SHINCHI'S 64 TIES SCORING MARK AT TOYOTA JR. GOLF WORLD CUP Record day stakes Japan girls to 5-shot lead; resurgent France leads boys' division

TOYOTA CITY, Japan (June 24, 2025) — A few raindrops apparently don't much bother Mamika Shinchi, who takes pride in being able to coax good scores out of less-than-ideal conditions on the golf course.

Even so, the Japanese teen had to acknowledge she didn't expect what came forth from Tuesday's rainy opening round at the Toyota Junior Golf World Cup.

Shinchi's 8-under-par 64 matched the best round since the girls' division launched a decade ago, sprinting out to a three-shot lead while also helping Japan open a five-shot advantage in the team competition.

"I didn't think I would get this big a score today," said Shinchi, who tied American Jasmine Koo's 64 from last year. "But I do think this course fits me."

With teammates Anna Iwanaga and Aira Nagasawa also among Tuesday's top six individuals, the host nation looks to make things tough this week for any pursuers. At 10-under 134, they've already opened a rather comfortable margin on second-place Thailand.

Things are tighter on the boys' side, though France is making a strong impression in its first Junior Golf World Cup appearance since 2017. With both Tom De Herrypon and Arthur Carlier among a four-way tie for the individual lead, France emerged three shots clear of their nearest challengers.

"We are a great team," De Herrypon said, "and we think we can do some great things here."

Carlier and De Herrypon each posted 5-under 66s at Chukyo Golf Club, sharing the top of a crowded leaderboard with Colombia's Tomas Restrepo and England's Harry Cox. Four more entrants lurked one shot off the pace, with another quartet just two back.

"It's competitive. Everyone here can shoot low," said Restrepo, who won the South American Junior among a span of four victories in an 18-week span earlier this year.

France's 10-under 132 is the best single day since the boys' division tweaked its format last year to match the girls with two scores counting from a three-player roster. Korea posted a pair of 134s a year ago on the way to the team title.

The defending champions were among three teams sharing second at 135. Japan was the only squad with all three boys among the top 12, including defending medalist Mao Matsuyama (68), while Canada also saw all three of its players in the 60s.

The big storyline, though, came from Shinchi's gem.

Rain fell all day upon Chukyo GC's Ishino course, ranging from light sprinkles to a steady drizzle as players spent considerable time under umbrellas and working to keep gloves and club grips dry.

But while all the dampness made bogey unavoidable somewhere on most players' cards, Shinchi's was spotless. The closest she flirted with danger was a long two-putt par at the par-4 17th. She also holed a bunker shot for birdie at No. 11 after putting her drive in the right rough.

"I don't hate the rain," she said. "I get good scores most of the time in it, so I was relaxed and able to play well."

Koo first set the girls' record in last year's second round, on the way to the tournament's 54-hole scoring mark in an event shortened to three days by rain. Shinchi took second then, and now is in good position to leave her own stamp.

"While I very concerned about individual scores," she said, "I want to have a team win and think more about that."

Both Iwanaga and Nagasawa shot 70s Tuesday to complement Shinchi's 64. Thailand was paced by newcomer Kritchanya Kaopattanaskul, whose 67 outperformed teammates Pimpisa Rubrong and Prim Prachnakorn, both part of a runner-up team finish last year.

"I was just trying to hit my shots without thinking too much," Kaopattanaskul said. "When the weather is wet, there's a lot of bad things that can go through your mind."

Canada's Shauna Liu also shot 67 to share second individually with Kaopattanaskul.

A good attitude in the rain also was key for the boys' leaders.

"From the first hole, I just tried to be confident about the strategy I make and hit it," said Restrepo, who put together a flourish near the finish. He went birdie/birdie/eagle from Nos. 4-6, capped by a fairway bunker shot at the par-5 sixth that set up an 8-foot eagle putt.

France's Carlier also put an eagle on his card, holing out his approach at the par-4 first hole after making the turn. England's Cox saw his wedge game heat up just before the turn, carding five birdies in his final 10 holes.

"They were dancing around the flag pretty much," Cox said. "The furthest one away was something like 10 feet."

De Herrypon turned in seven birdies, including a wedge at No. 11 that stopped perhaps an inch from dropping into the cup for an eagle. He also went the long-distance route on the greens, finding the touch on an uphill 60-footer at the par-3 12th that found its target.

"I think (putting) is the best part of my game," he said, "but I also struck the ball well today."

Tuesday also saw a hole-in-one from England's Matilde Santilli, who used a 7-iron from 154 yards at the fourth hole. It was her first "proper" ace, she said, with two others coming on short par-3 courses in her homeland.

"I thought it was going a little left," she said, "but the wind kind of drifted it back. It pitched about six inches before the hole and went straight in. I wasn't fully sure if it went in or not, but I went crazy anyway."

It was the event's first ace since Colombia's Maria Jose Marin struck one at No. 12 in 2023's first round.

The Toyota Junior Golf World Cup is the final stop of a process that began with 70 national teams entered in regional qualifiers across six continents. The boys' field features 12 teams competing for the championship; nine teams advanced to the girls' finals.

More information about the Toyota Junior Golf World Cup Supported by Japan Airlines can be found online at WJGTC.org, including a video library that includes interviews with former participants.

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BOYS TEAM STANDINGS

1. France	132 (-10)
t2. Korea	135 (-7)
t2. Japan	135 (-7)
t2. Canada	135 (-7)
5. England	136 (-6)
6. United States	139 (-3)
7. Colombia	141 (-1)
t8. South Africa	143 (+1)
t8. Chile	143 (+1)
t8. Morocco	143 (+1)
11. Mexico	144 (+2)
12. New Zealand	145 (+3)

GIRLS TEAM STANDINGS

1.	Japan	134 (-10)
2.	Thailand	139 (-5)
3.	Mexico	141 (-3)
t4.	New Zealand	143 (-1)
t4.	England	143 (-1)
6.	Colombia	144 (E)
7.	United States	146 (+2)
8.	Italy	150 (+6)
9.	Morocco	162 (+18)

BOYS INDIVIDUAL STANDINGS

t I. Tomas Restrepo, Colombia	66 (-5)
t1. Harry Cox, England	66 (-5)
t1. Tom de Herrypon, France	66 (-5)
t1. Arthur Carlier, France	66 (-5)
t5. Taisei Nagasaki, Japan	67 (-4)
t5. Brooks Simmons, United States	67 (-4)
t5. Lim Taeyoung, Korea	67 (-4)
t5. Jager Pain, Canada	67 (-4)
t9. Mao Matsuyama, Japan	68 (-3)
t9. Austin Krahn, Canada	68 (-3)
t9. Koshin Nagasaki, Japan	68 (-3)

GIRLS INDIVIDUAL STANDINGS

1. Mamika Shinchi, Japan	64 (-8)
t2. Kritchanya Kaopattanaskiul, Thailand (67 (-5)
t2. Shauna Liu, Canada	67 (-5)
4. Emma Zheng, New Zealand	69 (-3)
t5. Anna Iwanaga, Japan	70 (-2)
t5. Aira Nagasawa, Japan	70 (-2)
t7. Lauren Crump, England	71 (-1)
t7. Maria Isabella Errichetto, Colombia	71 (-1)
t9. Matilde Santilli, England	72 (E)
t9. Prim Prachnakorn, Thailand	72 (E)