



67th U.S. Women's Open Championship®

Conducted by the United States Golf Association®

Blackwolf Run®, Kohler, Wisconsin

July 5 – 8, 2012

Eligibility

Entries are open to professional and amateur female golfers. Amateurs must have an up-to-date Handicap Index® not exceeding 4.4 under the USGA Handicap System™. A Handicap Index must be issued from a "golf club" (as defined in the *USGA Handicap System Manual*) which is licensed to use the USGA Handicap System. If you are a transgendered individual, please refer to the USGA policy and entry application procedures for transgendered individuals at www.usga.org/championships/transgendered or contact our legal department at (908) 234-2300 for the additional entry, application procedures. A player seeking a golf cart due to disability must submit additional information for evaluation (see Transportation). Players requesting permission to use items on the List of Equipment Permitted Conditionally for Medical Reasons or under Exception 1 to Rule 14-3, please refer to <http://www.usga.org/equipment/medical/guidelines/Equipment-Permitted-for-Medical-Reasons> for details. Information regarding USGA anti-doping policy requirements may be found at www.usga.org/championships/antidopingpolicy.

The USGA may reject an entry application, revoke an accepted application, expel from the Championship and/or suspend a player from future championships if the player engages in conduct detrimental to the integrity and image of the game of golf and/or public confidence in the USGA. Such conduct may include, but is not limited to, damage to the golf course or the player's equipment, verbal or physical abuse of spectators, officials, volunteers, or staff, blatant or excessive profanity, disorderly behavior, failure to abide by club rules, or any other unbecoming conduct.

Age: A player is required to list her age and date of birth on all USGA entry forms.

An application for a player who is a minor upon the date of submission, in the state in which she resides (e.g., New Jersey, under the age of 18) must be submitted by a parent/guardian, and list parent/guardian's name, phone number, and email address. The parent/guardian must agree to be bound by all terms and conditions on their behalf and on behalf of the minor player.

Amateur Status: All amateur players must conform to the *USGA Rules of Amateur Status*. If you will be participating in this competition as an amateur or applicant for reinstatement and will be receiving expenses from sources other than family members to participate in this competition, please refer to Rule 4 of the *Rules of Amateur Status*.

Entries: Form, Fee, Closing Date

All players, including those exempt, must complete an entry application. Players must file online at the USGA website (www.usga.org). Only those players for whom blank entries are filed by the USGA as noted in the section on exemptions will not be required to submit entry applications. *Only one entry may be filed per player. The USGA reserves the right to disqualify anyone who submits more than one entry.*

Entry fee of \$150 must be paid by every player. Entry fee will be refunded regardless of reason if the USGA (908-234-2300) or via e-mail at champs@usga.org is notified before the close of entries. After the close of entries, fee will be refunded in the event of injury or illness, if requested by July 5. No refund for any reason after July 5. A \$30 service charge will be deducted from all refunds.

**ENTRY APPLICATIONS MUST BE RECEIVED BY USGA
NO LATER THAN 5 P.M. E.D.T. on WEDNESDAY, MAY 2, 2012**
Entry applications must be completed online at:

www.usga.org/champs/apply
**Late applications are not acceptable
and will be automatically rejected.**

(Entries by telephone, telegraph, mail or FAX are not acceptable.)

Time limit for entries means time of receipt at USGA (not time entry is transmitted to USGA). Entries should be submitted early to allow ample time for delay or error in transmission. The risk of delay or error in transmission lies solely with the entrant and the USGA will have no liability with respect to any such delay or error and the consequences therefrom, including rejection of the entry.

Schedule

Competition will be in two stages, at stroke play:

1. Sectional Qualifying – 36 holes. For all except exempt players listed herein. See schedule.

2. Championship – 72 holes. 156 players eligible, comprised of place-winners in Sectional Qualifying Rounds and those exempt from sectional qualifying.

THURSDAY, JULY 5: – First round, 18 holes.

FRIDAY, JULY 6: – Second round, 18 holes.

60 lowest scorers and any tying for 60th place for first 36 holes continues play; remainder eliminated after 36 holes.

SATURDAY, JULY 7: – Third round, 18 holes.

SUNDAY, JULY 8: – Fourth round, 18 holes.

Lowest scorer for 72 holes will be champion. In the event of a tie for the Championship, a three hole play-off will be held immediately following play. The winner will be the player with the lowest aggregate score for the play-off holes. In the event of a further tie, play will immediately continue hole by hole until champion is determined. The play-off holes and their order of play will be determined by the USGA and posted not later than Sunday, July 8.

Prizes

CHAMPIONSHIP

WINNER: Gold medal and custody of the Bud Semple Trophy for the ensuing year, subject to such conditions as the USGA may establish.

RUNNER-UP: Silver medal.

PROFESSIONALS ONLY: To be announced.

Professionals who start in Championship but do not return scores for 72 holes.....\$1,000 each.

AMATEURS RETURNING 72-HOLE SCORES: Lowest scorer-gold medal.

TIES: Prize money will be divided equally among those tied, except that if a professional wins a play-off for the Championship she will receive first prize money. If ties occur for medals, duplicates will be awarded, except that only the winner will receive a Championship gold medal.

NO OTHER REMUNERATION: By her application, the player acknowledges that she is not entitled to remuneration of any kind for participation in the Championship other than prizes listed herein.

PRIZE-SHARING PROHIBITED: By her application, the player certifies that she has not entered into and will not enter into any arrangement whereby she could have a financial interest in any other player's prize money (such as through prize-splitting or prize money "insurance").

SECTIONAL QUALIFYING ROUNDS

LOWEST SCORER: Silver medal; if a tie, duplicate medals will be awarded.

LOWEST AMATEUR SCORER (if not lowest scorer): Silver medal; if a tie, duplicate medals will be awarded.

Rules of Golf; Close of Competition

Play will be governed by *The Rules of Golf* as approved by the USGA. Questions will be settled by the on-site Rules Committee, whose decision will be final. The competition is deemed to be closed when the Championship trophy has been presented.

Golf Balls; Driver Heads

Only brands of golf balls on the most current USGA List of Conforming Golf Balls and driver heads on the most current USGA List of Conforming Driver Heads may be used. Updated lists may be found on the USGA website at www.usga.org or by contacting the USGA Technical Department at (908) 234-2300. The so-called "One-Ball Rule," the optional condition prescribed in Appendix I of *The Rules of Golf*, will be in effect.

Clubs: Grooves

In Sectional qualifying and in the Championship proper, the player's clubs must conform to the groove specifications in *The Rules of Golf* that are effective from January 1, 2010.

***PENALTY FOR CARRYING, BUT NOT MAKING STROKE WITH, CLUB OR CLUBS IN BREACH OF CONDITION:** Two strokes for each hole at which any breach occurred; maximum penalty per round - Four strokes. In the event of a breach between the play of two holes, the penalty applies to the next hole.

***Any club or clubs carried in breach of this condition must be declared out of play by the player to her marker or a fellow-competitor immediately upon discovery that a breach has occurred. If the player fails to do so, she is disqualified.**

PENALTY FOR MAKING STROKE WITH CLUB IN BREACH OF CONDITION: Disqualification.

Footwear

It is a condition at all qualifying sites unless otherwise indicated by an asterisk on this entry application that shoes with traditionally-designed spikes (regardless of composition, i.e., ceramic, plastic, etc.) or spikes, regardless of design, comprised either entirely or partially of metal (if such metal may come in contact with the course) are prohibited during the stipulated round. Penalty for breach of this condition: DISQUALIFICATION.

Caddies

Qualifying Rounds - A player may provide her own caddie. If she wishes to have the host club furnish a caddie, she should ask the Official in Charge because sufficient caddies may not be available at the host club.

Championship proper - A player may provide her own caddie. If she wishes to have a caddie provided to her by the host club, she must complete the information as outlined in the Memorandum to Players.

A player is not required to employ a caddie for any stage of the Championship.

Transportation

Players must not ride on any form of transportation during a stipulated round unless authorized by the Committee. The optional condition prescribed in Appendix I of *The Rules of Golf* will be in effect.

Requests for a golf cart due to a permanent disability (as defined under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) which for these purposes is a permanent disability which substantially limits the ability to walk the course must follow the USGA process and procedure. All requests for a golf cart for a caddie must be submitted by the player for whom the caddie is working in each and every championship. Requests directly from a caddie will not be accepted. Log onto www.usga.org/champs/ada to obtain information on the procedures for submitting all golf cart requests. All required information must be submitted in writing to the USGA Chief Legal Officer and must be received by the USGA within five business days of submitting your entry application online. Phone submissions not accepted. Requests due to temporary injuries or impairments will not be granted. In the event of a change in your medical condition or your caddie's, which occurs subsequent to submission of the entry application, written submission of all documentation must be received by the USGA no later than 7 days before the qualifier or championship proper as applicable. At certain qualifying sites, there may be carts available only for caddies on a first-come, first-served basis (See schedule). Except as noted in the preceding sentence, cart availability for caddies and/or for players at any stage are available only for those who have complied with the USGA process and the procedures noted in the above referenced link, and have met all of the USGA requirements to demonstrate a permanent disability that prevents the person from walking the course.

Publicity and Promotion; Broadcasting

The USGA may arrange for (i) promotion of the Championship, for radio, internet and television broadcasting and other exhibition and publication of the Championship or excerpts thereof in any and all media throughout the world, whether now known or hereafter developed, and (ii) the design, manufacture and sale of merchandise which commemorates or memorializes the Championship, throughout the world. By this application, the player consents to the use by the USGA, or persons authorized by the USGA, of her name, likeness, voice and references to her and photographs and other images of her and her play connected with her appearance in the Championship, or any portion(s) thereof, in connection with such media promotion, broadcasting and other exhibition and publication of the Championship and design, manufacture and sale of commemorative merchandise. The USGA may utilize the rights granted it hereunder in connection with the promotion and/or commemoration of the 2012 Championship as well as future Championships, other USGA Championships and the USGA.

The cooperation of players with authorized representatives of the media is required, provided that no pre-Championship activities outside of those activities which are part of the Championship will be required and provided that the player's Championship play is not unreasonably interfered with.

SECTIONAL QUALIFYING

Location; Transferring

Players' preferences for Sectional Qualifying locations must be designated on the entry.

If a Sectional Qualifying location has more players than can be accommodated, some players may be transferred to another location and the date for qualifying may be different than the original requested date. Transfer will be based on the date of receipt of entry application. Transfers are final. No qualifying site is final until after entries close. Qualifying sites may be cancelled due to lack of participation. Transfer to another location is not permissible after entries close.

Qualifiers' Places; Ties; Substitutions

The number of qualifiers' places in each location will be determined by the USGA after entries close, based on size and playing quality of the field.

A tie for the last qualifier's place or an alternate's place will be decided immediately by a hole-by-hole play-off.

Substitutions in order of qualifying scores will be allowed for qualifiers unable to compete in the Championship.

If a qualifying location cannot fill its qualifiers' places for the next stage, or if an exempt player withdraws, the place made available will be reallocated to another location. A reallocation schedule will be prearranged by the USGA.

If a player withdraws before playing a stroke in the Championship proper, a substitution is allowed. Only the USGA may make such substitutions.

Acceptance of Places; Notice of Withdrawal

On the day of qualifying, every qualifier should inform the Official in Charge whether she will play in the Championship.

If a qualifier or an exempt player withdraws, she must notify the USGA (908-234-2300) promptly in order to insure an alternate fair opportunity to play. Failure to comply may result in disqualification from future USGA competition.

Exemptions From Sectional Qualifying

Players in the following categories will be eligible for exemption in the 2012 Championship only. The USGA reserves the right to revise any of the exemption categories. Exemption under categories reserved for amateurs will be granted only to players who are currently amateurs, unless otherwise indicated. An amateur who is exempt into the Championship proper through a category reserved for amateurs becomes ineligible if she becomes a professional before beginning play or during the play of the Championship, unless otherwise indicated. Exempt players who wish to participate in the Championship must file an entry, except those players for whom blank entries are filed as noted below.

- S-1. Winners of the U.S. Women's Open Championship for the last ten years (2002-2011):
- | | |
|-----------------------|--------------------|
| 2002-Juli Inkster | 2007-Cristie Kerr |
| 2003-Hilary Lunke | 2008-Inbee Park |
| 2004-Meg Mallon | 2009-Eun-Hee Ji |
| 2005-Birdie Kim | 2010-Paula Creamer |
| 2006-Annika Sorenstam | 2011-So Yeon Ryu |

Registration at Blackwolf Run

By 10 A.M. on TUESDAY, JULY 3, eligible players must:

1. Register in person at Blackwolf Run; or
2. All players arriving late should notify the Championship Administration office at the USGA (908) 234-2300 (if before June 27). After June 27, please contact the USGA Director of the U.S. Women's Open Championship. (Please see Memorandum to Players for contact information.) Place may be forfeited by a player from whom no word has been received by 10 A.M. on TUESDAY, JULY 3.

Practice Privileges

Privileges of Blackwolf Run are extended to qualified players in the Championship from July 2 through July 4.

Accommodations

Information concerning accommodations will be provided upon completion of Sectional Qualifying rounds. Exempt players will receive this information from the USGA.

Conditions; Schedules

The USGA Championship Committee/on-site Rules Committee reserves the right to alter any of the conditions, provisions and/or schedules herein. The decision of the Championship Committee/on-site Rules Committee in any matter will be final.

Exemptions From Sectional Qualifying (cont.)

- S-2. Winner and runner-up of the 2011 U.S. Women's Amateur Championship (must be an amateur):
Moriya Jutanugarn
- S-3. Winner of the 2012 Ladies British Open Amateur Championship. (Note: The USGA will file blank entries for those players who become exempt after the close of entries.)
- S-4. Winner of the 2011 Mark H. McCormack Medal (Women's World Amateur Golf Ranking) (must be an amateur):
Lydia Ko
- S-5. Winners of the LPGA Championship the last five years:
2008-Yani Tseng
2009-Anna Nordqvist
2010-Cristie Kerr
2011-Yani Tseng
(Note: The USGA will file blank entries for those players who become exempt after the close of entries.)
- S-6. Winners of the Ricoh Women's British Open Championship the last five years:
2007-Lorena Ochoa
2008-Ji-Yai Shin
2009-Catriona Matthew
2010-Yani Tseng
2011-Yani Tseng
- S-7. Winners of the Kraft Nabisco Championship the last five years:
2008-Lorena Ochoa
2009-Brittany Lincicome
2010-Yani Tseng
2011-Stacy Lewis
- S-8. From the 2011 U.S. Women's Open Championship, the 10 lowest scorers and anyone tying for 10th place:
So Yeon Ryu
Hee Kyung Seo
Cristie Kerr
Angela Stanford
Mika Miyazato
Ai Miyazato
Karrie Webb
Inbee Park
Ryann O'Toole
I.K. Kim
Amy Yang
Jiyai Shin
- S-9. From the 2011 final official LPGA money list, the top 70 money leaders.
- S-10. From the 2012 official LPGA money list, the top 10 money leaders through the close of entries on May 2. (Must have filed an entry by May 2.)
- S-11. Winners of LPGA co-sponsored events, whose victories are considered official, from the conclusion of the 2011 U.S. Women's Open Championship to the initiation of the 2012 U.S. Women's Open Championship. (NOTE: The USGA will file blank entries for players who become exempt after the close of entries.)
- S-12. Top five money leaders from the 2011 Japan LPGA Tour, Korea LPGA Tour, and Ladies European Tour.
- S-13. From the current Rolex Rankings, the top 25 point leaders and anyone tying for 25th place as of May 2, 2012. (Must have filed an entry by May 2, 2012.)
- S-14. From the current Rolex Rankings, the top 25 point leaders as of July 2, 2012. (Note: The USGA will file blank entries for those players who become exempt after the close of entries.)
- S-15. Special exemptions selected by the USGA. (NOTE: The USGA will file blank entries for those players who become exempt after the close of entries.)

Schedule and Location of Sectional Qualifying Rounds - 36 Holes Stroke Play

USGA reserves the right to revise this schedule

Performance in Sectional Qualifying: If a player fails to return a score within 12 strokes of the USGA Course Rating*, an entry filed by her for a future U.S. Women's Open Championship may be declined, unless the player can document that she is capable of competing at the national championship level.

Withdrawal from Qualifying: Entrant who wishes to withdraw from Qualifying must notify the USGA (908-234-2300 or via e-mail at champs@usga.org) and the Official in Charge prior to her scheduled Qualifying round. Failure to do so may result in disqualification from future USGA competitions.

<u>State</u>	<u>City</u>	<u>Host Club</u>	<u>**Site Capacity</u>	<u>***Practice Dates/ Player Information May</u>	<u>Official in Charge</u>
MONDAY, MAY 14 AT:					
WA	1. BELLINGHAM	Bellingham G. & C.C. (360)733-5381	78	Week Prior & Contact Club	SCOTTY CROUTHAMEL, Washington State Golf Assn.
TUESDAY, MAY 15 AT:					
FL	2. ORMOND BEACH	Plantation Bay G. & C.C. (386)437-4776	78	Contact Club	KATHY LIGHT, USGA Girls' Junior Championship Com.
NJ	3. COLTS NECK	Trump Nat'l G.C. - Colts Neck (732)696-9000	156	Contact Club	DOT PALUCK, USGA Women's Com.
MONDAY, MAY 21 AT:					
CA	4. HALF MOON BAY	Half Moon Bay G.L. (Ocean C.) (650)712-2200	90	Contact Club	RYAN MAGEE, Northern California Golf Assn.
GA	5. DUNWOODY	<i>Dunwoody C.C.</i> (770)394-4492	78	Contact Club	C. LAYNE WILLIAMS, Georgia State Golf Assn.
HI	6. HONOLULU	<i>Waialae C.C.</i> (808)732-1457	78	14	MARY BEA PORTER-KING, Hawaii State Junior Golf Assn.
MA	7. LONGMEADOW	Longmeadow C.C. (413)567-8412	78	Contact Club	ROBERTA B. BOLDUC, USGA Past Women's Com. Chairmen
WI	8. FONTANA	Big Foot C.C. (262)275-3000	90	Info incl. with pairings	NICKOLAS SCILLIA, Chicago District Golf Assn.
TUESDAY, MAY 22 AT:					
TX	9. THE WOODLANDS	The Woodlands C.C. (Player C.) (281)863-1490	78	After 11:00 AM & Contact Club	DELIA NAVA, USGA Regional Affairs Com.
WEDNESDAY, MAY 23 AT:					
AZ	10. SCOTTSDALE	<i>Terravita G.C.</i> (480)488-7962	78	1-22	MARY POMROY, Arizona Women's Golf Assn.
TUESDAY, MAY 29 AT:					
CA	11. CITY OF INDUSTRY	Industry Hills G.C. (Eisenhower C. & Zaharias C.) (626)810-4653	144	Contact Club	DEB LONG, Women's Southern California Golf Assn.
FL	12. OSPREY	<i>The Oaks C. (Eagle C.)</i> (941)966-2191	84	See www.fsga.org	JACK PULTORAK, Florida State Golf Assn.
MD	13. ROCKVILLE	Woodmont C.C. (301)424-8496	78	28 (After 1PM) or Before 25 Contact Club	STASIA COLLINS, USGA Women's Com.
MN	14. WAYZATA	Wayzata C.C. (952)473-9769	78	Contact Club	DOUGLAS A. HOFFMANN, Minnesota Golf Assn.
MO	15. ST. LOUIS	Glen Echo C.C. (314)382-5780	78	Info incl. with pairings	CURT ROHE, Metropolitan Amateur Golf Assn.
WEDNESDAY, MAY 30 AT:					
NC	16. SANFORD	Carolina Trace C.C. (Lake C.) (919)499-5121	78	See www.carolinascgolf.org	TIFFANY PRIEST, Carolinas Golf Assn.
PA	17. PITTSBURGH	Fox Chapel G.C. (412)963-7885	78	29 (After 1PM) & Contact Club	COURTNEY MYHRUM, USGA Women's Com.
TX	18. FRISCO	Stonebriar C.C. (Fazio C.) (972)625-5050	78	14-29 & Contact Club	CAROL DI NUNZIO, USGA Regional Affairs Com.
SUNDAY, JUNE 3 AT:					
CO	19. COLORADO SPRINGS	Broadmoor G.C. (West C.) (719)577-5790	78	Local: Contact Club Out of Town: 2 (PM)	ROBIN JERVEY, Colorado Women's Golf Assn.

Only clubs in italics will permit caddies to use carts first-come, first-served.

*Club hosting qualifying will not have footwear policy in effect.

**Some qualifying sites may have limits on the number of players that can be accommodated.

Footwear: It is a condition at all qualifying sites unless otherwise indicated by an asterisk on this entry application that shoes with traditionally-designed spikes (regardless of composition, i.e., ceramic, plastic, etc.) or spikes, regardless of design, comprised either entirely or partially of metal (if such metal may come in contact with the course) are prohibited during the stipulated round. Penalty for breach of this condition: DISQUALIFICATION.

***Some qualifying sites may charge a fee for a practice round.