## FUTURE STARS AWAIT 31st TOYOTA JUNIOR GOLF WORLD CUP Japan, USA girls set to renew rivalry; Japan's Matsuyama defends boys' title

TOYOTA CITY, Japan (June 23, 2025) — In the decade since the Toyota Junior Golf World Cup has added a girls' division, either host Japan or the United States have claimed all but one team trophy. And it seems the competition has only gotten hotter in recent years.

Two years ago, both teams exchanged record-breaking days before Japan emerged with a two-shot triumph for its third championship in four editions. Then last year it was Team USA that did all the record-breaking, running away to an 11-shot triumph despite one day being canceled by rain.

Now the stage appears set for another thrilling duel, with both rosters stocked with a trio of players among the top 90 in the World Amateur Golf Ranking.

"There's definitely motivation and confidence," said Nikki Oh, back at Chukyo Golf Club this week as the veteran of Team's USA's lineup. "We were able to win it last year, and we definitely have the ability to win it again."

There's potential for a little history on the boys' side as well, where Japan's Mao Matsuyama has the chance to become just the fourth repeat winner in the Junior Golf World Cup's 31-year history. The bulky bomber also will be key to Japan's pursuit of a second team title in three years.

"My form is pretty good right now," Matsuyama said, "so hopefully I can win both the team and the individual titles."

In all, 63 golfers — nine girls' teams and 12 on the boys' side — tee off Tuesday in junior golf's annual showcase outside Nagoya, now embarking on a fourth decade of spotlighting some of the game's up-and-coming talent from around the globe.

"What began as an ambitious idea in 1990 and first took shape in 1992 has grown into a truly special tournament," said William Kerdyk, co-founder and chairman of the tournament committee. "We are proud to continue that legacy today."

It's a legacy that features a dozen major championships, including four of the past five Masters winners

— Scottie Scheffler (twice), Hideki Matsuyama and Jon Rahm. Others include Justin

Rose, this year's Masters runner-up with previous U.S. Open and Olympic crowns to his name.