

81st U.S. Women's Open Championship Presented by Ally Notebook and Storylines

June 4-7, 2026, The Riviera Country Club, Pacific Palisades, Calif.

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This is the 81st U.S. Women's Open Championship Presented by Ally and the sixth to be conducted in the state of California.

WHO'S HERE

Among the 155 golfers in the 2026 U.S. Women's Open (one spot is currently being held for the winner of the ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern), there are:

U.S. Women's Open champions (11)

In Gee Chun (2015), Allisen Corpuz (2023), Ariya Jutanugarn (2018), A Lim Kim (2020), Brittany Lang (2016), Minjee Lee (2022), Jeongeun Lee6 (2019), Sung Hyun Park (2017), Yuka Saso (2021, 2024), Maja Stark (2025), Michelle Wie West (2014)

U.S. Women's Open runners-up (12)

Hye-Jin Choi (2017), Nasa Hataoka (2021), Charley Hull (2023), Hyo Joo Kim (2018), Jin Young Ko (2020), Nelly Korda (2025), Anna Nordqvist (2016), Hinako Shibuno (2024), Jiyai Shin (2023), Rio Takeda (2025), Amy Yang (2012, 2015), Angel Yin (2019)

U.S. Women's Amateur champions (4)

Megha Ganne (2025), Danielle Kang (2010, 2011), Lydia Ko (2012), Rose Zhang (2020)

U.S. Girls' Junior champions (6)

Aphrodite Deng (2025), Ariya Jutanugarn (2011), Minjee Lee (2012), Yealimi Noh (2018), Kiara Romero (2023), Rose Zhang (2021)

U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur champions (1)

Ina Kim-Schaad (2019, 2025)

U.S. Senior Women's Open champions (1)

Becky Morgan (2025)

U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball champions (2)

Hailee Cooper (2016), Asterisk Talley (2024)

U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links champions (3)

Brianna Do (2011), Yani Tseng (2004), Michelle Wie West (2003)

U.S. National Junior Team members (2)

Zoe Cusack (2026), Asterisk Talley (2024, 2025, 2026)

USA Curtis Cup Team members (18)

Allisen Corpuz (2021), Lindy Duncan (2012), Ally Ewing (2014), Megha Ganne (2022), Melanie Green (2024), Gina Kim (2021), Jennifer Kupcho (2018), Brittany Lang (2004), Alison Lee (2014), Andrea Lee (2016, 2018), Lucy Li (2018), Farah O'Keefe (2026), Kiara Romero (2026), Catherine Park (2024), Asterisk Talley (2024, 2026), Lilia Vu (2018), Michelle Wie West (2004), Rose Zhang (2021, 2022)

GB&I Curtis Cup Team members (8)

Charley Hull (2012), Bronte Law (2012, 2014, 2016), Leona Maguire (2010, 2012, 2016), Olivia Mehaffey (2018), Becky Morgan (1998, 2000), Nellie Ong (2026), Mimi Rhodes (2024), Lottie Woad (2024)

NCAA Division I champions (4)

Jennifer Kupcho (2018, Wake Forest University), Maria José Marin (2025, University of Arkansas), Farah O’Keefe (2026, University of Texas), Rose Zhang (2022, 2023, Stanford University)

Olympic Medalists (4)

Esther Henseleit (Germany – 2024, bronze), Xiyu Janet Lin (People’s Republic of China – 2024, bronze), Lydia Ko (New Zealand – 2016, silver; 2020, bronze; 2024, gold), Nelly Korda (USA – 2020, gold)

Augusta National Women’s Amateur champions (5)

Carla Bernat Escuder (2025), Maria Jose Marin (2026), Jennifer Kupcho (2019), Lottie Woad (2024), Rose Zhang (2023)

Players with Most U.S. Women’s Open Appearances (2026 included)

Brittany Lang (22), Amy Yang (20), Michelle Wie West (19), Anna Nordqvist (18), Danielle Kang (17), Carlota Ciganda (15), Lydia Ko (15), Brooke Henderson (14), Ariya Jutanugarn (14), Megan Khang (14), Becky Morgan (13), Yani Tseng (13)

Active Consecutive U.S. Women’s Open Appearances (2026 included)

Amy Yang (20, 2007-26), Anna Nordqvist (19, 2009-26), Carlota Ciganda (15, 2012-26), Lydia Ko (15, 2012-26), Sei Young Kim (13, 2014-26), Minjee Lee (13, 2014-26)

First-Time U.S. Women’s Open Competitors (41)

Yuna Araki, Jenny Bae, Zoe Cusack, Pauline del Rosario, Aphrodite Deng, Addie Dobson, Paula Francisco, Miyuu Goto, Sarah Hammett, Jungmin Hong, Minji Kang, Veronika Kedronova, Jiwon Ko, Thanana Kotchasanmanee (a), Lois Lau, Amy Seung Hyun Lee (a), Jie-En Lin (a), Anita Lumpongpong (a), Katherine Muzi, Kaylyn Noh, Soomin Oh (a), Nellie Ong (a), Meja Ortengren (a), Mimi Rhodes, Sofia Rivera (a), Kaleiya Romero, Shuri Sakuma, Athena Singh (a), Johanna Sjursen (a), Fuka Suga, Miranda Wang, Siuue Wu (a), Chia Yen Wu, Liqi Zeng, Yue Zhang

Countries Represented (28)

United States of America (41), Japan (23), Republic of Korea (23), Thailand (10), People’s Republic of China (8), Sweden (7), Australia (5), England (5), Spain (5), Chinese Taipei (4), Canada (3), South Africa (3), France (2), Philippines (2), Colombia (1), Czechia (1), Denmark (1), Germany (1), Hong Kong (1), Ireland (1), Mexico (1), Netherlands (1), New Zealand (1), Northern Ireland (1), Russian Federation (1), Slovenia (1), Switzerland (1) and Wales (1)

States Represented (16)

California (14), Florida (7), Texas (4), Hawaii (2), Kentucky (2), New Jersey (2), Colorado (1), Georgia (1), Illinois (1), Maryland (1), Massachusetts (1), Mississippi (1), Nevada (1), New York (1), North Carolina (1) and Virginia (1)

CHAMPIONSHIP FIELD

The field currently includes 99 fully exempt golfers. Qualifying, conducted over 36 holes, was held at 26 sites between April 20 and May 13 – three international sites (Canada, England and Japan) and 23 U.S. sites.

Amateur Players in the Field (28)

Zoe Cusack, Aphrodite Deng, Addie Dobson, Paula Francisco, Megha Ganne, Sarah Hammett, Veronika Kedronova, Lauren Kim, Ina Kim-Schaad, Katelyn Kong, Thanana Kotchasanmanee, Chloe Kovelesky, Amy Seung Hyun Lee, Jie-En Lin, Anita Lumpongpong, Maria Jose Marin, Paula Martin Sampedro, Soomin Oh, Farah O’Keefe, Nellie Ong, Meja Ortengren, Catherine Park, Sofia Rivera, Kiara Romero, Athena Singh, Johanna Sjursen, Asterisk Talley, Siuue Wu

Top-Ranked Amateur Players in the Field

Nine of the top 10 players in the Women’s World Amateur Golf Ranking® as of May 27 are in the field.

No. 1 – Kiara Romero
No. 2 – Paula Martin Sampetro
No. 4 – Farah O’Keefe
No. 5 – Maria Jose Marin
No. 6 – Meja Ortengren

No. 7 – Asterisk Talley

No. 8 – Aphrodite Deng

No. 9 – Soomin Oh

No. 10 – Megha Ganne

No. 11 – Catherine Park

No. 19 – Lauren Kim

Notable Amateur Storylines

Aphrodite Deng, 16, of Canada, earned her way into her first U.S. Women’s Open by winning the 2025 U.S. Girls’ Junior at the Atlanta Athletic Club (Riverside Course) last July. The third-youngest player in this year’s field, Deng defeated Xingtong Chen, of Singapore, 2 and 1, in the 36-hole final to earn an exemption into the 2026 U.S. Women’s Open. The Canadian phenom recorded two additional major junior victories in 2025 at the Mizuho Americas Open and the Junior Invitational at Sage Valley, and successfully defended her title at the Mizuho Americas Open last month at Mountain Ridge Country Club in her adopted home state of New Jersey. Prior to her whirlwind 2025-26 season, she claimed victory in the 2024 Nelly Invitational and was the individual runner-up in the World Girls Junior Championship held in Canada. She also won the 2024 New Jersey Girls Junior title. Deng spent four years as a competitive figure skater, only taking up competitive golf after the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jie-En Lin, 15, of Chinese Taipei, is the youngest player in the 2026 U.S. Women’s Open at 15 years, 8 months and 27 days old on the first day of the championship. The young phenom qualified for her first U.S. Women’s Open by claiming the lone available spot at the Honolulu (Hawaii) Country Club qualifier on May 8 with a 6-under-par 138. Lin is no stranger to being the youngest player in elite competition, having also been the youngest competitor in both the 2024 and 2025 U.S. Women’s Amateur Championships. She is also currently the youngest member of the Chinese Taipei National Team. Despite her age, Lin already owns an impressive competitive résumé, highlighted by six top 10 finishes in 2026, including a victory at the National Spring Tournament in her home country. She also tied for seventh at the 2026 Women’s Amateur Asia-Pacific Championship and captured four individual titles in 2025, all in Chinese Taipei. Internationally, Lin represented Chinese Taipei at the World Junior Girls Championship in Canada, where she tied for ninth individually, and finished as the runner-up at the 2025 North & South Junior Girls Championship at Pinehurst, finishing just behind Australian standout Jazy Roberts.

Anita Lumpongpong, 15, of Thailand, is one of two 15-year-olds to qualify for the 2026 U.S. Women’s Open, joining Chinese Taipei’s Jie-En Lin. Lumpongpong will be the second-youngest player in the championship field, as she is two months older than Lin. She earned her way into her first U.S. Women’s Open by posting an even-par 144 (72-72) at the Richmond (Calif.) Country Club qualifier to claim the second and final qualifying spot. In 2025, Lumpongpong secured victories at the AJGA Junior at Copper

Valley and the Mizuno West Coast Classic, while also advancing to the Round of 16 at the U.S. Girls' Junior before falling to eventual semifinalist and 2025 U.S. Women's Open qualifier Rayee Feng. The Thai prodigy who resides in Chowchilla, Calif., the hometown of fellow top-ranked junior Asterisk Talley, was named the 2024-25 Northern California Golf Association Junior Girls Player of the Year after recording a dozen top 10 finishes during an impressive amateur season.

Maria José Marín, 19, of Colombia, is a rising senior at the University of Arkansas who enters the U.S. Women's Open as one of the most dominant players in women's collegiate golf. Marín will compete in her second U.S. Women's Open, thanks to an exemption earned through her victory at the 2026 Augusta National Women's Amateur, where she posted a record-low 54-hole total of 14-underpar 192. Her 2025–26 collegiate season has been equally impressive, highlighted by top 10 finishes in 10 of 11 regular-season tournaments, including two runner-up results and a win at the Clemson Invitational. The Colombia native led the Arkansas Razorbacks into match play at the NCAA Championships in late May Marín was also a finalist for the 2026 ANNIKA Award, given to the best player in Division I women's golf, joining Kiara Romero and eventual winner Farah O'Keefe on that list.

Kiara Romero, 20, of San Jose, Calif., is a rising senior at the University of Oregon who has already established herself as one of the most prolific up-and-coming players in golf. The 2025 recipient of the McCormack Medal, awarded to the world's leading amateur, Romero will make her third appearance in the U.S. Women's Open after making the cut in 2025 and debuting in the championship in 2024 following a victory at the 2023 U.S. Girls' Junior. A 2026 ANNIKA Award finalist, she has already etched her name into Oregon history as a two-time first-team All-American and three-time first-team, All-Big Ten selection. Romero owns the Ducks' program record with six career individual tournament victories, including titles at the 2026 Chevron Collegiate and 2026 Charles Schwab Women's Collegiate Invitational. Her amateur résumé also includes wins at the 2021 Polo Golf Junior Classic, the 2023 ANNIKA Intercollegiate Presented by 3M and the 2024 San Diego State Classic. Romero is also a member of the U.S. National Development Program's Elite Amateur squad and will make her Curtis Cup debut at Bel-Air Country Club in Los Angeles, Calif., the week after the U.S. Women's Open, after serving as an alternate in 2024.

Asterisk Talley, 17, of Chowchilla, Calif., whose first name means "little star" in Greek, is set to make her third appearance in the U.S. Women's Open at Riviera. She qualified for this year's championship by earning medalist honors at the Richmond (Calif.) Country Club qualifier, finishing as the only player under par after rounds of 70-69. The fifth-youngest player in this year's field, Talley was the youngest competitor in the 2024 championship at Lancaster (Pa.) Country Club, where she shared low-amateur honors. Now a junior in high school, she already owns one of the most accomplished amateur résumés in the game, with notable victories at the 2026 Fortinet Stanford Invitational, the 2026 Girls' Junior Invitational at Sage Valley, and the 2025 Girls' Junior PGA Championship. Talley's 2024 season was especially strong, highlighted by titles at the Junior Invitational at Sage Valley and the U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball (with partner Sarah Lim). She also represented the USA at the Curtis Cup Match in England; where she earned a statement victory by defeating world No. 1 Lottie Woad in Sunday singles. Even more, she also finished runner-up in both the U.S. Girls' Junior and U.S. Women's Amateur, and shared low-amateur honors at the 2024 U.S. Women's Open alongside Catherine Park and reigning U.S. Women's Amateur champion Megan Schofill. A member of the inaugural U.S. National Junior Team in 2024, Talley continues to represent the red, white and blue in 2026. Following the U.S. Women's Open, she will make her second Curtis Cup appearance at Bel Air C.C. alongside Kiara Romero and Farah O'Keefe.

Amateur Players in Recent U.S. Women's Opens

Year	Number	Made Cut	Top Finisher
2025	26	6	Lottie Woad (T31)
2024	22	4	Asterisk Talley, Megan Schofill, Catherine Park (T44)

2023	28	4	Benedetta Moresco (T33)
2022	29	4	Ingrid Lindblad (T11)
2021	31	4	Megha Ganne (T14)
2020	24	6	Kaitlyn Papp (T9)
2019	26	5	Gina Kim (T12)
2018	29	7	Patty Tavatanakit (T5)
2017	21	5	Hye-Jin Choi (2)
2016	26	3	Hye-Jin Choi (T38)
2015	25	5	Megan Khang (T35)
2014	26	6	Brooke Henderson (T10)
2013	19	6	Casie Cathrea (T25)
2012	28	3	Lydia Ko (T39)
2011	25	5	Moriya Jutanugarn (T32)
2010	29	6	Jennifer Johnson (T41)
2009	28	7	Jennifer Song (T13)
2008	26	7	Mariajo Uribe (T10)
2007	23	4	Jennie Lee and Jennifer Song (T39)
2006	29	4	Amanda Blumenherst and Jane Park (T10)
2005	18	6	Brittany Lang and Morgan Pressel (T2)
2004	16	4	Paula Creamer and Michelle Wie (T13)
2003	21	8	Aree Song (5)
2002	14	2	Angela Jerman and Aree Song (T51)
2001	19	4	Candy Hannemann (T30)
2000	16	2	Naree Song (T40)

Youngest Competitor

At 15 years of age, Jie-En Lin of Chinese Taipei, is the youngest competitor in the championship. Lin will be exactly 15 years, 8 months and 27 days on the first day of the U.S. Women's Open. Anita Lumpongpong, of Thailand, is a close second for youngest player in the championship. She is also 15 years old, but two months older than Lin.

Oldest Competitor

At 51, Becky Morgan, the reigning U.S. Senior Women's Open champion, is the championship's oldest competitor.

Average Age of Competitor

The average age of the championship field is 26.1.

Oldest U.S. Women's Open Champions (years/months/days)

43/0/7 Babe Didrikson Zaharias, 1954
42/0/13 Juli Inkster, 2002
41/2/20 Meg Mallon, 2004

Youngest U.S. Women's Open Champions (years/months/days)

19/11/17 Inbee Park, 2008
19/11/17 Yuka Saso, 2021
20/9/8 Se Ri Pak, 1998
20/11/2 In Gee Chun, 2015

Championship Birthdays

Two players in the U.S. Women's Open field will celebrate a birthday during championship week. Carlota Ciganda, whose best U.S. Women's Open finish came in 2018 at Shoal Creek (third), will celebrate her 36th birthday on Monday. Farah O'Keefe, the 2026 NCAA Division I Women's Individual Champion, has a chance to spend her 21st birthday competing for the U.S. Women's Open trophy if she makes the weekend cut. Jeongeun Lee6, the 2019 U.S. Women's Open champion, and Minjee Lee, the 2022 U.S. Women's Open champion, will celebrate their birthdays the week before the championship.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Birthdate</u>	<u>Age (on birthday)</u>
Carlota Ciganda	6-1-90	36
Farah O'Keefe	6-6-05	21

Sisters in the Field

Twins Chizzy and Aki Iwai of Japan will play in their fourth consecutive U.S. Women's Open together. For the first time, Kaleiya and Kiara Romero will compete together in the championship. The Iwais and Romeros are two of nine sets of sisters to have competed in the same U.S. Women's Open.

Danielle and Dina Ammaccapane (8) – 1991-93, 1996, 1998-99, 2001-02
Alice Bauer and Marlene Bauer Hagge (12) – 1947, 1949-55, 1957-58, 1964, 1966
Chizzy and Aki Iwai (1) - 2023-26
Ariya and Moriya Jutanugarn (10) – 2011, 2015-25
Jessica and Nelly Korda (7) – 2013, 2016-22
Kaleiya and Kiara Romero (1) – 2026
Aree and Naree Song (2) – 2003, 2005
Annika and Charlotta Sorenstam (8) – 1997, 1999-2005
Hollis Stacy and Martha Stacy Leach (1) – 1980

The U.S. Women's Open Course

The Riviera Country Club, located 20 miles west of downtown Los Angeles in Pacific Palisades, Calif., was designed by famed Golden-Age architect George C. Thomas Jr., with the assistance of William P. Bell. The club was founded in 1926 by members of the Los Angeles Athletic Club. Thomas took on the design of the project free of charge, and the course opened in 1927. Today, it is considered one of the finest natural layouts in all of golf. Bill Coore and Ben Crenshaw did a restoration of greens and bunkers in 1993. Renowned course designer Tom Fazio completed additional redesign work in the 2000s, including the lengthening of several holes.

Longest Course in Championship History

7,026 yards The Broadmoor (East Course), first round, Colorado Springs, Colo., 2011
6,986 yards The Broadmoor (East Course), third round, Colorado Springs, Colo., 2011

Shortest Course in Championship History

6,010 yards Brooklawn C.C., Fairfield, Conn., 1979

Longest Par-3 Holes in Championship History

257 yards 8th, Oakmont (Pa.) C.C., fourth round, 2010
243 yards 8th, Oakmont (Pa.) C.C., first round, 2010
234 yards 8th, Interlachen C.C., Edina, Minn., fourth round, 2008
233 yards 8th, Oakmont (Pa.) C.C., second round, 2010

Longest Par-4 Holes in Championship History

468 yards 10th, The Broadmoor (East Course), Colorado Springs, Colo., second round, 2011
464 yards 10th, The Broadmoor (East Course), Colorado Springs, Colo., third round, 2011
464 yards 10th, The Broadmoor (East Course), Colorado Springs, Colo., second round, 2011
460 yards 15th, Oakmont (Pa.) C.C., third round, 2010

Longest Par-5 Holes in Championship History

623 yards	17th, The Broadmoor (East Course), Colorado Springs, Colo., second round, 2011
606 yards	17th, The Broadmoor (East Course), Colorado Springs, Colo., third round, 2011
603 yards	7th, The Broadmoor (East Course), Colorado Springs, Colo., fourth round, 2011
602 yards	12th, Oakmont (Pa.) C.C., second round, 2010
602 yards	12th, Oakmont (Pa.) C.C., third round, 2010

What the Winner Receives

In addition to prize money, the champion will receive the Mickey Wright Medal, custody of the Harton S. Semple Trophy for the ensuing year and an exemption from qualifying for the next 10 U.S. Women's Open Championships.

The 2026 purse is TBD.

The Last Time it Happened at a U.S. Women's Open Championship

Maja Stark: last international winner (2025)

Karrie Webb: last to defend title (2001)

A Lim Kim: last champion to win Women's Open on first attempt (2020)

So Yeon Ryu: last winner to win Women's Open on second attempt (2011)

Catherine Lacoste: last (and only) amateur to win Women's Open (1967)

Annika Sorenstam: last start-to-finish winner (2006 – playoff)

A Lim Kim: last winner to birdie the 72nd hole (2020)

So Yeon Ryu: last winner to birdie the 72nd hole to force playoff (2011)

A Lim Kim: last winner to birdie the 72nd hole to win by one stroke (2020)

Allisen Corpuz: last to win with four sub-par rounds (2023)

Eun-Hee Ji: last to win without a round in the 60s (2009)

Hilary Lunke: last player to win after competing in local and final qualifying (2003)

Birdie Kim: last qualifier to win (2005)

Yuka Saso, 19: last winner younger than 20 (2021)

Maja Stark, 25: last winner between ages 20-29 (2025)

Brittany Lang, 30: last winner between ages 30-39 (2016)

Meg Mallon, 41: last winner over age 40 (2004)

Yuka Saso: last defending champion to miss the cut (2025)

Title Defense

Should Maja Stark win, she would become the eighth player to successfully defend her championship title. She would join Mickey Wright (1958-59), Donna Caponi (1969-70), Susie Maxwell Berning (1972-73), Hollis Stacy (1977-78), Betsy King (1989-90), Annika Sorenstam (1995-96), and Karrie Webb (2000-01).

In 2020, Jeongeun Lee6 became the first defending champion since Juli Inkster in 2003 to finish in the Top 10.

Year	Champion	Result in Defense
2024	Yuka Saso	Missed cut
2023	Allisen Corpuz	Missed cut
2022	Minjee Lee	T13
2021	Yuka Saso	Missed cut
2020	A Lim Kim	Missed cut
2019	Jeongeun Lee6	T6
2018	Ariya Jutanugarn	T26
2017	Sung Hyun Park	Missed cut
2016	Brittany Lang	T58

2015	In Gee Chun	Missed cut
2014	Michelle Wie	11
2013	Inbee Park	T43
2012	Na Yeon Choi	T17
2011	So Yeon Ryu	T14
2010	Paula Creamer	T15
2009	Eun-Hee Ji	T39
2008	Inbee Park	T26
2007	Cristie Kerr	T13
2006	Annika Sorenstam	T32
2005	Birdie Kim	Missed cut
2004	Meg Mallon	T13
2003	Hilary Lunke	64
2002	Juli Inkster	8
2001	Karrie Webb	Missed cut
2000	<i>Karrie Webb</i>	<i>Champion</i>
1999	Juli Inkster	T23
1998	Se Ri Pak	T15
1997	Alison Nicholas	Missed cut
1996	Annika Sorenstam	Missed cut
1995	<i>Annika Sorenstam</i>	<i>Champion</i>
1994	Patty Sheehan	T10
1993	Lauri Merten	T12
1992	Patty Sheehan	6
1991	Meg Mallon	4