

# JM Eagle LA Championship

Sunday, April 20, 2025

Los Angeles, California, USA

## Akie Iwai

### Press Conference



**Q. All right here with Akie. Just came up short. What went into today and how are we feeling overall?**

AKIE IWAI: Today so I feel little nervous, but good nervous. Today getting tough condition from the green. Yeah, little window, but, I made a lot of birdie today. It was good. I played under today, yeah.

**Q. Despite that, you've very clearly shown you belong out here and can play and compete out here. Has this week given you more confidence about your game and playing here on the LPGA Tour?**

AKIE IWAI: I got confidence, yeah, but I lose this week. But I got confidence, a lot, yeah.

Little by little this week, next week, next week, yeah, just keep going, yeah.

**Q. How much has this week kind of been, despite the result, been a confidence knowing we have our first major coming up next week?**

AKIE IWAI: So actually that could be a good chance for me, yeah, because I wanted to play against it next week and it is going to be a major, so that could be a good chance for me.

**Q. Can you talk about the second shot on 16, what you were thinking?**

AKIE IWAI: 16?

**Q. You were in the tree, kind of...**

AKIE IWAI: Oh, okay. 160 to the pin but stuck tree, and then I know Ingrid see I must catch up to her. That's why -- so caddie say me, oh, maybe layup, but I must catch up, so I give it try, so hitting slice.

Yeah, really good shot, yeah, really good putt.

**Q. Your caddie wanted you to layup? How close were you to doing that or did you feel you had to do it because, as you said, you were behind by a shot at**

**that point?**

AKIE IWAI: Yes, exactly. (Smiling.)

**Q. And then the putt, did you think you had made the putt when it was going toward the hole? Obviously ended up pretty close.**

AKIE IWAI: 18 hole?

**Q. No, on 16.**

AKIE IWAI: 16.

**Q. You almost holed that for eagle.**

AKIE IWAI: Yeah, almost. It could have been in though.

**Q. And then the last two holes, both of your tee shot on 17 and approach on 18 went long.**

AKIE IWAI: Uh-huh.

**Q. Was that excitement of being tied or was it the greens being a little more firm? What caused that?**

AKIE IWAI: Maybe myself. Maybe I have adrenaline, yeah. I know, but -- yeah, I don't like short, yeah. But it's okay. Yep.

**Q. And then finally, the putt on 18, when you hit it did you know it wasn't -- did you think you made it? How much -- how hard a putt was that?**

AKIE IWAI: Yeah, I know -- so Ingrid same score, yeah, and that's what I notice on the green, yeah. Yeah, I aim the hole from approach but it go long.

But it's okay. But that was a tough putt, but I really wanted to make it, though. Yeah, I missed it.

**Q. What do you think about the way the rookies are playing on Tour this year? Already two rookies have won. You've come close twice. Your thoughts on the rookie class.**

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AKIE IWA: Yeah, actually everyone play well and that's why I need play well. That's it.

**Q. What is your biggest takeaway from this week?  
What's the biggest thing you take away as you head to Chevron?**

AKIE IWA: Confidence. Okay.

**Q. Great round.**

AKIE IWA: Thank you.

**Q. And great tournament. When you play in this tournament, how do you feel about the hosts overall?  
What was your experience like throughout the tournament?**

AKIE IWA: Really it was fun, so especially this week I feel -- getting feel nervous back nine, getting nervous; I feel body, yeah. That's why sometimes the ball will be right, yeah.

Actually, it was a good experience because under the pressure, yeah, my ball goes right so I did notice that this week. It was good experience, yeah, for me.

**Q. One more question: You got to play with multiple people including your sister. Ingrid said she enjoyed playing with you. Did you have a favorite this tournament that you played with?**

AKIE IWA: Yeah, it was fun. I enjoyed play much.

**Q. So no favorite.**

AKIE IWA: Ingrid. I played twice this week, yeah.

**Q. On the back nine, how much did you look at the leaderboard and how aware were you of like...**

AKIE IWA: Maybe No. 15 and 18. Two time, yeah. That's it.

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