

**Circling Raven Championship**  
Circling Raven Golf Club I Worley, Idaho I August 27-29

Final Round Notes  
August 29, 2021

Course Setup: 36-36—72; 6,588 yards (R3 scoring average: 69.607)

Quick Links:

- [Leaderboard](#)
- [Online Media Center](#) (groupings, statistics, hole locations, photos, etc.)

LEADERBOARD			
	Player	To Par	Score
1	Peiyun Chien	-16	66-67-67
2	Demi Runas	-15	67-68-66
T3	Bailey Tardy	-13	72-66-64
T3	Gabby Lemieux	-13	69-68-65

**CHIEN WINS HER THIRD SYMETRA TOUR TITLE**

Peiyun Chien (Pingtung, Chinese Taipei) came into the Circling Raven Championship on the heels of three consecutive missed cuts. With a last-minute putter change, she carded 19 birdies and three bogeys over three days to finish -16, good enough for a one-shot victory over Demi Runas. It was Chien's third career win on the Symetra Tour.

"I think the course condition was really good and everyone played very well. You need to putt very well here and make more birdies to win a tournament," said Chien. "I wasn't playing very well this year so this win gives me a lot of confidence to fight until the end."

The Hitachi Ladies Open champion spent the first two days pushing her own cart. Recognizing she was tired she called a good friend, Min Chen, to see if she would be able to fly out on Sunday to caddy for the final round. Chien felt the support not only from her caddy today but her fellow Tour Members this whole week.

"Because I (felt) like on my back nine yesterday I was too tired to push the cart by myself and needed someone to help me, I called (Min) last night and said if you can come that would be great and let's enjoy this week," said Chien "I met a lot of new friends this week and we had a lot of competitions for chipping which made me better. I learned so

much from every Tour (Member). So I am happy to be on Tour to continue to get better.”

### **DEMI RUNAS TIES CAREER-BEST FINISH OF RUNNER-UP**

Starting the day two shots behind the leaders did not phase **Demi Runas** (Torrance, California) from finding her way to a solo second at the Circling Raven Championship. A final-round 7-under 66 moved Runas up the leaderboard and gave her a season-best finish.

“I was really thinking about a lot today. Getting to close and holding the lead the last event to this week, I really wanted to finish this week on a high note and give myself a chance,” said Runas. “I had a little bit of a shaky start but I made a little bit of a run and I can’t really ask for anything else. I think it’s just something about this area. It’s beautiful, it’s very calm and I am thankful that we had this week.”

Since Runas’ rookie season in 2014, she has claimed 16 career top-10 finishes. She may not have claimed the title, but having friends celebrating with her as she come off 18-tee no matter what the outcome, it sounds like she may have won something on Tour that holds even a deeper meaning.

“It means more than I can really put into words. It’s a family out here and I am just so grateful for all the people I have met along the way. Some of the best friendships that I have made out here really are more like family.”

### **RACE FOR THE CARD STANDINGS AFTER WEEK 16**

Following the 16th tournament of the 2021 Symetra Tour season, the Race for the Card reshuffles:

The victory and \$30,000 winner’s check helped Chien move to the No. 15 spot with \$51,202 earned through 13 total starts this season. Here is a look at the current top-10 heading into the Guardian Championship:

1. **Lilia Vu** (Fountain Valley, California) - \$143,747
2. **Ruixin Liu** (Guangdong, People’s Republic of China) - \$95,281
3. **Casey Danielson** (Osceola, Wisconsin) - \$89,131
4. **Fatima Fernandez Cano** (Santiago, Spain) - \$84,399
5. **Maude-Aimee Leblanc** (Sherbrooke, Quebec) - \$81,554
6. **Rachel Rohanna** (Marianna, Pennsylvania) - \$70,799
7. **Morgane Metraux** (Laussane, Switzerland) - \$65,189

8. **Allison Emrey** (Charlotte, North Carolina) - \$64,731

9. **Amanda Doherty** (Atlanta, Georgia) - \$62,999

10. **Bailey Tardy** (Norcross, Georgia) - \$58,668

#### **NOTABLE QUOTES**

*Bailey Tardy (-14, T3) on building on each day at the Circling Raven Championship:*

"I knew the conditions were going to be pretty much the same as yesterday. I played really well and left a lot out there yesterday, so I knew if I shot -6 yesterday and there was more out there. I am just happy with how I stayed with it throughout the day. I've had a couple rough weeks that just haven't gone my way. I worked a lot in the off week and took that time to really focus on what I was struggling on. I worked a bit with my coach and built my confidence back up from my ball striking which is really what I was struggling with."

*Gabby Lemieux (-14, T3) on her claiming her career-best finish in her home state:*

"I feels fantastic. The fact that I was able to make a birdie on the last hole and feel everybody kind of cheer and rally for me felt so great. It made me feel right at home. I knew a lot of people here and a lot of people were out here supporting me, and I never really had a chance to get down on myself. There was so much support, even if I bogeyed people were like 'ok you got this'. To have them and the people I love most around me made it super special. I feel like I have hit a huge momentum between the last three events including this one, so moving forward with the last four events I think the momentum could just build which I am really looking forward too."

*Beth Wu (-13, T5) on her thoughts before the final round:*

"Honestly, (my thoughts before today were) just to send it. I wanted to just play my game and just send it because I had nothing to lose today. I think my putting was good today, I just did a putting switch last week, and it's paying off. I just switched my grip to left hand low, something I used to do all the time and it's working. I flipped my mindset after South Bend and long story short I am excited to play the next few events to hopefully secure my Tour Card."

#### **PLAYER NOTES**

*Peiyun Chien*

- Chien is a native of Pingtung, Chinese Taipei
- Won four TLPGA events (2009-2011)
- Played 11 events on the Symetra Tour in 2012 and one in 2013 before focusing on playing in Asia until 2016
- Won the inaugural Kansas City Championship and finished 10<sup>th</sup> on the Symetra Tour's Volvik Race for the Card Money List to earn LPGA status for 2017 season
- Finished ninth on the TLPGA in 2015 and tenth in 2016
- Caddied for good friend Yani Tseng at the 2015 Swinging Skirts LPGA Classic
- Season-best T9 at the 2019 Cambia Portland Classic on the LPGA Tour
- Made five cuts in five starts on the Symetra Tour last year and claimed her second win at the Symetra Classic

#### **ABOUT THE SYMETRA TOUR**

The Symetra Tour is the official qualifying tour of the LPGA Tour and enters its 41st competitive season in 2021. With the support of entitlement partner Symetra, the Tour's mission is to prepare the world's best young women professional golfers for a successful career on the LPGA Tour. Since Symetra's inaugural sponsorship year in 2012, the Symetra Tour has grown from 16 tournaments and \$1.7 million in prize money to \$4.0 million in prize money awarded in 2019 and 2021. With more than 600 alumnae moving on to the LPGA, former Symetra Tour players have won a total of 445 LPGA titles. Follow the Symetra Tour on the web at [www.SymetraTour.com](http://www.SymetraTour.com), as well as Facebook.com/Road2LPGA, Twitter.com/Road2LPGA and Instagram @road2lpga.

#### **ABOUT SYMETRA**

Symetra Life Insurance Company is a subsidiary of Symetra Financial Corporation, a diversified financial services company based in Bellevue, Washington. In business since 1957, Symetra provides employee benefits, annuities and life insurance through a national network of benefit consultants, financial institutions and independent agents and advisors. Symetra began its partnership with the Road to the LPGA in 2010 as the title sponsor of the Symetra Classic. It secured naming rights for the Symetra Tour in November 2011. In addition to its title sponsorship of the Tour, which runs through 2021, Symetra sponsors two events on the tournament schedule—the Symetra Classic and the season-ending Symetra Tour Championship. For more information about Symetra, visit [www.symetra.om](http://www.symetra.om)

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