

**2025 ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer**

Seaview, A Dolce Hotel, Bay Course | Galloway, N.J. | June 6-8, 2025

First-Round Notes

June 6, 2025

Media Contact: [Carly Lyvers](#), +1 (386) 214-9105**Course Setup:** 37-34 – 71; 6,120 yards**Scoring Average:** R1: 70.835**Weather:** Mostly cloudy to partly sunny skies throughout the day with temperatures reaching a high of 79 F and southerly winds between 8-15 mph**Race to CME Globe Points:** 500 (winner)**Purse:** \$1.75 million, \$262,500 winner's portion**QUICK LINKS**[Interview Transcripts](#)[LPGA Tour Online Media Center \(OMC\)](#)[Tournament Website](#)[How To Watch – TV/Streaming Times](#)**SOCIAL MEDIA**

LPGA Tour: @LPGA, @LPGAMedia (X), @lpga_tour (Instagram, TikTok)

Tournament: @ShopRiteLPGAClassic (X), @ShopRiteLPGA (Instagram)

LEADERBOARD

Pos.	Player	To par	Score
T1	Elizabeth Szokol	-8	63
T1	Ilhee Lee	-8	63
3	Akie Iwai	-6	65
T4	Eight players	-5	66

COMPETITION HIGHLIGHTS

- T1: **Elizabeth Szokol** and **Ilhee Lee** opened with rounds of 63 after playing in the afternoon wave on Friday
 - Szokol recorded her lowest raw score on the LPGA Tour
 - Previously shot rounds of 64 at the 2023 Walmart NW Arkansas Championship and 2023 HSBC Women's World Championship
 - Made nine birdies and one bogey
 - Tied for first amongst the field for most birdies
 - Started her round with five consecutive birdies
 - Sole bogey came on No. 6
 - Made back-to-back birdies on holes 8 and 9

- Carded two birdies on her back nine, on holes 13 and 16
 - Second time in her career she is leading/co-leading after R1
 - First time was the 2023 HSBC Women's World Championship, where she finished T8
 - Lee also recorded her lowest raw score on the LPGA Tour
 - Previously shot rounds of 64 at the 2015 KIA Classic and 2013 Sime Darby LPGA Malaysia
 - Made nine birdies and one bogey
 - Tied for first amongst the field for most birdies
 - Made three sets of three birdies on holes 3-5, 8-10 and 16-18
 - Her only bogey was on No. 13
 - Hit 12/14 fairways, 14/18 greens in regulation with 25 putts
 - Fourth time in her career she is leading/co-leading after R1
 - Last time she led/co-led after R1 was the 2015 ISPS Handa Women's Australian Open
- 3rd: 2025 rookie **Akie Iwai** shot a first-round 65
 - Shot the lowest round by a player in the morning wave
 - Shot 31 on the front nine with birdies on holes 2,3,5 and 7-9
 - Made an additional birdie on No 13
 - Sole bogey was on the par-4, No. 16
 - Hit 9/14 fairways and 15/18 greens in regulation with 28 putts
 - Making her tenth start of the 2025 season
 - Recorded two runner-up finishes at Honda LPGA Thailand and JM Eagle LA Championship presented by Plastpro
 - Two missed cuts at the Black Desert Championship and Mizuho Americas Open
 - Her twin sister, Chisato, became a Rolex First-Time Winner at the MEXICO Riviera Maya Open at Mayakoba two weeks ago
- Defending champion **Linnea Strom** recorded a one-over, 72 to sit at T88
 - Made three birdies and four bogeys
 - Opened with a bogey on No. 1
 - Picked up two birdies in her next 11 holes
 - Made three bogeys in her last six holes to finish at one-over
 - Hit 8/14 fairways, 10/18 greens in regulation with 28 putts
 - Did not record a three-putt in R1
 - Finished on the cut line last year before shooting a final-round 60 to capture her first LPGA Tour victory
- Rolex Rankings No. 1 **Nelly Korda** opened with an even-par 71 to sit at T65
 - Recorded four birdies and four bogeys
 - Was +2 over through first five holes of competition
 - Hit 13/14 fairways, 11/18 greens in regulation with 31 putts
- Team ShopRite:
 - T4: **Gurleen Kaur** recorded a 66 with six birdies and two bogeys
 - T48: **Brooke Matthews** shot one-under with two birdies and a bogey on the back nine
 - T48: **Caley McGinty** shot a two-under 70 in her first appearance at the event
 - T121: **Gianna Clemente (a)** opened with a 74, +2
 - T121: **Cheyenne Knight** carded a 74 with five bogeys and two birdies

- **Lee-Anne Pace** made a hole-in-one on No. 15 from 188 yards with a 5-hybrid

A LOOK AT THE LEADERS

CATEGORY	Elizabeth Szokol	Ilhee Lee
2025 Race to CME Globe Rank	70	-
2025 LPGA Tour Wins	0	0
2025 LPGA Tour Top 10s	0	0
2025 Official Season Earnings	\$145,037	\$0
Career LPGA Tour Wins	1	1
Career Official LPGA Tour Top 10s	8	21
Career Official Money	\$1,725,620	\$2,450,522

ABOUT THE LEADERS

[Rolex Rankings No. 176 Elizabeth Szokol](#)

- Fifth start at the 2025 ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer
 - Missed the cut in her last two appearances (2021, 2022)
 - Best finish at the event is T70 in 2020
- 2025: Six cuts made in seven previous starts
 - Best finish is T14 at the Hilton Grand Vacations Tournament of Champions
 - Only missed cut was the JM Eagle LA Championship presented by Acer
- Career: One win, eight official top-10 finishes, \$1.7 in Career Official earnings
 - Won the 2023 Dow Championship with teammate Cheyenne Knight
 - Finished fourth on the Epson Tour's Race for the Card to earn Membership for 2019
 - Played collegiately at the University of Virginia

[Rolex Rankings No. 1,426 Ilhee Lee](#)

- Eleventh start at the 2025 ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer
 - Missed the cut seven times in her past appearances at the event
 - Best finish is T42 in 2015
 - Only shot under par three previous times in her last 10 playings at the event
 - Lowest previous recorded score at the event was 67 in R2, 2016
- 2025: One previous start at last week's U.S. Women's Open, where she missed the cut
- Career: One win, 21 official top-10 finishes, \$2.4 Career Official earnings
 - Won the 2013 Pure Silk-Bahamas LPGA Classic
 - The event was reduced to 36 holes with three 12-hole rounds played due to course flooding
 - Made twenty LPGA Tour starts since the beginning of 2020 (including this week)
 - Finished 20th at the LPGA Final Qualifying Tournament in 2009 to earn Membership
- Played professionally on the KLPGA Tour as well

TOURNAMENT SCORING RECORDS:

18 holes: 60, Linnea Strom (R3, 2024)

36 holes: 130, Amy Benz (1996), Denise Killeen (2004), Stacy Lewis (2012, 2014), Karine Icher (2016) and Sei Young Kim (2018)

54 holes: 196, Annika Sorenstam (1998, 2005) and Anna Nordqvist (2016)

QUOTABLES

Elizabeth Szokol (T1, -8) on her round today

"I would say I hit the ball very close, which helped a lot. I had a lot of three-, four-footers for birdie. I made a couple 10-, 12-footers, which was nice to see good in. Just hit the ball really good. Hit a lot of fairways and had some wedges in, so a lot of good opportunities. Been working a lot on my tee shots and wedges, so saw that pay off today. Great to see the round come together."

Ilhee Lee (T1, -8) on seeing her hard work pay off today

"Yeah, I've been actually putting into -- put more -- I was actually working more on my life than actually like hitting a lot of balls, because of the injury and also my life is the most important thing. What I like, what I would like to do in my life in the future, in ten years. So that's more important for me. And of course golf is fun. That's why I'm here playing. It was extremely fun playing today. Nine birdies today."

Polly Mack (T4, -5) on her travel and golf schedule

"It's definitely been a rollercoaster regarding gathering miles and being all over the world. I've been really enjoying it. It's been quite a journey this year. I've been it to Australia which was a huge Bucket List point for me to go to Australia, so that was super exciting. Been to Korea. I loved Korean. I love Korean barbecue, so it was great to be there. I have a lot of Korean friends, so it's just great to see a little bit of their culture, where they come from. There is good golf there. A lot of golf enthusiasts out there. So yeah, just really good, cool spots that I've gone to. I think there is still a couple left this year that I'm excited for. So just step by step and just enjoying every week. As long as my body is holding up with the travel, then we're doing good."

Ashleigh Buhai (T12, -4) on the mindset for a 54-hole event

"I think most three-day tournaments feel like that, but because this course, especially in the afternoons can get tricky with the wind, you don't need to push. I always feel like if you're within like between 6- and 8-under after two rounds you're in a good spot. That's what I learnt over the years, yeah. So you definitely just don't push. Just keep staying in it, hitting the shots, and hole one or two putts."

Lee-Anne Pace (T12, -4) on her round which included a hole-in-one

"Started off a little slow. Made a great up and down on my fourth hole I believe. And then, yeah, I hit literally actually a perfect shot. I was staring at it, staring at it, took the break, everything. I was like, get in. I thought it stopped and I turned away. My sister was like, it's in. So it was really nice. On a difficult hole as well. That kind of just got me going. Yeah, I think it was nice. I hit a lot of fairways, a lot of greens, and on this course if you putt well, you're quite deep under, so..."

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[Dewi Weber Dunks Shot for Eagle, Posts 66 on Day One of ShopRite LPGA Classic](#)

[Lee-Anne Pace Makes Ace in First Round of ShopRite LPGA Classic presented by Acer](#)

[Stark Earns 50th Major Victory by an Epson Tour Alum at U.S. Women's Open](#)

Elizabeth Szokol, Ilhee Lee Shoots 63s to Share the Lead in the ShopRite LPGA Classic

SOCIAL SNAPSHOT

Five straight birdies to start off her week at the @ShopRiteLPGA

Back on Tour and back to learning.

Ilhee Lee with an opening 63 to take the clubhouse lead 🏌️

Lee-Ann Pace with an ACE 🌟

The #InsidetheLPGA podcast had their first player/caddie duo on and it did not disappoint!

Be part of a historic celebration at the LPGA's 75th Anniversary Pro-Am