



RACE TO CME GLOBE

2016 Race to the CME Globe Recap

When it was all said and done at the 2016 CME Group Tour Championship, a tie for fourth was good enough for Ariya Jutanugarn to become the second player ever to capture the \$1 million Race to the CME Globe prize. Entering the week ranked No. 1 in the points standings, Jutanugarn pulled away from her closest adversary in two-time Race to the CME Globe winner Lydia Ko by eleven shots during weekend play at Tiburon Golf Club. Just as she had been all year long, Jutanugarn was all smiles on the 18th green standing behind her mountain of hardware in the Rolex Player of the Year trophy, Race to the CME Globe trophy and the box of \$1 million that goes with it.

It was a feat that was hard for Jutanugarn to imagine when the 2016 season began. After missing the cut in the season opener at the Pure Silk-Bahamas LPGA Classic, she steadily began to find her game. Jutanugarn nearly won the season's first major championship at the ANA Inspiration but relinquished a two-stroke lead to the eventual champion in Ko with three holes to play. At the conclusion of the season, Jutanugarn would look back and say that moment was a spark for her because it gave her the confidence that she could win on this Tour.

And win she did. Her focus all season was to just "have fun," in her own words. The fun would fittingly begin in May (Ariya's nickname) after she became a Rolex First-Time winner at the Yokohama Tire LPGA Classic in the first of a string of three consecutive victories, something that had never happened before on the LPGA for a player after their first victory.

In July, Jutanugarn became the first player from Thailand (male or female) to win a major championship with her victory at the RICOH Women's British Open, and followed that up with another win in her next start.

Jutanugarn's battle with Ko was a year-long affair, and by the time the final putt dropped at the CME Group Tour Championship the world's top two players were at the top of the final Race to the CME Globe standings. This year was different, however, as Jutanugarn became the only player other than Ko to walk away with the \$1 million grand prize in the Race's three-year history.

Jutanugarn was undoubtedly the best player on Tour in 2016, with the Race to the CME Globe Title stamping an exclamation mark on her breakthrough season. In 2017, the world will watch to find out if any player can challenge Jutanugarn or Ko in the fourth edition of the season-long points race.



2016 Race to the CME Globe Final Point Standings

(players ranked in the top 10)

Rank	Player	Points	Rank	Player	Points
1	Ariya Jutanugarn	6800	6	Sei Young Kim	3570
2	Lydia Ko	5050	7	Shanshan Feng	3550
3	Brooke Henderson	4370	8	So Yeon Ryu	3240
4	Charley Hull	3920	9	In Gee Chun	3000
5	Ha Na Jang	3600	10	Minjee Lee	2850