

Sports

Park Hyun-kyung Wins KLPGA Championship as Tour Resumes

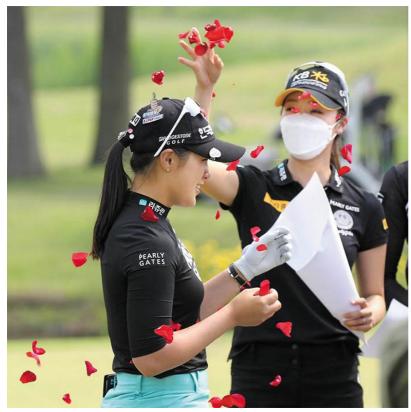
By Min Hak-soo

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Golfer Park Hyun-kyung won her first professional title at the KLPGA Championship at the Lakewood Country Club in Yangju, Gyeonggi Province, on Sunday.

It was the first resumption of a major golf tour anywhere in the world since the outbreak of COVID-19 and drew many star golfers playing in the U.S. and Japan.

Park, in only her second year on the KLPGA Tour, shed tears of joy after claiming victory in a star-studded field.



Park Hyun-kyung (left) is showered with flower petals after winning the KLPGA Championship in Yangju, Gyeonggi Province on Sunday. /Courtesy of KLPGA

Park was in second place after the third round, three strokes behind Lim Hee-jeong. But Park produced six birdies and one bogey to go 5-under in the final round, a with a 17-under 271, one stroke ahead of Lim and Bae Seon-woo. The crucial moment came when Park managed three straight birdies on the 11th, 12th and 13th h

She picked up a check for W220 million in prize money and will be guaranteed a seed on the tour for three years until 2023 (US\$1=W1,231).

The event was played without galleries under social distancing rules. Players wore masks and gave each other fist or elbow bumps instead of hugs or high fives.

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