2026 NEWSLETTER

The A-Money Club

Supporters for Alison Takamiya's Professional Golf Journey

By Alison Takamiya

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WAPT Circles Player of the Week and a Top 5!

May 2026

ON THE COURSE

May was a month full of new experiences and lots of learning! The three events I played were my **first** US Women's Open qualifier in Honolulu, HI, WAPT FCA Championship in Broken Arrow, OK, and lastly the Texas Women's Open in Grapevine, TX! My Women's Open qualifier was 36 holes in one day and I finished 5th shooting 72-74. My journey from Hawaii to Oklahoma was definitely a patience tester (more to come on that later), but as a result, I missed the cut by three with scores of 77-75. That round of 77 counted as a one-day qualifier for the Texas Women's Open for girls ranked outside the Top-80 on the WAPT. At the time, I was number 82 on the points list (after missing that cut by one earlier in the season). At the end of the first day of Oklahoma, I went into a 5-way sudden-death playoff for the last three qualifying spots to make it into the Texas Women's Open field! Then, in Texas, I shot 74-77, missing the cut by 7 shots. While that was not my ideal tournament finish, there was still so much good for me to take away from the experience; and now post-tournament, the only thing I can do is continue tinkering to make all the pieces fit.

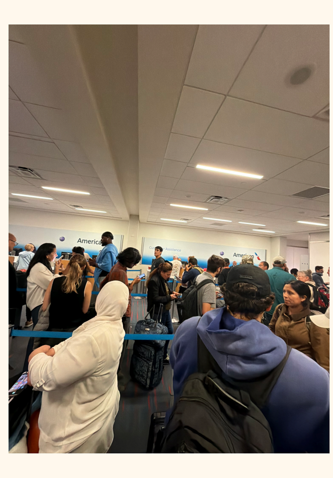
OFF THE COURSE

While back home in Hawaii for a week, I got to see some of our family friends! I got my quick fix of local Japanese food, and also went to a local craft fair and the beach on my off-day! I've missed the warm and friendly island community and am glad I got to go home, even if just for a little bit. This is my long-time friend of 20 years, Elyse, who over time I've started calling Gogi :)

As I mentioned earlier, my trip from Hawaii to Oklahoma was a unique experience to say the least. What was supposed to be a simple red-eye into San Diego, then arriving in Tulsa the following afternoon, turned into multiple cancellations and delayed flights. Luckily, I was traveling with a friend from Hilo on the Big Island, Lacey Uchida, and her dad, Lance, both of whom I've known since I was 10 while playing junior golf. Lacey and I hadn't seen each other since probably 2019. We never really kept in contact much while we were both away at college, but this trip definitely brought us both so much closer—especially since we were paired together for our 10 hours of golf playing the US Women's Open qualifier in Hawaii!

Lacey and I in 2015!

Our initial flight out of Honolulu got cancelled for "mechanical" reasons. After a bit of scrambling to book a new flight, we re-routed from Honolulu, HI (now leaving at Sunday at 2:30 am local time) → Seattle, WA → Dallas, TX → Tulsa, OK, so we were supposed to eventually arrive in OK by Sunday (Mother's Day) night. Due to severe thunderstorms, our original flight to Tulsa was cancelled and we got rebooked to early Monday morning at 1:30 AM. This flight was later cancelled due to crew shortages. We were given hotel and Uber vouchers and rebooked a flight to land in Oklahoma at midnight Monday night/Tuesday morning (keep in mind the tournament starts on Wednesday). After a few hours of sleep, we decided to drive to Tulsa instead, as it was only four hours, with the intent to arrive by Monday afternoon. We tried to pick up our baggage from DFW in the morning, but was told that 3 out of 6 of our bags were already in Tulsa! We spent hours on hold (on the phone) with staff to ensure the other three would be there in Tulsa by the time we arrived by car. So we started the drive just before noon. Unfortunately, the storm caused baggage issues with (what I read to be) over 500 cancelled flights that Sunday, because when we got to Oklahoma, one bag was missing...my golf clubs. Over the course of the next 16 hours, my clubs remained in a random terminal back in DFW, while we were being told by airline representatives it would be on the next flight to Tulsa. Lacey and I missed our opportunity for the Monday official practice round, though we were able to drive through the course Monday evening, so at least we could get a visual for the tournament. On Tuesday morning, less than 24 hours before my first round tee time, my bag ultimately showed up! While this was the extremely condensed version of the story, the chaos of this experience taught me sometimes all you can do is rely on what you got! Our motto for this trip was "take the small wins," and ultimately, it was an experience I can look back on and laugh about. I'm just really grateful to have had Lacey and Uncle Lance with me because I couldn't imagine going through all of that by myself.



Airport chaos // DFW

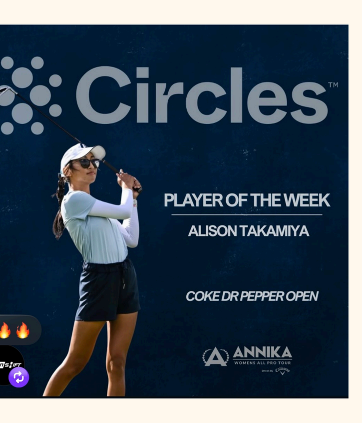
Never been happier to see my golf bag!!

In my off week between Oklahoma and Texas, I got to watch the George Fox girls I helped coach in the winter off-season compete at their National Championship in Palm Desert, CA. I enjoyed being a spectator and cheering on the girls with a couple of other former teammates (Liana Brown and Ainsley Carter)! I saw a lot of myself in watching the girls play and it was a good reminder to play as fearlessly as possible, and to remember no matter how big the stakes get, at the end of the day golf is meant to be fun. I roomed with my former teammate and good friend of mine, Makensie Toole, who was helping to coach the girls on the course during the tournament. In the downtime, we thoroughly enjoyed the Lazy River at the resort. During the girls' two practice rounds, I found a course nearby called Desert Island CC that was very hospitable in letting me practice at their facility for a couple of days. I also made use of the hotel gym to get good stretching/lifting/cardio in to keep staying active! My time in Palm Desert was a rejuvenating way to spend my off-week and it was just really fun to be in that National's environment again and to be there with such wonderful people. It made the travel from the week before feel so worth it :-)

INSIDE THE ROPES

As I mentioned in previous newsletters, this was the first time I competed in a US Women's Open qualifier. I'm really glad I made the decision to come home to play it (instead of going up to Seattle to play the PNW location) because I enjoyed having my parents and some family friends there. Unfortunately, with the storms Hawaii experienced a couple months ago, that delayed the course's aeration schedule, so we were putting on sanded greens with healing aeration holes. I also forgot how windy it can get back home, and we were dealing with some strong two-club gusty winds. The course itself was a good set-up being a flat walking course (especially since we were playing 36 holes) with tricky greens and subtle breaks. There was a 440-yard par 4 that I feel very proud to have parred in both go-arounds!

One morning I woke up to an unexpected email from one of the WAPT Managers. She told me I won **Circles Player of the Week** from the Alexandria, LA event. I genuinely thought it was a mistake because I missed the cut by one, but it turns out it's based on par 3 performance, and I was -3 on the par threes for that tournament. Whoever has the lowest scoring average on par 3's gets a future entry fee paid for! What a surprise!

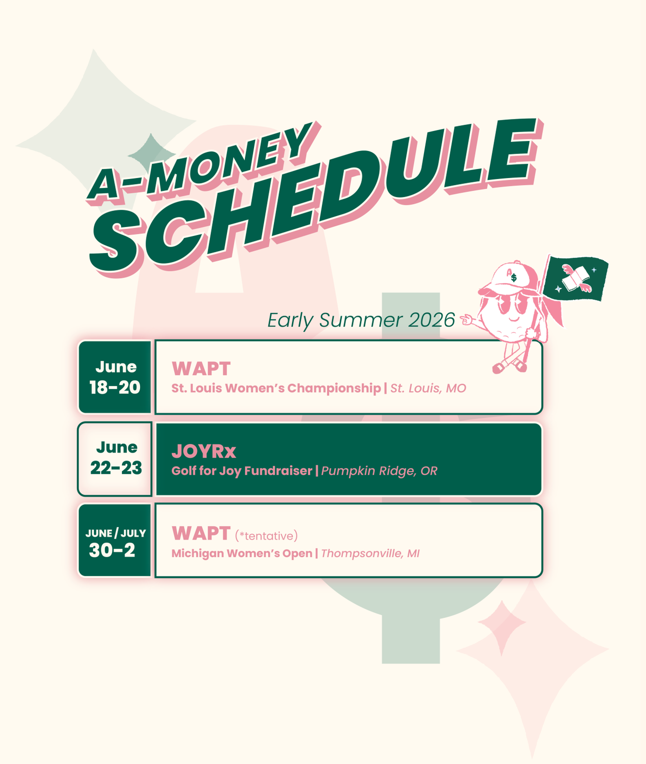


The course in Oklahoma was unlike anything I'd ever really seen before. It had a lot of character with narrow fairways, overhanging trees, raised, tiered and angled greens, and the **white line yardage** being over 6,600 yards. The white line yardage is the longest yardage the tournament committee will set a course at for competition. This is observed across tours regardless of if it's WAPT or LPGA. It was by far the toughest course I had played this season so far, which was apparent in how the cut was +5. My first nine was difficult for me because my body still felt asleep and my decision making was costing me. I had to trick myself on the back nine that I wasn't tired, and it was just a mindset. While it sounds dumb, I kept repeating to myself that I was wide awake, which paid off as I shot -1 that second nine, a seven-shot difference from the front.

Grapevine GC in Texas (pictured right above) was a really fun course that had narrow landing spots, big dog legs, and bunkers placed in landing zones, causing strategy to be a must. The greens were probably some of the most receptive I'd played so far. I shot scores of 74-77, and unfortunately missed the cut by 7 shots. I found I was putting a lot of pressure on myself, but a major highlight was Dad and I found a good player/caddie rhythm for us, which is most valuable. I got to see some girls I met this year from playing WAPT tournaments and just being able to say hi and starting to form relationships with them made me feel proud since making friends on tour was one of the goals I set out to make at the beginning of this year.

NEXT ON THE TEE

I originally thought I was going to get into an Epson event off my priority list standing during this June Michigan stretch of tournaments. However, that doesn't really seem to be the case, as I still am falling into the Reserve List (waitlist) category. But that's okay because I've reworked the way I see it as I'm just grateful for the opportunities I get to keep competing. The WAPT tournaments have provided invaluable learning in tough competition that I can take with me once I move up in tours.



Early Summer 2026 Schedule | A$

[Link to my next event! :)]

*Note - The third event in late June/early July is tentative because they will take top-80 on the WAPT points list, and go down the line of registration first come, first serve. As I am outside the top-80, that is why it is tentative!

As previously mentioned in a former newsletter, I have been invited to play in the Golf For Joy Pro-Am Tournament hosted by JoyRx, one of the wonderful programs of the Children's Cancer Association, that helps kids who are fighting cancer and serious illnesses. It will be out at Pumpkin Ridge in Oregon, and I'm looking forward to being part of a cause that impacts children's lives for the better :)

REFLECTIONS FROM THE CLUBHOUSE

After having insightful conversations with trusted mentors, I've reworked my mindset to look at the rest of my rookie year being about how much I can learn. I've learned an immense amount about myself through just a month-and-a-half of my tournament season. I think the most important thing is being as honest as I can with myself about how I feel, without being too hard on myself (heavy emphasis on this second part). Always reminding myself the outcome is not indicative of my worth. Pursuing the sport at this level where I've poured myself into all aspects of the game makes the tougher rounds feel like a deeper blow compared to college. One of my best friends, Gsul, told me that I'm allowed a learning curve, which has helped me give myself grace. Competing at this level is stretching me in ways I couldn't have ever imagined, and I think that's a big part of why I love it so much. At my core, I feel so optimistic that the breakthrough is on its way. I truly do. Now I have a couple of weeks to regroup, recharge, and get back on the horse for the next one!!

Thank you Lacey and Uncle Lance for being the best travel companions when it got hard—that was an experience I'll never forget! Thank you to Caddy Dad and Agent Mom for sticking through some hard rounds with me. It's not an easy path, but it feels a little easier with you both in my corner. If you made it down to this point... this was definitely my longest newsletter yet, so thank you for your time and your support! Even though golf's been hard, life's been good! Every step of this journey has been so exciting and new, I'm glad you're along for the ride :)

[See how my season's been going so far!]

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