



LOTTE
CHAMPIONSHIP
PRESENTED BY Hoakalei

LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei

Hoakalei Country Club | Ewa Beach, Hawaii | Oct. 1-4, 2026

First-Round Notes

Oct. 1, 2026

LPGA ON-SITE COMMUNICATIONS TEAM

Mallory Kinahan, LPGA
mallory.kinahan@lpga.com
+1 (631) 796-9459

Matt Jesus, LPGA
matt.jesus@lpga.com
+1 (402) 957-4674

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: @lottechampionship (Instagram), @lpgalotte (X), LPGA LOTTE Championship (Facebook)

LEADERBOARD

	Player	To par	Score
1	A Lim Kim	-7	65
T2	Yu Liu	-6	66
T2	Ina Yoon	-6	66
T3	Six players	-5	67

COMPETITION HIGHLIGHTS

- Leader: **A Lim Kim**
 - Went bogey-free with seven birdies
 - Fourth bogey-free round this season and the 30th of her career
 - Her best opening round score at this event
 - Shot 66 in her last two outings
 - Her 65 is her lowest first-round score of the season
 - 65 is her lowest 18-hole score since the final round of the Honda LPGA Thailand
- T2: **Yu Liu** and **Ina Yoon** are tied for second and shot 6-under
 - Liu carded a bogey-free round with six birdies
 - This is just her second bogey-free round this season and 34th of her career

- Had just 27 putts and hit 15/18 greens in regulation
- Ninth career start at the LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei
 - This is her lowest opening round score at this tournament
- Yoon recorded seven birdies and one bogey
 - Her seven birdies are tied for the most in the field after 18 holes
 - Registered just 25 putts, tied for the fewest in the field
 - This is her lowest opening round since the KPMG Women's PGA Championship where she finished as runner-up
 - Second career start at the LOTTE Championship
 - Finished T42 in last year's tournament

A LOOK AT THE LEADER

CATEGORY	A Lim Kim
2026 Race to CME Globe Rank	21
2026 LPGA Tour Wins	0
2026 LPGA Tour Top 10s	6
2026 Official Season Earnings	\$1.0M
Career LPGA Tour Wins	3
Career Official LPGA Tour Top 10s	30
Career Official Money	\$5.9M

ABOUT THE LEADER

- Fifth start at the LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei
 - 2025 – T10, 2024 – WON, 2022 – T48, 2021 – T10
- 2026: 13 cuts made in 18 starts with six top 10s
 - Finished runner-up at the ISPS HANDA Women's Scottish Open
 - Finished T15 in her last start at the Walmart NW Arkansas Championship
 - Missed back-to-back cuts before her T15 finish last week
- Career: Three wins, including one major championship with 30 top 10s and \$5.9M in official career earnings
 - Won the U.S. Women's Open in 2020 as a non-member and accepted immediate membership following her win
 - Won the 2024 LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei and the 2025 Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions
 - Three-time winner on the KLPGA

TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS:

18 holes – 62, Lizette Salas (R4, 2013), Cristie Kerr (R3, 2017) and Youmin Hwang (R2, 2025)
36 holes – 128, Yuka Saso (2021)
54 holes – 195, Lydia Ko (2021)
72 holes – 260, Lydia Ko (2021)

QUOTABLES

A Lim Kim (1, -7) on battling the winds at this course

"Trajectory for control and then putting really important this course because very windy. And then today rain is back and forth, back and forth, so tough conditions. But it was really good play today, yeah."

Ina Yoon (T2, -6) on her round today

"I made a lot of like mid-range putt today. Was so good. My front nine was really solid. It was back nine, but for me it was front. I made five birdies and a little bit of mistake on the back, but I recovered okay so it was fun."

Yu Liu (T2, -6) on the good golf she has been playing recently

"It's just I feel like I'm able to score better. Just the short game definitely improved over the last few month, and it was long game that caught me a little bit leading up to this stretch. Me and my coach, we really worked hard on the three week off, and I'm glad to see some results paying off."

Auston Kim (T4, -5) on how she balances a busy schedule, rest but the desire to compete and win

"Right. I'm a little tired but I love playing golf and I love competing, and any week out here is a great experience. Like the past month I've learned so much about myself and my game and any time out on the golf course is a win right now. A lot of people who I look up to or who I consider role models have told me to get as much experience as I possibly can and be as patient as I can. I feel like I have a lot good momentum on my side and even though it is a lot of work, I am very thankful to do what I do. Golf is really exciting right now so I'm just trying to ride the wave as long as I can."

Polly Mack (T4, -5) on going bogey-free today

"Yeah, started thinking a little bit about that towards the end. I was like, oooh, it's kind of nice. But, yeah, I mean, I just hit pretty good approach shots. Had a lot of birdie putts out there. Again, this course kind of plays to my advantage of being a long hitter and I have a lot of wedges in, so I would kind of expect to hit a lot of greens and have a lot of birdie putts. Therefore, this is kind of a nice return of like, yeah, this worked out. There is still some putts left out there that we can make."

Jeeno Thitikul (T4, -5) on battling two brief delays due to rain

"Yeah, I mean, like it's kind of, you know, annoying that we had rain, like two waits on rain, and especially we just had one before our last hole. But the good thing is it wasn't take that long to just like waiting and then standing. But, I mean, what is possible to do, it's just like keep yourself stretching and not too stiff. That's the best you can do. And just learn from it. Just learn how the green is kind of rolling after the rain."

Michelle Zhang (T4, -5) on building off the momentum from her good finish at last week's event

"For sure. Just kind of been playing -- like this is my fourth week in a row and been having good finishes the last three. Then definitely just I feel like it's different, especially playing good on an LPGA week. Just having that confidence and knowing that I can compete out here. But I thought I played fine. I held up fine the final round. Just didn't drop any putts. Just coming into today was just telling myself being patient out there. Had a couple really good looks in the first few holes and kind of missed it. Then just being patient out there and trying to tell myself I got hit it closer to make putts."

ON LPGA.COM

[Jeeno Thitikul Back in the Mix After Round One in Hawaii](#)

[A Lim Kim First Round Interview | 2026 LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei](#)

[First Round Highlights | 2026 LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei](#)

[Auston Kim's Eagle Sparks 5-Under 67, Puts Her in the Hunt at LOTTE Championship presented by Hoakalei](#)