



2026 Walmart NW Arkansas Championship presented by P&G
Pinnacle Country Club | Rogers, Arkansas | September 25-27, 2026

First-Round Notes

September 25, 2026

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Course Setup: 36-35 – 71, 6,300 yards

Weather: [Friday Forecast](#)

Race to CME Globe Points: 500 (winner)

Purse: \$3 million (\$450,000 – 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: @NWACHampionship (X, Instagram)

LEADERBOARD

	Player	To par	Score
1	Yuna Nishimura	-8	63
2	Yu Liu	-7	64
T3	Nine Players	-6	65

COMPETITION HIGHLIGHTS

- Leader: **Yuna Nishimura**
 - Eagled No. 18 to take the solo lead
 - Went bogey-free with six birdies and an eagle
 - First time leading after the first round of play
 - First time leading after any round in her career
 - Her lowest 18-hole score of her career
 - Previous was 64 in R2 of the ANNIKA drive by Gainbridge at Pelican
 - Her second bogey-free round of the season and 16th of her career
- Second: **Yu Liu** went bogey-free with seven birdies
 - Her first bogey-free round of the season and of 33rd her career
 - Just the third time this season she has recorded an opening round in the 60s
 - Her opening round 64 is the lowest 18-hole score since the 2019 season
 - Her 25 putts are tied for the fewest in the field
- T3: Nine players
 - **Lizette Salas** had seven birdies and a bogey
 - She hit 12 of 13 fairways
 - Score of 65 is her lowest round this year

- **Jin Hee Im** recorded eight birdies and two bogeys
 - Led the field in birdies
 - Hit 17 of 18 greens in regulation
- **Sophia Schubert** went bogey-free with six birdies
 - Her second bogey-free round of the season and sixth of her career
 - Hit all 18 greens in regulation and missed just one fairway
- **Chanettee Wannasaen** had seven birdies and one bogey
 - Her seven birdies were tied for the seventh most among the field
- **Amy Yang** went bogey-free with six birdies
 - Her second bogey-free round of the season and 94th of her career
 - Yang is making her first start since WD from the FM Championships due to injury
- **Juniper Jang** hit all fairways and greens in regulation
 - She went bogey-free with six birdies
- **Frida Kinhult** hit all 13 fairways in regulation
 - She also went bogey-free with six birdies
 - Her 65 is her lowest round score this season since the Ford Championship
- **Celine Boutier** went bogey-free with six birdies
 - Also shot a 65 in her first round of the 2025 Walmart NW Arkansas Championship, where she finished T9
 - This is her lowest first round score this season
- **Charley Hull** had seven birdies with one bogey
 - She needed just 26 putts, tied for the fifth fewest among the field
 - First start in the Walmart NW Arkansas Championship since 2022, where she shot a 66 in her first round
- **Gaby Lopez** is the lowest Razorback in the field at T12
 - She has six birdies and a bogey in her opening round
 - Needed just 25 putts, tied for the fewest among the field

A LOOK AT THE LEADER

CATEGORY	Yuna Nishimura
2026 Race to CME Globe Rank	103
2026 LPGA Tour Wins	0
2026 LPGA Tour Top 10s	1
2026 Official Season Earnings	\$151.9K
Career LPGA Tour Wins	0
Career Official LPGA Tour Top 10s	5
Career Official Money	\$1.4M

ABOUT THE LEADER

Rolex Ranking No. 350 Yuna Nishimura

- Seventh start at the Walmart NW Arkansas Championship presented by P&G
 - 2025 – T106*, 2024 – T12, 2023 – T3
 - *The 2025 playing was cancelled after 18 holes due to heavy rainfall
- 2026: Six cuts made in 15 starts with one top 10

- Finished T5 at the Dow Championship with her partner Nasa Hataoka
- Her best individual finish of the year is T17 at the CPKC Women's Open
- Career: Five top 10s with \$1.4 million in official career earnings
 - Has a career-best finish of T3 last done at the 2024 HSBC Women's World Championship
 - Represented Team Japan at the 2023 Hanwha LIFEPLUS International Crown
 - Finished T24 at the LPGA Q-Series and earned LPGA membership for the 2023 season

TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS:

18 holes – 60, Lucy Li (R3, 2024)

36 holes – 126, Anna Nordqvist (2020) and So Yeon Ryu (2017)

54 holes – 192, Nasa Hataoka (2018)

QUOTABLES

Yuna Nishimura (1, -8) on her eagle putt on 18 to take the lead

(Through translation.) "I really went for the last putt. I wanted to make it so I kind of went aggressively and it went in, so I'm hoping it's going to continue tomorrow."

Yu Liu (2, -7) on her bogey-free round

"Yeah, I don't think I've had a bogey-free round for so long, and definitely very, very happy about how the round went today. We came off three-week break, so just a lot of butterflies going on to be honest. Also didn't have a good stretch at all leading up to this week, so frankly I worked really hard during the three-week stretch, so glad to see things kind of pay off today."

Charley Hull (T3, -6) on her opening round after competing at the Solheim Cup

"I felt like I played pretty solid. It was quieted weird. Last week at home I didn't hit a golf ball for like five days because I was bed-bound I was so poorly. After the Solheim Cup I had the flu, I had sickness and everything, and I nearly pulled out of this week because I felt like I wasn't prepared enough. And then I come over to have America on Saturday. I've had like some sponsor stuff up until Monday, Tuesday actually, and got in here late Tuesday night. So it wasn't really the best prep, but actually I come in here with no expectations and felt like I hit it pretty well tee-to-green and putted decent."

Lizette Salas (T3, -6) on her impressions of the golf course

"I mean, it's a three-day event so you got to come out hot. That's obviously like a good thing going into tomorrow. I think I know -- I'm doing a lot of things right. I think I need to give myself more credit, just fine tune whatever I can find later when I evaluate my round. Overall, I stayed in it. I stayed patient. I stayed committed, which was a huge thing for me coming into this week. I played with no expectations. Played with no fear. I know that's very simple to say, but I know this golf course very well. The familiarity of this course suited my game."

Amy Yang (T3, -6) on her changes from her first nine to the second to improve her score

"Actually, yeah, par for eight holes, needed a lot of patience through my front nine. Then my back was getting tight and I like just kept telling myself, don't give up. Let's just be patient and do one shot at a time. It did get really tight towards the end so need to work on that, but the results were really good, yeah."

Regan Zibilski (T26, -4) on her emotions on the first tee today for her LPGA Tour debut

"Yeah, no, I was super excited. Obviously, the nerves were a little high just being an LPGA event, being my first one. Also going to school just down the road. So overall it was a great day and I was super, super happy, super excited to be out there. To see all the Razorback fans, that was really, really cool.

ON LPGA.COM

[Walmart NW Arkansas Championship presented by P&G celebrates 20th anniversary](#)

[Epson Tour Rookie Reagan Zibilski Returns to Arkansas for LPGA Tour Debut](#)

[Gaby Lopez Capitalizes on Soft Greens, Strong Start in Arkansas](#)

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