



## 2026 KPMG Women's PGA Championship

Hazeltine National Golf Club | Chaska, Minn. | June 25-28, 2026

### Wednesday Pre-Tournament Notes

June 24, 2026

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 Tournament: @KPMGWomensPGA (X, Instagram)

#### PRE-TOURNAMENT AVAILABILITY HIGHLIGHTS

##### **LPGA Commissioner Craig Kessler**

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

*Kessler on the state of the KPMG Women's PGA Championship*

"The state of this championship is better than it's ever been. Tim and Terry have both hit on some of the highlights, but let me share with the group what excites me about the KPMG Women's PGA Championship. First, we're playing some of the greatest courses in the world. And to go to Congressional next year, Bethpage Black the year after that, I said yesterday during our welcome reception at the pro-am party, one of my favorite parts of the job is walking the range during tournament week, and particularly during a major. You can feel the energy from our players when they're extra excited to be here. That is the range you get this week at Hazeltine. Our players are fired up to be playing such an iconic venue. Also, it helps that KPMG announced yesterday they're playing for the largest purse in the history of women's professional golf. By the way, the player experience is better than ever before. The fan experience, the viewer experience, with all the investments that both KPMG and the PGA of America are making, they're off the charts."

##### **Rolex Rankings No. 1 Nelly Korda**

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

*Korda on if she feels the pressure from her season heading into this event*

“No. I'm just out here trying to play golf for sure. I think I have a very in-the-moment mindset this year, which I'm just trying to take towards the end of the year. No matter what happens, I've just told myself if I am lifting the trophy, like that is obviously the main goal at the end the week. But I'm going to prepare or focus on my preparation and know that I'm 100% confident in it and lean on that.”

### **Rolex Rankings No. 2 Jeeno Thitikul**

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

*Thitikul on how her game feels heading into this week*

“I think my game is pretty good. It's pretty positive on my side right now. I knew when I hit a good shot what side it feel and then I knew when I hit a bad shot what I did feel about, oh, what am I missing on my swing. But obviously it doesn't mean that you're going to have a good result. Some of my experience taught me that when you has the best games in your side, doesn't mean I going to have the best result. It just really depend on things out there. Really depend on it's golf and then it affected to like other weather, the grass, the whatever. But I think what I'm doing right now, I'm doing my process, which my process is good.”

### **Rolex Rankings No. 4 Charley Hull**

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

*Hull on if Hazeltine is a “Charley style” course*

“Yeah, I think it is. I think it is a challenging golf course, and there's birdie opportunities out there. Also, you've got the very difficult irons this week because it's narrow greens.”

### **Rolex Rankings No. 5 Lottie Woad**

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

*Woad on how she is learning to prepare for major championships*

“Yeah, I think I'm still learning how to prepare for the majors. Obviously haven't played this one yet; it's the first. I think I'm still working out my schedule, my first full year, just trying to play as many events without playing too many. Kind of worked out that I like playing before a major just kind of to get the momentum going, so just been trying to do that where possible in the schedule.”

### **Rolex Rankings No. 6 Ruoning Yin**

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

*Yin on Hazeltine and how she feels coming into the week*

“I played nine hole yesterday and I play 18 hole pro-am today. I think the course is in great condition and green is very firm. Also the rough is very thick. But overall I think my game is in a good spot and I'm ready for the tournament.”

### **Rolex Rankings No. 8 Hannah Green**

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

*Green on the KPMG Women's PGA Championship hosting their events on historic golf course*

“Yeah, it's great. I think it's nice to come back to venues where we have played before but also play new ones. Obviously we're playing Congressional, all these really amazing golf courses, obviously here in Hazeltine. And it's nice to come back for those who have won at these events. Maybe it's a little bit more added pressure, but it's also nice to relive the really good moments out on the golf course. Yeah, I'm just going to try and not put too much pressure on myself and kind of suck it up while I'm out there tomorrow morning.”

### **Rolex Rankings No. 9 Minjee Lee**

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

*Lee on why women's golf is a great investment*

“I mean, great question. I think we've all known as professional athletes and as women, we've all known that we're a great investment. I think it's just kind of part of the movement on that trend of movement. I think a lot of companies and a lot of people are stepping up to be a part of that movement.

Obviously I think we've felt for a very long time that we deserve the same -- or I mean it's not the same, but it's getting better as what the men get as well. We're going in the right direction, but we also have a little ways to go as well. Obviously having the purse up to 13 million now, I think it's the highest purse in all of our majors, and I think it just sets the bar and we just keep going from strength to strength.”

### **Rolex Rankings No. 11 Lydia Ko**

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

*Ko on how she shuts out the noise and focuses on the task at hand*

“I've had a lot of questions this way throughout my 13 years on Tour, and I think even as an amateur it was like, when are you turning pro? Are you turning pro now? Like it was like that. And then it's like, when are you finishing your first LPGA event as a member? And then it's like, are you going to break Morgan's record? There is always something. I think it's great to have a goal. It's always great to have something to reach towards, too. I think that -- and that's the same for no matter what ranked player you are. So, yeah, I think I have gone through all that so now I deal with it better and it honestly -- like I hear it and I'm not a robot where I can just let it go out the other side, but I just don't think I let that affect me as much on how I approach these events.”

### **Rolex Rankings No. 13 Gaby Lopez**

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

*Lopez on entering this week off her strong finish at the U.S. Women's Open*

“Yeah, you know, we all learn a lot from our mistakes when we go back and we analyze them. But I also feel we learn a lot when you perform well, and I'm learning that I am capable of holding myself into like the back nine of the a major championship on a Sunday. I think that's awesome. It's really exciting. I'm learning that perspective means a lot out here in this game. Being able to change perspectives when things are going not well or well. I'm trying to play a little more stress-free, a little bit more relaxed. Not too judgy in myself, not too hard, and be a little kinder and loving my game and just enjoying myself out there.”

### **Minnesota Native and Rolex Rankings No. 439 Kate Smith-Stroh**

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

*Smith-Stroh on getting the call to play this week in her home state*

“Yeah, it was very special. Definitely been circled on my calendar for a while. Played some junior golf here, and, yeah, feels just kind of like a celebration for my family and friends. You know, it's about performance and playing well, but I feel like this week is more like trying to thank the people that got me here. It took a village, so it's nice to have a lot of support this week and be able to share it with everybody.”

### PGA and LPGA Professional Allie White

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

*White on she is balancing this week with her work life*

“Well, the second part of that question, I left my staff with a good plan and they're really good, so I'm really grateful they're home. They haven't even -- they've called me one time. That's been it. That's pretty incredible. Ellie, Joey, Andy, all ya'll back home, thank you. It's just a really special week. Nothing else like it. You know, I played in a U.S. Open when I was 19 and I had just no clue about the world and was like, oh, neat. This is awesome. You know, I'll probably do lots of these. Now I'm 36 and I think it's my fifth major, and it's been a claw getting here, so really, really grateful, yeah.”

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