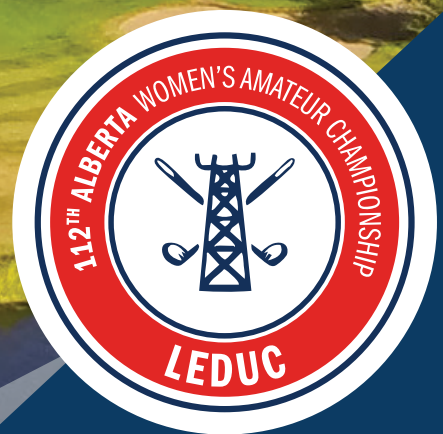


# 2025 Women's Amateur



July 2-4

Leduc Golf & Country Club

# Eileen Park

## 2024 Alberta Women's Amateur Champion



**Q: When you reflect on your victory at the Alberta Women's Amateur Championship at River Spirit Golf Club, what memories are most vivid?**

**Park:** "I would say that the last day was the most important day, because I was two shots behind going into that round. I had a pretty good start. On No. 1, I made a 30-footer for birdie, which made me more comfortable playing the rest of the round. And I had a lot of fun playing with Grace (Bell) and Jenna (Bruggeman). They were both so nice to me."

**Q: When you're trying to gain ground on the leader and you sink a long birdie putt on the opening hole, what goes through your mind in that moment?**

**Park:** "There was a lot going through my head, because I was so nervous. Because I wanted this win really bad. But I was trying to not get a lot of thoughts in my head because I knew if I was over-thinking, it would make it more complicated. So I was trying to just take it one shot at a time."

**Q: Your playing partners probably couldn't tell you were so nervous, since you hit all 18 greens in regulation and didn't make any bogeys on that final day. What allowed you to play such steady golf in that scenario?**

**Park:** "I think it was on Hole 16 that I thought to myself, 'If I keep playing the way I have been, I could win.' So starting on No. 16, I got so nervous. I had, like, a three-footer for birdie on No. 17 and I missed that because my hands were shaking. So I just wanted to keep myself calm. I was doing a lot of deep breaths."

**Q: You have quite a collection of provincial and national victories on your resume already ... What does this latest one mean to you?**

**Park:** "This tournament, the year before I won, I got second-place and I was so close, so obviously I wanted to get the title this time. Because it's the biggest amateur tournament in our province, I think it means a lot. Hopefully I can get it back again this year."

*Park, a rising star from Red Deer Golf & Country Club, added to an already long list of accomplishments by winning the Alberta Women's Amateur at the age of 15. She posted a three-round score of 1-under 215.*

### Alberta Women's Amateur Past Champions

2024 – Eileen Park

2023 – Jieming Yang

2022 – Katherine Hao

2021 – Hailey Katona

2020 – Yeji Kwon

### Alberta Women's Amateur Interprovincial Team

2024 – Finished (T-2)

Eileen Park

Grace Bell

Jenna Bruggeman

# Meaghan LeBlanc

2024 Alberta Women's Mid-Amateur  
Champion



**Q: When you reflect on your victory in the Mid-Amateur division at the Alberta Women's Amateur Championship at River Spirit Golf Club, what memories are most vivid?**

**LeBlanc:** "We had a couple of bad days, with the weather, but it was still a great week. It's always fun to play in those events, and I'm happy I can make it work with my schedule."

**Q: Due to your work commitments, you don't play a ton of tournament golf. When your competitive rounds are a little more sporadic, what challenge does that present?**

**LeBlanc:** "It has its challenges. I'm not playing as many tournament rounds as some of the others. It's probably a little bit of consistency. I'm playing some golf, but it's kind of a different mentality and mindset. Some weeks are easier than others. I don't have a special sauce for it, but I think it's trying to make sure that when I'm there, I'm there, and not trying to think about other stuff. Focusing on the golf, that's the goal. Everybody has things going on, so it's trying to separate them when you're there, and then worry about the other stuff later."

**Q: You seem to have a strong grip on this particular trophy ... What does a three-peat mean to you?**

**LeBlanc:** "Yeah, it's cool. Anytime you win an Alberta trophy, it feels good. I've been lucky that I played some good tournaments the last few years and was able to come out some wins."

**Q: In the past three Alberta Women's Amateur Championships, you've finished second (2022), third (2023) and fourth (2024) on the main leaderboard. You've won the mid-amateur title each time, but how do you treat the overall competition? Do you believe you can win?**

**LeBlanc:** "I think if I have a good week, I could contend. It's tough. I'm happy to be there, not super far out of it. I also haven't been chasing down anybody, either. If I had a really good week, I could compete, who knows? Some of these are university students and they've been playing all winter in the U.S. and have so many more competitive rounds than I do. And they're so good. It's tough, and it's fun to get out there and play."

*LeBlanc, a member at Country Hills Golf Club in Calgary, continued her reign in the Mid-Amateur category, winning that title for a third consecutive summer. This time, she finished five shots ahead of the pack at 6-over 222.*

## Alberta Women's Mid-Amateur Past Champions

2024 – Meaghan LeBlanc

2023 – Meaghan LeBlanc

2022 – Meaghan LeBlanc

2021 – Heather Lee

2020 – Kylie Barros

## Alberta Women's Mid-Amateur Interprovincial Team

2024 – Finished (2nd)

Andrea Kosa

Morgan Bell

Jenn Orcheski



# Andrea Kosa

2024 Alberta Women's Mid-Master  
Champion



**Q: When you reflect on your victory in the Mid-Master category at the Alberta Women's Amateur Championship at River Spirit Golf Club, what memories are most vivid?**

**Kosa:** "First of all, River Spirit is a gem that I don't think enough people know about it. It is a fantastic golf course. It was in awesome shape. The greens were really, really nice. I remember the weather was pretty tough out there for the finish — it was like snow, rain, hail on the last three holes. You had kind of power through. But there could always be an experience like that at an Alberta Golf event!"

**Q: What was the strongest part of your game that week?**

**Kosa:** "I had ups and downs, but I think my strength that week was bouncing back from adversity. My game was not great as a whole unit, but I would have good and bad. I made up for the bad stuff, and I was fortunate at times. I was more lucky than I was good."

**Q: You have now gone back-to-to-back as Alberta's mid-master champion ... What does this latest triumph mean to you?**

**Kosa:** "It's always an honour to be recognized at a provincial level. But I think about keeping these opportunities for people at the mid-amateur age and older to keep coming out and play. Maybe we're not competing with the 18-year-olds. But to come out and play, the longevity is what I'm more proud of than the titles and just keep coming out to participate."

**Q: It's a unique atmosphere at the Alberta Women's Amateur Championship, with three provincial titles — amateur, mid-amateur and mid-master — up for grabs. You just mentioned the importance of participation, especially in those older divisions, so what would you tell somebody who is torn on whether they'll sign up in 2025? What's the best thing about this event?**

**Kosa:** "The best point, I would say, is you get to celebrate the young kids and lift them and see them and then become a part of a cheering group. The community of women's golf, I think, is different than the men's community. We rely on the cheerleaders and the support from our whole group. Men can kind of go out as lone dogs and be competitive — they're just kind of built that way — but it's the community spirit that women can bring to it. There are flight prizes, so there's lots of things you can still win. It doesn't really matter where you finish, overall, because there's all the different categories. Or it can just be about getting out to these interesting golf courses and challenging your game."

*Kosa, a member at The Glencoe Golf & Country Club in Calgary, pulled off a three-peat in her age division. She finished nine shots ahead of the pack at 20-over 236.*

## Alberta Women's Mid-Master Past Champions

2024 – Andrea Kosa

2023 – Andrea Kosa

2022 – Andrea Kosa

2021 – Heather Lee

2020 – Andrea Kosa



# Leduc Golf & Country Club

## The Community Country Club in Leduc

By Taylor Tracey

*Driving up and down the QE2 is nothing new for most Albertans, as it's the busiest highway in the province connecting Lethbridge all the way to Grande Prairie. As you drive this highway, you'll pass a plethora of things. Livestock animals in the fields, broken down cars, slow drivers, and even a few golf courses. The one place you don't want to miss though is Leduc Golf & Country Club. This quiet gem will be a hot topic this summer with the best female amateur golfers in the province descending on the course on July 2nd for the 112th Alberta Women's Amateur Championship.*

*For someone who is new to the course, you're in for quite the treat. The golf course has plenty of beautifully tree lined fairways, stunning water features, an easy walk, and a stunning clubhouse. For these championship contenders in July however, they're facing "a good walk spoiled" as the course will test every facet of your game. Jeremy Beirnes, the Head Professional at the course, sees the course as being "deceiving" to those who stand on the tee.*

"It's going to be a good test of the top female talent out there. It's a challenging course for being in the city. It's not overly long, but it's going to test their talent, make them think about their game, and manage the course correctly. You must hit fairways and keep the ball below the hole." - Jeremy Beirnes

Beirnes' words on what it will take to win surely ring true as he describes some of the important stretches on the course. He believes players will be tested early through holes 5,6,7 and the winner will have to survive holes 14,15,16 on the back. "We're a tree lined golf course with lots of out of bounds and water" he remarked "you need to think your way through the golf course". The players aren't without a break though, the course offers #11 and #18 as their signature holes with the latter being a beautiful finishing hole with the clubhouse looming in the background.

Beirnes and Rick Brown, the General Manager at Leduc, certainly know what it takes to succeed at the course. Rick Brown started his time at Leduc as a junior member and likely has forgotten how many times he's played the course. Jeremy had a similar humble beginning at the course, working in the back shop and working his way up. Additionally, Robin Stewart is an Associate Professional at the course and brings a wealth of knowledge from experience at other courses but hasn't seen a course environment like the one present at Leduc.

"We really have a family atmosphere here and lots of the staff are entrenched in this place. It's not just a job for them it's part of their life. It's a close-knit group here and whenever we need volunteers people will always jump up and help out" – Robin Stewart

The course at Leduc is a true crowd pleaser within the industry, hosting a Golf Canada NextGen Championship last summer, the Canadian Junior Girls Championship in 2021 and a variety of PGA of Alberta tournaments through the years. Part of the reason for being so popular among associations, remarks Brown, would be the keen membership and their consistent involvement with volunteering.

"We have a phenomenal membership and supportive membership. The course has grown with the community over the years and really is a staple of the community" – Rick Brown

With such an engaged community and close membership, Brown and Beirnes are very proud with the course continually being recognized and getting hosting requests. The club community has always been there but underwent a boost in 2019 after the City of Leduc entered into a land transfer agreement with the course. The course kept its management of the facility but as part of the agreement was given capital improvements including new irrigation and a brand-new clubhouse of over 10,000 square feet, complete with simulators in the basement for year-round golf.

"It's just a privilege (to host) and we are grateful for the opportunity. A little pat on the back for ourselves as we've been asked numerous times so we're obviously doing something right". – Jeremy Beirnes

With the summer fast approaching, some things are certain. Leduc is sure to be a busy facility with a rising intermediate membership category, an avid ladies' league, and an active membership at large. The course is sure to be a new kind of challenge for the female competitors in the 'Amateur'

and the walk up on hole 18 will welcome a sight for sore eyes; plenty of smiling members and the new clubhouse boasting one of the best patios in the Edmonton area. The one uncertainty at this time, is who will hoist the Jackson Bros. Trophy on July 4th. ■

***"It's going to be a good test of the top female talent out there. It's a challenging course for being in the city. It's not overly long, but it's going to test their talent, make them think about their game, and manage the course correctly. You must hit fairways and keep the ball below the hole." - Jeremy Beirnes***