



THIS WEEK INSIDE THE ROPES...

OUR GIRLS ON TOUR

"Inside the Ropes" – No. 15

(5 July 2010)

LPGA

- **CHOI CAPTURES JAMIE FARR OWENS IN PLAYOFF**

(Sylvania, Ohio)

It was nearly the tournament that got away from Korea's **Na Yeon Choi** but a birdie on the 72nd hole and another one on the second hole of the four-way playoff secured her third LPGA victory at the Jamie Farr Owens Corning Classic Presented by Kroger. The other three players who made the playoff and finished tied for second were **Christina Kim**, **Song-Hee Kim** and **In-Kyung Kim**.

Choi, who opened the tournament with a 7-under par 64, led all the way until the 15th hole on Sunday where she made her second bogey in succession to fall back to 13-under par. Up ahead of her, In-Kyung Kim and Song-Hee Kim were nearing the completion of their rounds and shortly thereafter, both were in the clubhouse on 14-under par. Both Choi, and playing partner, Christina Kim were now playing catch-up, sitting on 13-under par with 3 holes to play. Both players parred the 16th before Christina Kim made the birdie she needed on the par-5 17th to gain a share of the lead while Choi could only manage par.

The 18th is another par-5 and both players had birdie chances. Choi was furthest from the hole and sunk her 12-footer for birdie to join the clubhouse leaders at 14-under par. It was then up to Christina Kim whether there would be a playoff as she had 10-feet left to the cup. Playing for a little too much break, she left it on the high side and there was a four-way playoff.

The four players headed back to the 18th and by the time they got to the green they all had birdie opportunities from within 15-feet with Song-Hee Kim the closest at 5-feet. Quite unbelievably, they all missed, made pars and moved to the 17th. This time, Choi only had to make her birdie putt from 3-feet to claim the title and the US\$150,000 winner's cheque. Afterwards she said, *"I was nervous after the two bogeys, but my caddie kept me calm and I tried to think positive. So now I am really happy. I'm really proud of how I controlled my emotions today. I think it's really special to have won wire-to-wire."*

Katherine Hull was the leading ALPG Member, finishing in a tie for 7th. She entered the final round just four shots adrift of the leader but could only manage two birdies and a bogey in the final round for a 1-under par 70 to finish three shots outside the playoff. Sarah Kemp also had a good tournament, storming home with a 6-under par 65 to move from a tie for 46th at the start of the final round to a tie for 17th at 8-under par. **Tamie Durdin**, unfortunately went the other way, firing a final round of 5-over to finish in a tie for 68th after starting the day tied for 29th.

The players are currently on their way to the famed Oakmont Country Club in Pennsylvania for this week's staging of the 65th U.S. Women's Open. ALPG Members to make the field are **Karrie Webb**, **Katherine Hull**, **Lindsey Wright**, **Tamie Durdin** and **Sarah Kemp**.

LPGA of Japan

- **SHIN WINS NICHIKO IN PLAYOFF**

(Toyama City, Toyama Prefecture, Japan)

Australians would remember **Hyun-Ju Shin** as the player who missed a short putt on the last green to lose the ANZ Ladies Masters in 2008. She bounced back well from that to win twice in Japan in that same year, and has once again triumphed at the Nichiko Women's Open, this time in a playoff over Japan's **Chieko Amanuma**. In third place was Japan's **Hiroko Ayada** who made a bogey at the last hole to miss the playoff by one shot.

Cold, wet and blustery conditions faced the players as they made their way to the first tee on the final day. Shin and Amanuma started the day tied for the lead at 10-under par with Ayada two shots behind. By the ninth hole, Amanuma held a three shot lead, going out in 2-under par while both Shin and Ayada played the front side in 1-over.

The tournament was tipped on its head when Amanuma made a triple bogey at the 10th hole. Shin also made bogey and the lead was just one. Ayada made a birdie at the 11th to pull within one shot while Shin went birdie-bogey

through 11 and 12 to still be one behind with six to play. All three players played the next five holes in regulation pars meaning Amanuma went to the final tee with a one shot lead. However, she proceeded to make bogey, as did Ayada and when Shin tapped in for par extra holes were required to determine a winner.

Shin prevailed in the playoff with a birdie at the first extra hole, capturing her 5th title in Japan and moving her up to 13th on Money List which **Sakura Yokomine** continues to lead narrowly from **Mi-Jeong Jeon**.

Unfortunately for both **Nikki Campbell** and **Susie Mathews**, they both failed to make the cut.

LET

• JOHNSON RIDES LUCK TO TRIUMPH IN TENERIFE

(Tenerife, Spain)

England's **Trish Johnson** had a fair share of luck during the final round, but the 44-year-old did enough to hold on for the Tenerife Ladies Open title finishing on 14-under par. A final round of 2-under par 70 secured Johnson a one-shot victory over Frenchwoman **Virginie Lagoutte-Clement**, with another Frenchwoman, **Anne-Lise Caudal** a further shot back in outright third.

By the end of the third round where she fired a superb 6-under par 66, Johnson had moved to 12-under par and forged a three-shot lead over Lagoutte-Clement, England's **Melissa Reid** a further shot back at 8-under par and Caudal another shot back at 7-under par. Midway through the final round, the three shot lead had disappeared as Lagoutte-Clement went out in 3-under while Johnson played the front nine in even par.

Johnson's luck started early on the back nine. After putting her drive out-of-bounds on the par-5 10th hole, she managed to hole her 5th shot from the bunker for an amazing par. Up ahead, Caudal eagled the same hole to pull within one shot. From there, it looked like a three-way tussle between Johnson and the two players from France as Reid couldn't get anything going and had slipped back to 7-under.

On the 11th hole Johnson made a putt from off the green for par to remain at 12-under whilst Lagoutte-Clement made a bogey at the same hole and again at the next to fall two behind. Caudal made her run, following up her eagle on the 10th with back-to-back birdies on the 12th and 13th holes to take the lead at 13-under. Lagoutte-Clement got herself back into the mix with an eagle on the 13th. Johnson used all her experience to regain the lead with a pair of birdies on holes 14 and 15. That would be her last birdie but the 16th proved to be the turning point of the tournament. On the par-4, Johnson's tee shot actually cleared a wall to go out of bounds, bounced on a footpath and returned back in bounds. She made par there, finished with two more pars to finish at 14-under par. Caudal had fallen out of contention with a bogey at the 16th while Lagoutte-Clement could only make a birdie at the last when she needed an eagle.

The title was Johnson's 16th on the LET and her first since the 2007 BMW Ladies Italian Open. She has also won three times on the US LPGA. After her round, she said, *"It's fantastic. I'd like to say I thoroughly enjoyed the day but I've got to be honest: I didn't really. Really I was pretty lucky, because the back nine: ten I played so badly, putting it out of bounds. I holed a fantastic bunker shot; (then) holed a putt from off the green on 11 for a par. I was hanging in a little bit."*

Karen Lunn followed up her win at last week's event in Portugal with another solid performance, finishing in a tie for 9th at 6-under par. **Lynnette Brooky** posted her best result of the season finishing two shots behind Lunn tied for 14th while Stephanie Na, in only her second start since the Australian events, bounced back from an opening round of 77 to finish tied 19th at 2-under par. **Rebecca Flood** (T27), **Nikki Garrett** (T29), **Kate Combes** (T42), **Frances Bondad** (T51) and **Mianne Bagger** (T51) all made the cut in what was another solid week for the ALPG Members.

Duramed FUTURES Tour

• O'TOOLE APPRECIATES 'REAL WIN' IN KENTUCKY

(London, Kentucky)

California's **Ryann O'Toole** picked up her first tournament win in May in the tournament in Kansas. However, she always thought it wasn't the complete victory as the tournament was rain-shortened to just 18-holes. Since then she has kept the winner's cheque in her back seat vowing to notch a full 54-hole tournament win. This week she completed that goal, needing an extra hole to defeat Canada's **Angela Buzminski** after they both finished the three rounds at 14-under par. England's **Jodi Ewart** finished in outright 3rd at 12-under par.

Through 12 holes on the final day, O'Toole and Ewart held the lead but there was so much golf left, no one could tell whether it would be one of these two or Buzminski who would hold aloft the trophy. Buzminski made the first run with four birdies in succession from the 12th hole, while O'Toole countered with four of her own birdies in the last seven holes for both players to reach the 14-under mark. Unfortunately for Ewart, in only her fifth event as a professional she made a crucial bogey on the 17th and needed an eagle at the last to make the playoff. She failed to do this so it was O'Toole and Buzminski who made their way back to the 18th tee.

With O'Toole so long off the tee, Buzminski knew she needed a birdie in the playoff and while going for the green in two, she left her gripped-down 3-wood out to right. O'Toole placed her second shot 30-feet below the cup in two and when Buzminski couldn't get up-and-down from the rough the title was hers. Afterwards, relieved that it was over she said, *"This feels like a real win, and I got to grind it out against a veteran player."* With her winner's cheque for \$16,100, she moved up to 6th on the Money List.

Kristie Smith made the switch from the LET back to the FUTURES Tour in the fight to gain an automatic LPGA card, but wasn't helped by the airlines losing her clubs after she flew from Portugal to the United States. It meant a late arrival at the tournament site, however she acquitted herself well, as always, finishing in a tie for 7th at 8-under par. **Leanne Bowditch** also had a good result, finishing with a final round of 6-under par 66 to tie for 12th, just one shot behind Smith. **Rachel Bailey** (T54) also made the cut.

INTERNATIONAL SCOREBOARD

LPGA

Jamie Farr Owens Corning Classic Presented by Kroger

1 - 4 July 2010

Highland Meadows Golf Club, Sylvania, Ohio

6,413 yards Par 71

Purse: US\$1,000,000.00

					US\$	
•	Winner:	Na Yeon Choi (Kor)	-14	64,67,68,71	270*	150,000.00
	T2:	In-Kyung Kim (Kor)	-14	70,66,70,64	270	68,808.00
	T2:	Song-Hee Kim (Kor)	-14	70,66,68,66	270	68,808.00
	T2:	Christina Kim (Kor)	-14	66,67,67,70	270	68,808.00

(* Won in four-way playoff on the 2nd hole)

ALPG Members:

T7	Katherine Hull	-11	67,71,65,70	273	24,795.00
T17	Sarah Kemp	-8	74,67,70,65	276	11,843.00
T14	Tamie Durdin	+1	72,70,67,76	285	2,008.00

Missed Cut (142):

MC	Sarah-Jane Smith	+1	74,69	143
MC	Michelle Ellis	+2	72,72	144
MC	Cathryn Bristow	+10	76,76	152

LET

Tenerife Ladies Open

1 - 4 July 2010

Buenvista GC, Tenerife, Spain

6,012 yards Par 72

Purse: €\$275,000.00 (Approx. AUD\$410,061.00)

					€	AUD Equivalent	
•	Winner:	Trish Johnson (Eng)	-14	67,71,66,70	274	41,250.00	61,509.10
	2 nd :	Virginie Lagoutte-Clement (Fra)	-13	67,70,70,68	275	27,912.50	41,621.20
	3 rd :	Anne-Lise Caudal (Fra)	-12	68,71,70,67	276	19,250.00	28,704.30

ALPG Members:

T9	Karen Lunn	-6	69,74,69,70	282	5,830.00	8,693.30
T14	Lynnette Brooky	-4	75,70,68,71	284	4,097.50	6,109.90
T19	Stephanie Na	-2	77,67,73,69	286	3,423.75	5,105.30
T27	Rebecca Flood	E	72,72,76,68	288	2,928.75	4,367.20
T29	Nikki Garrett	+1	73,74,71,71	289	2,557.50	3,813.60
T42	Kate Combes	+4	69,77,74,72	292	1,485.00	2,214.30
T51	Frances Bondad	+5	71,72,74,76	293	1,155.00	1,722.30
T51	Mianne Bagger	+5	77,70,73,73	293	1,155.00	1,722.30

Missed Cut (148):

MC	Rebecca Coakley	+6	74,76	150
MC	Joanne Mills	+6	75,75	150
MC	Dana Lacey-Johnson	+17	79,82	161

LPGA of Japan

Nichiiko Women's Open

2 - 4 July 2010

Yatsuo CC, Toyama City, Toyama Prefecture, Japan

6,542 yards Par 72

Purse: ¥60,000,000

					¥	AUD Equivalent	
•	Winner:	Hyun Ju Shin (Kor)	-8	67,67,74	208*	10,800,000	146,068.00
	2 nd :	Chieko Amanuma (Jpn)	-8	68,66,74	208	5,280,000	71,411.10
	3 rd :	Hiroko Ayada (Jpn)	-7	67,69,73	209	4,200,000	56,804.30

(* Won on 1st hole of playoff)

ALPG Members:

Missed Cut (147):

MC	Nikki Campbell	+5	74,75	149
MC	Susie Mathews	+6	74,76	150

Duramed FUTURES Tour

Falls Auto Group Classic

2 - 4 July 2010

Crooked Creek GC, London, KY

6,360 yards Par 72

Purse: US\$115,000.00

					US\$	
•	Winner:	Ryann O'Toole (USA)	-14	68,69,65	202*	16,100.00
	2 nd :	Angela Buzminski (USA)	-14	66,71,65	202	11,500.00
	3 rd :	Jodi Ewart (Eng)	-12	68,66,70	204	8,194.00

(* Won on 1st hole of playoff)

ALPG Members:

T7	Kristie Smith	-8	72,65,71	208	2,377.00
T12	Leanne Bowditch	-7	69,74,66	209	1,532.00
T54	Rachel Bailey	+2	73,71,74	218	735.00