

2026 SOLHEIM CUP // PRE-COMPETITION NOTES

Information researched by Elias Sports Bureau, Inc.

- Nineteen Solheim Cups have been played, with the U.S. Team leading the European Team, 11-7-1. The U.S. Team leads 8-2 in competitions played on U.S. soil while the European Team is 5-3-1 on its home turf, including a tie in Andalusia in 2023. Overall, home teams are 13-5-1.
- The last four Solheim Cups have been tightly contested: 14½ to 13½ for Europe in 2019, 15 to 13 for Europe in 2021, at 14-14 tie in 2023, and 15½ to 12½ for the Americans in 2024. That is a total difference of **six points** over the last four competitions *combined*. As a matter of comparison, the last four Ryder Cups combined have been decided by a cumulative margin of **24** points!
- The American Team is looking for its first victory on European soil since 2015, when they won 14½ to 13½ in Germany under the leadership of Captain Juli Inkster. Overall, **road** teams are 3-3-1 over the last seven Solheim Cups dating back to the European Team's blowout victory (18-10) in Colorado in 2013.

As a point of comparison from the men's side, the U.S. Team has lost each of the last seven Ryder Cups played on European soil, with its most recent road victory coming in 1993 in England under Captain Tom Watson.

- Angela Stanford is 14th woman to captain the U.S. Solheim Cup Team. She will be the seventh to make her debut on foreign soil, joining Judy Rankin (1996 in Wales, **won** 17-11), Pat Bradley (2000 in Scotland, **lost** 14.5 to 11.5), Betsy King (2007 in Sweden, **won** 16-12), Rosie Jones (2011 in Ireland, **lost** 15-13), Juli Inkster (2015 in Germany, **won** 14.5 to 13.5) and Stacy Lewis (2023 in Andalusia, **tied** 14-14). Those six previous captains have an overall combined record of 3 wins, 2 losses and 1 tie.
- Angela Stanford joined the LPGA Tour in 2001 and made 537 official starts through 2024 – the highest total for any player in the 21st century. Next most: Cristie Kerr (532), Christina Kim (512), Catriona Matthew (433) and Katherine Kirk (426).
- Angela Stanford's most recent LPGA victories came in 2018 (Evian Championship) and 2020 (Volunteers of America Classic) at ages 40 and 43, respectively. Those are the two most recent instances of a player winning on the LPGA Tour after her 40th birthday. In addition, she is the only woman over the last 20 seasons (2007-2026) to win a major championship in her 40s.
- Angela Stanford competed in 20 Solheim Cup matches over six appearances between 2003 and 2015, forging a record of 4-13-3. Having a captain with a losing record as a player is not too unusual: Pat Bradley (captain in 2000) had a record of 2-5-1 over 8 career Solheim Cup matches, Patty Sheehan was 5-7-1 as player prior to being the U.S. captain in 2002 & 2003, and Stacy Lewis was 5-10-1 prior to assuming the helm in 2023.
- Anna Nordqvist will be the sixth woman from Sweden to captain the European Team, joining Pia Nilsson (1998-lost), Catrin Nilsmark (2003-won, 2005-lost), Helen Alfredsson (2007-lost), Liselotte Neumann (2013-won) and Annika Sorenstam (2017-lost). No other European country has been represented by more than two Solheim Cup captains.

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- At 39, Anna Nordqvist is the third European captain to lead the team before turning 40, joining Catrin Nilsmark and Mickey Walker – both of whom served as captain twice in their 30s.
- Anna Nordqvist competed in nine Solheim Cups -- tied for sixth-most among European players. Her team had an overall record of 4-4-1. As an individual, she forged a record of 17-15-3 over 35 matches. Only Laura Davies (22), Annika Sorenstam (22), Catriona Matthew (18) and Suzann Pettersen (18) had more match victories for the European side than Nordqvist.
- Anna Nordqvist finished T-7 at the Amundi Evian Championship in July. She becomes the first player to finish among the Top-10 in a major championship during a year which she serves as a Solheim captain (for either team). The only other Solheim captain to finish among the Top-20 at a major during a Solheim year was Catrin Nilsmark, who finished T-15 at the 2003 Kraft Nabisco Championship (now the Chevron Championship).
- The European Team has four captain's picks on their squad – three of which are Solheim Cup rookies (Nastasia Nadaud, Julia Lopez Ramirez and Mimi Rhodes). It is just the third time in the history of this competition that either team has used as many as three captain's picks on players who had never competed in a Solheim Cup before.

That also happened in 2011 (Captain Alison Nicholas selected rookies Sandra Gal, Azahara Munoz and Caroline Hedwell for the European Team. Those three combined for a 4-4-3 record); and in 2021 (Captain Catriona Matthew selected rookies Nanna Koerstz Madsen, Leona Maguire, Matilda Castren for the European Team, with those players forging a combined record of 8-2-2).

- In 2024, there were seven combined captain's picks between the two teams. None of the seven players ended up with a winning record.
- A comparison of the 12-women rosters:

USA		EUROPE
24	Previous Solheim Cup Appearances	27
44-28-12 (.595)	Cumulative Solheim Cup Record	50-40-13 (.549)
54	Average Rolex Ranking	39
2	Solheim Cup Rookies	4
3	Major Champions	2
6	Major Championships	2
34	Career LPGA wins	22
35	LPGA Tour Top-10s in 2026	30
12	Top-10s in Majors, 2026	8
28.9 years	Average Age	28.1 years

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- This year, the average member of the U.S. Team is about a year older than the European Team (29 vs. 28). This snaps a significant streak: in each of the last 10 Solheim Cups (2007 to 2024) the Americans were younger.
- In 2024 the U.S. Team dominated Day 1, leading 6 points to 2 points after winning each of the first two sessions by a score of 3 to 1. It was the largest lead at the end of the first day in Solheim Cup history.
- Teams holding a lead at the end of Day 1 have an all-time Solheim Cup record of 14-3-1. Teams holding a lead entering Singles play are 9-4-0. Six times, most recently in 2023, the competition has been tied going into Singles.
- The U.S. Team has improved their alternate shot results over the past couple of Solheim Cups. They won the foursomes battle in both 2023 (6-2) and 2024 (5-3) after having lost under that format in each of six consecutive Solheim Cups from 2011 to 2021.
- Cumulative results from the 12 Singles matches have been remarkably close in recent Solheim Cups: 6 points each in 2017, 6.5 to 5.5 in favor of the European Team in 2019, 6 points each in both 2021 and 2023, and 6.5 to 5.5 in favor of Europe in 2024.
- Nelly Korda, who will be competing in her fifth Solheim Cup this year, has a record of 10-5-1 over 16 career matches. She has the third-highest career winning percentage at this event among American players with at least 10 matches, behind only Christina Kim (6-2-2, .700) and Dottie Pepper (13-5-2, .700). Next on the list are Megan Khang (7-3-3, .654) and Paula Creamer (17-9-5, .629).
- Nelly Korda has a Solheim Cup record of 5-2-1 (.688) when playing on foreign soil – the highest for any American who has played at least five matches across the pond.
- Nelly Korda will be competing as the #1 player in the world according to the Rolex Women's World Golf Rankings. She was also #1 during the 2021 and 2024 Solheim Cups. The only other player, for either side, to compete at the Solheim Cup as the #1 player in the world is Lilia Vu, who did so in 2023. The rankings have existed since 2006.
- Rose Zhang, chosen by Angela Stanford as a captain's pick this year, had one of the most dominant performances in Solheim Cup history in 2024. She won all four of her matches and dispatched each opponent prior to reaching the 17th hole in each match.
- Megan Khang, another one of Captain Stanford's picks, has won seven of her last eight Solheim Cup matches dating back to her singles victory against Sophia Popov in 2021. She has won each of her last five Solheim Cup matches, including all three in 2024.

It is the longest winning streak by an American since Morgan Pressel won seven matches in a row from 2009 to 2013. It is the longest streak by any player since both Charley Hull and Caroline Hedwall won six Solheim Cup matches in a row, respectively, spanning parts of 2013 and 2015.

- With Rose Zhang (4-0-0) and Megan Khang (3-0-0), 2024 marked the first time that multiple players went 3-0-0 or better at one Solheim Cup since 1994 when both Dottie Pepper and Brandie Burton went 3-0-0. Zhang was just the third U.S. Team player to go

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4-0-0 at one Solheim Cup, joining Morgan Pressel (2011) and Dottie Pepper (1998). Europe's Caroline Hedwall is the only player ever to go 5-0-0 at a Solheim Cup.

- Lindy Duncan, also one of Captain Stanford's pick, will be making her Solheim Cup debut. At 35 years old, she will be the oldest American player to make her debut as a captain's pick. The only captain's pick to make their Solheim Cup debut at a more advanced age than Duncan was Charlotta Sorenstam, for Europe, in 1998 at age 45.
- At age 30, England's Charley Hull will be competing in her eighth Solheim Cup. She has a record of 15-9-3 (.611) over 27 matches. Her 15 wins are the most by any player in Solheim Cup history prior to turning 30. Her 27 matches are tied for the most by any player prior to turning 30, along with Paula Creamer and Lexi Thompson.
- Charley Hull is one of just four players to produce at least four Top-10 finishes in each of the last five seasons, along with Nelly Korda, Jeeno Thitikul and Nasa Hatoaka.
- Twenty-two year old Lottie Woad will be making her Solheim Cup debut this year. Earlier this season she tied Jeeno Thitikul for the fourth-fastest player ever to accrue 2M in official earnings in terms of starts (23), behind only Miyu Yamashita (16 starts), Rio Takeda (17) and Sung Hyun Park (19).
- Lottie Woad has won twice on the LPGA Tour (the 2025 ISPS HANDA Women's Scottish Open and the 2026 Kroger Queen City Championship). Then 21 years old, she was the youngest European to win on the LPGA since fellow Englishwoman Charley Hull won the 2016 CME Group Tour Championship at age 20.
- There are two players under the age of 23 at this year's Solheim Cup, and both are on the European Team (Lottie Woad-22, Nastasia Nadaud-21). The only other times the European Team had a pair of players who were 22 or younger occurred in 2002 (Paula Marti-22 and Suzann Petersen-21) and 2017 (Charley Hull-21, Georgia Hall-21 and Emily Kristine Pedersen-21).
- Leona Maguire, one of Anna Nordqvist's four captain's picks, has a lifetime record of 8-3-1 at the Solheim Cup (.708), which is the third highest among Europeans who have played at least 10 matches behind only Janice Moodie (7-2-2, .727) and Carin Koch (10-3-3, .708). Next on the list are Annika Sorenstam (22-11-4, .649) and Charley Hull (15-9-3, .611).
- With Celine Boutier and Nastasia Nadaud, the European Team will feature multiple French representatives for the first time in over 10 years. Karin Icher and Gwladys Nocera were on the 2015 team.
- The last time the Solheim Cup was played in Europe, the U.S. Team won the opening (foursomes) session, 4 to 0 in Andalusia. It was just the second time in Solheim Cup history that either team swept the initial session. Back in 2000 in Scotland, the European Team swept the opening (foursomes) session 4 to 0 and held on for a 14.5 to 11.5 victory.
- In 2024, the American Team won the Solheim Cup, despite the European Team getting more points from the Singles session (6.5 point to 5.5 points). It was the first time since 2000 that the winning team failed to win the Singles battle.