



## 2015 U.S. GIRLS' JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP STORYLINES

**Lucy Li**, 12, of Redwood City, Calif., is the championship's youngest competitor. She is approximately two months younger than 12-year-old **Mimi (Xiaoyi) Chen** of the People's Republic of China.

The championship's oldest competitor is **Jaelyn Tindal**, of Rock Hill, S.C. She will turn 18 on Aug. 22.

The average age of the Girls' Junior competitors is 15.67 years old.

Field by age:

12 – two players  
13 – 10 players  
14 – 18 players  
15 – 29 players  
16 – 43 players  
17 – 54 players

There are 14 countries represented in the championship: Australia, Canada, Chinese Taipei, Colombia, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, People's Republic of China, Philippines, Puerto Rico, Republic of Korea, Thailand, United States of America and Venezuela.

There are 34 states represented in the championship: Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Delaware, Florida, Georgia, Hawaii, Idaho, Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri, Nevada, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oklahoma, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, Utah, Virginia, Washington and West Virginia.

There are two Oklahoma residents in the field and both reside in Norman. **Kaitlin Milligan**, 16, was born in Tulsa and **Yujeong Son**, 14, was born in the Republic of Korea.

There are three USGA champions in the field:

- **Kristen Gillman**, 17, of Austin Texas (2014 U.S. Women's Amateur)
- **Fumie (Alice) Jo**, 16, of the People's Republic of China (2014 U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links)
- **Mika Liu**, 16, of Beverly Hills, Calif. (2015 U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball with Rinko Mitsunaga)

There are two USGA runners-up in the field:

- **Hannah O'Sullivan**, 17, of Chandler, Ariz. (2015 U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball with Robynn Ree)
- **Eun Jeong Seong**, 15, of the Republic of Korea (2014 U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links)

Four of the eight Girls' Junior competitors who played in the 2015 U.S. Women's Open at Lancaster (Pa.) Country Club made the cut, including the championship's 17-year-old low amateur, **Megan Khang** of Rockland, Mass.

- **Maria Fassi**, 17, of Mexico (74-72—MC)
- **Mariel Galdiano**, 17, of Pearl City, Hawaii (70-74-71-71—286, T42)
- **Kristen Gillman** (75-76—MC)
- **Muni He**, 16, of the People's Republic of China (68-74-73-73—288, T53)
- **Megan Khang** (71-70-73-71—285, T35)
- **Beth Lillie**, 16, of Fullerton, Calif. (77-75—MC)
- **Hannah O'Sullivan** (72-71-74-71—288, T53)
- **Lilia Khatu Vu**, 17, Fountain Valley, Calif. (77-74—MC)

Eighteen Girls' Junior competitors played in the inaugural U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball Championship this May on the Pacific Dunes course at Bandon Dunes. This number includes champion **Mika Liu** and runner-up **Hannah O'Sullivan**, as well as the following:

- **Alyaa Abdulghany**, 16, of Newport Beach, Calif., with partner Ellen Takada (lost in semifinals)
- **Maria Balcazar**, 17, of Mexico, with partner, **Maria Fassi** (lost in round of 16)
- **Courtney Dow**, 17, of Frisco, Texas, with partner Brooke McDougald (lost in round of 16)
- **Morgan Goldstein**, 14, of Las Vegas, Nev., with partner Veronica Joels (lost in round of 16)
- **Kendall Griffin**, 16, of Sebring, Fla., with partner **Athena Yang**, 17, of Winter Haven, Fla. (earned medalist honors; lost in quarterfinals)
- **Muni He** with partner **Angel Yin**, 16, of Arcadia, Calif. (lost in quarterfinals)
- **Madelein Herr**, 17, of New Hope, Pa., with partner Brynn Walker (lost in semifinals)
- **Lucy Li** with partner **Kathleen Scavo**, 17, of Benicia, Calif. (lost in round of 16)
- **Marni Murez**, 17, of Manhattan Beach, Calif., with partner Ashley Kim (lost in round of 32)
- **Katherine Muzy**, 14, of Walnut, Calif., with partner Patricia Wong (lost in round of 32)
- **Brooke Seay**, 14, of Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., with partner Carolyn Zhao (lost in round of 16)
- **Gillian Vance**, 17, of Lakewood, Colo., with partner Jennifer Kupcho (lost in round of 32)

**Kristen Gillman** and **Andrea Lee** are representing Team USA in the 2015 Pan American Games in Toronto, Canada, this month. This is the first time golf is being contested in the Pan American Games, the world's third-largest international multi-sport competition.

Eleven championship competitors are in the top 75 of the Women's World Amateur Golf Ranking™ as of Wednesday, July 15, the last WWAGR update prior to the start of the championship:

- **Hannah O'Sullivan** (No. 6)
- **Angel Yin** (No. 8)
- **Sierra Brooks**, 17, of Sorrento, Fla. (No. 11)
- **Andrea Lee** (No. 12)
- **Megan Khang** (No. 17)
- **Kristen Gillman** (No. 18)
- **Eun Jeong Seong** (No. 19)
- **Mariel Galdiano** (No. 27)
- **Mika Liu** (No. 53)
- **Chakansim (Fai) Khamborn**, 15, of Thailand (No. 62)
- **Fumie (Alice) Jo** (No. 71)

There are three sets of sisters in the field:

- **Yu Chiang** and **Yu Sang Hou** of Chinese Taipei, who are 14 and 16 years old, respectively.
- **Jessica** and **Sarah Spicer** of Bahama, N.C., both of whom are 17
- **Kelsey** and **Courtney Zeng** of Orlando, Fla., who are 16 and 17 years old, respectively.

**Megan Khang** is playing in her seventh U.S. Girls' Junior, tying only Margot Morton for most times played in the championship. Morton participated from 1954-1960. One player – **Allisen Corpuz**, 17, of Honolulu, Hawaii – is playing in her sixth U.S. Girls' Junior, and three players are participating in the championship for a fifth time, including **Courtney Dow**, **Mika Liu** and **Lilia Khatu Vu**.

#### General Player Notes

**Pajaree Anannarukarn**, 16, of Thailand, earned low-amateur honors in the 2013 Thai LPGA Masters thanks to a long birdie putt that forced a sudden-death playoff. She also won the 2014 Singha-Sat Thai LPGA Championship.

**Morgan Baxendale**, 16, of Windermere, Fla., won the 2014 Florida Girls' Junior Championship. She has verbally committed to attend Vanderbilt University.

**Lauren Beaudreau**, 14, of Lemont, Ill., has traveled to 20 countries. One of the places she enjoyed most was Egypt, where she explored the pyramids and Nile River.

**Sierra Brooks**, 17, of Sorrento, Fla., was named the 2015 American Family Insurance All-USA Girls Golf Player of the Year by USA Today. Verbally committed to attend Wake Forest University, Brooks won the Women's Southern Amateur, South Atlantic Women's Amateur (the SALLY) and Florida State High School 1A championships in 2015. In 2014, she won the AJGA Polo Golf Junior Classic and was a member of the victorious USA Team in the Junior Ryder Cup. She also won the 2013 AJGA Girls and 2010 U.S. Kids World championships.

**Greta Bruner**, 17, of Conroe, Texas, won the 2015 Texas Legends Junior Tour Bluebonnet Championship and finished second in the 2015 Insperity Invitational Junior Championship conducted by the American Junior Golf Association.

**Gracyn Burgess**, 15, of Lexington, S.C., was the starting goalkeeper for her high school's varsity soccer team, which made it to the 4A semifinals. She also plays basketball and can hula hoop for 5 minutes and 30 seconds without stopping.

**Caroline Cahill**, 16, of Wilmington, N.C., interns at a veterinary clinic. She was adopted from the People's Republic of China when she was 9 months old.

**Claire Cameron**, 16, of Martinsville, Ind., is a two-time Indiana Golf Association Player of the Year. At age 14, she became the youngest person to win the Indiana Girls' Junior State Championship.

**Jennifer Cleary**, 13, of Wilmington, Del., was born on Sept. 11, 2001. She has been a member of back-to-back state championship soccer teams and is a state-champion squash player.

**Gabriela Coello**, 17, of Venezuela, attends Windermere (Fla.) Preparatory School and helped the Lakers girls' golf team win the 2012 state championship.

**Allisen Corpuz**, 17, of Honolulu, Hawaii, played in the 2008 U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links at age 10 years, 3 months, 9 days, making her the youngest competitor in USGA championship history.

**Selena Costabile**, 17, of Canada, won the 2014 Investors Group Spring Classic, conducted by the Golf Association of Ontario, and 2013 Ontario High School Golf Championship. Trilingual in English, French and Russian, she is currently studying Spanish and Japanese. She also plays the piano at the highest level of the Royal Conservatory of Music.

**Courtney Dow**, 17, of Frisco, Texas, is a three-time Texas high school state golf champion (2013, 2014 and 2015). She also plays soccer and softball competitively and is active in philanthropic causes such as The National Charity League and The First Tee of Dallas.

**Sadie Englemann**, 13, of Austin, Texas, shot a 63 to break the low-round record at Austin Country Club during the 2014 Junior Club Championship. She owns a 150-pound Great Dane named Driver, and this is her first time qualifying for a USGA championship.

**Maria Fassi**, 17, of Mexico, won the 2015 Women's Mexican Amateur. She is committed to attend the University of Arkansas in the fall.

**Julia Ford**, 17, of Shrewsbury, Mass., won the 2014 Massachusetts high school state golf championship. She is verbally committed to the University of Virginia.

**Mariel Galdiano**, 17, of Pearl City, Hawaii, qualified for the 2011, 2013 and 2015 U.S. Women's Open Championships. She was also a three-time Hawaii state high school golf champion (2013, 2014 and 2015).

**Dominique Galloway**, 17, of Rio Rancho, N.M., won the 2013 Albuquerque Women's City Golf Championship, becoming the youngest winner in championship history. She also won the 2013 New Mexico-West Texas Women's Amateur and the 2014 and 2015 New Mexico high school golf championship.

**Ami Gianchandani**, 15, of Short Hills, N.J., plays squash in the winter and is on a robotics team at The Pingry School where she works on the mechanics of robot design and functionality.

**Kristen Gillman**, 17, of Austin, Texas, won the 2014 U.S. Women's Amateur and 2014 Junior PGA Championship and also played on the victorious USA Team in the Junior Ryder Cup. Gillman, who has committed to attend the University of Alabama in the fall, was named the 2014 South Texas PGA Junior Golfer of the Year and a 2014 Rolex Junior First-Team All-American by the American Junior Golf Association.

**Morgan Goldstein**, 14, of Las Vegas, Nev., won the Girls 12-13 Division in the 2015 Drive, Chip & Putt Championship at Augusta National Golf Club, posting the first perfect score of 30 in the event's history.

**Julia Gregg**, 13, of Dallas, Texas, will celebrate her 14th birthday during the U.S. Girls' Junior Championship (July 24). She captains the basketball team at Prince of Peace Christian Middle School.

**Haylin Harris**, 16, of Tucson, Ariz., is the starting point guard for the Salpointe Catholic High School basketball team.

**Muni He**, 15, of the People's Republic of China, currently lives in Rancho Santa Fe, Calif. She has verbally committed to attend the University of Southern California. She recorded her only hole-in-one during a practice round in the 2015 LPGA Kia Classic at Aviara Golf Club and Resort in Carlsbad, Calif.

**Fumie (Alice) Jo**, 16, of the People's Republic of China, became the first person from the People's Republic of China to win a USGA championship when she claimed the 2014 U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links title. She was also the second-youngest champion in WAPL history, following 13-year-old Michelle Wie in 2003, and the final winner in the 38-year history of the WAPL, as the championship was officially retired following the 2014 competition. Jo currently resides in Clermont, Fla.

**Megan Khang**, 17, of Rockland, Mass., won the 2012 and 2013 Connecticut Women's Open Championship. In 2009, Khang became the youngest qualifier in U.S. Girls' Junior history. On the first day of the championship, she was 11 years, 8 months and 28 days old. She earned low-amateur honors at the 2015 U.S. Women's Open and is competing in her seventh U.S. Girls' Junior Championship.

**Anina Ku**, 14, of Basking Ridge, N.J., won the 2011 U.S. Kids World Championship at Longleaf Golf and Country Club in Southern Pines, N.C., with her mom on her bag. At age 4, she performed the violin at Carnegie Hall.

**Brittany Kwon**, 14, of Bremerton, Wash., won the 2011, 2012 and 2013 Washington State Junior Championship as well as the 2014 Pacific Northwest Golf Association Junior Girls' Amateur Championship.

**Andrea Lee**, 16, of Hermosa Beach, Calif., won the 2014 Rolex Tournament of Champions and 2014 Yani Tseng Invitational, both conducted by the American Junior Golf Association. She also played in the 2014 U.S. Women's Open at Pinehurst No. 2, where she made the cut and finished tied for 69th with scores of 79-70-77-77. Lee is a first-degree black belt in taekwondo.

**Binny Lee**, 16, of Chicago, Ill., is the daughter of two martial arts masters, and she is a first-degree black belt. Her mother, Nanyool Lee, won a gold medal in taekwondo in the 1988 Olympic Games in Seoul, South Korea.

**Lucy Li**, 12, of Redwood City, Calif., became the youngest qualifier in U.S. Women's Open history by qualifying for the 2014 championship at 11 years, 8 months and 19 days old. In 2013, she became the youngest competitor in U.S. Women's Amateur Championship history, competing at 10 years, 10 months and 4 days of age. That same year, she became the second-youngest player in U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links history at 10 years, 8 months and 16 days, and the youngest to reach match play. She loves fashion and has made her own Halloween costumes since age 7.

**Bibiana Liu**, 15, of Cupertino, Calif., swam for Saint Francis High School her freshman year and is active in Girl Scouts.

**Mika Liu**, 16, of Beverly Hills, Calif., won the 2014 Women's Western Amateur and Southern Amateur championships. She also played on the victorious USA Team in the 2014 World Junior Girls Championship, received an amateur exemption into the LPGA Tour's 2015 ANA Inspiration and won the inaugural 2015 U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball Championship with partner Rinko Mitsunaga. Liu has verbally committed to attend Stanford University.

**Divya Manthena**, 17, of Moorpark, Calif., has dual citizenship in the United States and India. She founded a nonprofit organization called "Krishak" 501(c)(3) with the mission of helping farmers facing hardships, supporting victims of natural disasters and working with children in the areas of education and health.

**Kaitlyn Milligan**, 16, of Norman, Okla., was named the 2015 Central Oklahoma Female Golfer of the Year and finished runner-up in the 2015 Class 6A State Tournament at Indian Springs Country Club in Broken Arrow, Okla., her best result in the state tournament. She's also the 2014 Oklahoma Class 6A Regional champion.

**Tenley Moretti**, 15, of Ankeny, Iowa, was a competitive gymnast for eight years at Triad Gymnastics, which is owned by her parents, Donna and Tom. She is also a member of the varsity show choir at Ankeny Centennial High School.

**Kory Nielsen**, 16, of Kent, Ohio, competed on the Kent Roosevelt High School golf team with her older twin sisters, Kasey and Kelly, who will play for Kent State University this coming season where their father, Joel Nielsen, serves as athletic director.

**Hannah O'Sullivan**, 17, of Chandler, Ariz., qualified for the 2012 and 2015 U.S. Women's Open Championships. In addition to winning the American Junior Golf Association's 2015 Rolex Tournament of Champions and Rolex Girls Junior, O'Sullivan won the 2015 Gateway Classic, the opening event on the Symetra Tour, becoming the youngest winner in Tour history and the first amateur winner since 1999. Also in 2015, O'Sullivan teamed with future University of Southern California teammate Robyn Ree in the inaugural U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball. The duo recorded the first 10-and-8 victory in an 18-hole USGA match since 1955 on their way to finishing runner-up. In 2014, O'Sullivan was a semifinalist in the U.S. Women's Amateur and was a member of the victorious USA Team in the Junior Ryder Cup.

**Allison Paik**, 13, of Providence, R.I., plays ice hockey for the Massachusetts Spitfires. This is her first U.S. Girls' Junior.

**Calista Reyes**, 15, of the Philippines, moved to the United States when she was 5 and currently resides with her parents in San Diego, Calif.

**Karah Sanford**, 13, of Escondido, Calif., won the 2011 and 2013 U.S. Kids World Championship. Sanford, who reached the finals of the 2014 Drive, Chip & Putt Championship, was diagnosed with scoliosis at age 10 and wears a special elastic back brace to treat the condition.

**Kathleen Scavo**, 17, of Benicia, Calif., qualified for the 2014 U.S. Women's Open, finishing second to Lucy Li in the Half Moon Bay (Calif.) Golf Links sectional qualifier. She also won the 2012 and 2013 California Junior Girls' State Championships and will play on the University of Oregon golf team this fall.

**Brooke Seay**, 14, of Rancho Santa Fe, Calif., won the 12-year-old division at the 2013 U.S. Kids Golf World Championship. When she's not playing golf, she enjoys soccer, tennis and practicing on her pogo stick.

**Aneka Seumanutafa**, 14, of Frederick, Md., likes to play the ukulele and dance hula.

**Adeena Shears**, 17, of Elizabeth, W.Va., is the 2014 West Virginia Women's Amateur champion and 2015 West Virginia Girls Junior Amateur champion.

**Sarah Shipley**, 17, of Hastings, Mich., would like to study sports journalism.

**Ellie Slama**, 16, of Salem, Ore., is the 2015 Oregon Junior Amateur champion. She is also a member of the varsity girls cross country, golf and swim teams at South Salem High School. Her brother, Tim, will caddie for her at the championship.

**Yujeong Son**, 14, of the Republic of Korea, resides in Norman, Okla., and will be playing in her first U.S. Girls' Junior. She won the 2014 Women's Oklahoma Golf Association State Amateur Championship, 4 and 3, over Baylee Price, becoming the youngest winner in the championship's history. She also won the 2014 WOGA Girls Junior Championship, 2014 Junior All-Star Invitational and was the U.S. Kids National Player of the Year in 2012.

**Jessica Spicer**, 17, of Bahama, N.C., is playing in her second U.S. Girls' Junior Championship, while her twin sister, **Sarah**, the 2015 North Carolina Women's Amateur champion, is playing in her first. Both girls also skated on a

synchronized ice skating team for 10 years, qualifying for the 2010 U.S. Synchronized Skating National Championship. Since there is not a girl's team at their high school, they play on the boys' team at Northern Durham High School.

**Kasey Torres**, 16, of Los Angeles, Calif., participated in the 2014 Congressional Pro-Am in Washington, D.C., where she played with 2015 U.S. Open and Masters champion Jordan Spieth. She belongs to The First Tee of South Los Angeles.

**Gillian Vance**, 17, of Lakewood, Colo., won the 2015 Colorado 5A state high school championship and was named the state's high school player of the year for golf. She will attend the University of Colorado this fall.

**Lilia Khatu Vu**, 17, of Fountain Valley, Calif., won the 2014 KNC Champions Junior Classic. Her victory earned her a berth in the 2014 Kraft Nabisco Championship, where she made the cut and tied for 46th.

**Hadley Walts**, 15, of Evansville, Ind., was a guest dancer in season 3 of "Dance Moms" and appeared once in season 4 with her mom, Yvette Walts, who is a dance teacher at Thrive Dance Company. Prior to appearing on the hit reality show, Hadley and Yvette competed on "Abby's Ultimate Dance Competition."

**Elizabeth Wang**, 15, of San Marino, Calif., won the 2014 Rolex Girls Junior Championship.

**Sarah Willis**, 15, of Eaton, Ohio, plays on the boy's golf team at Eaton High School with her 17-year-old brother, Cameron, who she defeated in a playoff during a high school golf tournament. Cameron won the Ohio State Golf Championship when he was a freshman. Her father, Mark, often serves as her caddie.

**Athena Yang**, 17, of Winter Haven, Fla., carded two aces during the 2014 LPGA National in Daytona, Fla. She has verbally committed to attend Mississippi State University.

**Angel Yin**, 16, of Arcadia, Calif., carded a 13-under 131 in stroke-play qualifying in the 2014 U.S. Girls' Junior, which is the second-lowest 36-hole score in both U.S. Girls' Junior and USGA amateur championship history. In 2015, she won the AJGA ANNIKA Invitational in record-setting fashion, finishing with an eight-stroke win at 12-under 206 for the 54-hole event, two strokes better than the previous record set by Bethany Wu.

**Courtney Zeng**, 17, of Orlando, Fla., won the 2014 Golf Pride/David Leadbetter Junior Classic, conducted by the American Junior Golf Association. She was a top-ranked junior tennis player in Florida before she took up golf and has verbally committed to attend Vanderbilt University.

**Anna Zhou**, 17, of Palo Alto, Calif., was a competitive pianist and performed at Carnegie Hall.

*Storylines were compiled by the USGA's championship communications team. If you have questions, email Vanessa Zink at [vzink@usga.org](mailto:vzink@usga.org).*