019, R4)

36 holes – 126, Ariya & Moriya Jutanugarn (2021); Pauline Roussin & Dewi Weber (2022)

54 holes – 192, Cheyenne Knight & Elizabeth Szokol (2023)

72 holes – 253, Cydney Clanton & Jasmine Suwannapura (2019)

QUOTABLE

Gurleen Kaur (T1, -3) on what their strategy was for the day and why it worked so well

“Our strategy was I play odds and Hira played evens, and honestly, we didn't decide until last night. I think we play well together because we're both such good friends and it's never like oh, my God, I'm so sorry. It's really just, okay, well, this is the shot, and the next person has to step up and hit it.

We just both mesh well, and I think choosing Hira with the evens and me on the odds just complements our game really well.”

Hira Naveed (T1, -3) on the crowd support this week

“Yeah, I think we encouraged each other really well today, and, again, that goes with our friendship and just being comfortable with each other and being able to pick each other up when we're feeling down.

Yeah, the crowds are great. They give us a lot of energy, so we're excited for tomorrow.”

Nicole Broch Estrup (T1, -3) on the team strategy for tomorrow

“Go at every pin. (Laughter.) No, obviously I mean, you know, we played super solid today, so if we can keep that up, then tomorrow you can be a little bit more aggressive with some of the pin positions. Today you just want to make sure you don't put too many bogeys on the card. We managed really well. But tomorrow is a different game tomorrow really.”

Gemma Dryburgh (T1, -3) on the unique nature of team competition

“Yeah, it's a lot of fun. We get to obviously let our hair down, especially tomorrow with the four-ball. Be a lot of fun. Just kind of, yeah, like you said, breaks up the year and something a bit different that we don't get to do very often. I think we both said we used to do it in our kind of junior and kind of amateur days, especially back in Europe, so it's nice to get back to that.”

Michelle Zhang (T1, -3) on playing with fellow rookie Camille Boyd

“No, I think it's just super exciting. We haven't had the best season this year so far, but just going out there we're always nervous. But kind of putting it into perspective this week. Hitting a bad shot, it's okay. Like I know Camille got me. Or even if she placed me in a bad spot it's okay. Like I got you, dog; don't worry about it.”

Camille Boyd (T1, -3) on their strategy heading into the first round

“I think so strategy we didn't talk too much about it. It was just like, okay, I'm going to do odd holes, you're going to do even holes. Then today I was just like -- I don't think we both hit it super well, but Michelle putted great and I think we were able to capitalize on that momentum, and, you know, keep the good vibes going and keep it light and fun out there.”

Linn Grant (T3, -2) on the strategy today and why it worked so well

“I feel like we have -- like we played foursomes so much, so we already have everything, like our strategy installed. Like we both always have a putter in hand even though it's a short putt. Like we're always on the tee together. We try to walk together. Yeah, just to like be able to rely on each other a bit more and feel a bit more safe I guess.”

Lindy Duncan (T3, -2) on how she and partner Leona Maguire will adjust strategy tomorrow with the different format

“I think today with the wind and some tough pins we were playing pretty smart, and I think tomorrow being best ball, I think is supposed to also be very windy in the afternoon, so hopefully we can miss it in the right spots and make a few birdies.”

[ON LPGA.COM](#)

[Zhang, Boyd Bring the 'Baddies' Energy to the Top of the Leaderboard at Dow Championship](#)

[LPGA and Dow Announce 2026 Dow Impact Award Nominees, Selected For Exceptional Community Giveback Efforts](#)

[Field Breakdown: 2026 Dow Championship](#)

[Five Things to Know About the 2026 Dow Championship](#)

SOCIAL SNAPSHOT

[Team Legally Blonde in action !\[\]\(179f167ede0522ebb4ea025b3ad78ca7_img.jpg\) !\[\]\(87058f19cbcad5cb0037b3939e56d0cf_img.jpg\)](#)

[Approach game on point for Nelly Korda](#)

[WHAT A SHOT !!](#)

Mimi Rhodes sinks their third birdie of the day 🏌️

Some killer song choices in there 🎵

In summary, Juli's a legend 🏌️