



## 76th U.S. Women's Open Championship – Fact Sheet

*June 3-6, 2021, The Olympic Club (Lake Course), San Francisco, Calif.*

[mediacenter.usga.org](https://mediacenter.usga.org) | [uswomensopen.com](https://uswomensopen.com) | #USWomensOpen

### ABOUT THE OLYMPIC CLUB

The Olympic Club was founded in 1860 by Charles and Arthur Nahl as a training center for athletes. It attracted some of the country's finest athletes. In the 1800s the membership roster included names such as Mark Twain, William Randolph Hearst, Leland Stanford, James G. Fair, John Mackay and "Gentleman Jim" Corbett, winner of the world heavyweight title in 1892.

There are two golf courses at The Olympic Club – the Lake Course and the Ocean Course. Designed by Willie Watson and built by Sam Whiting, the Lake Course opened in 1924. After damage during winter storms in 1925/6, Sam Whiting redesigned the course and it reopened in 1927 with all 18 holes north of Humphrey Drive. Only the first four holes remained the same. Robert Trent Jones supervised revisions to the Lake Course prior to the 1955 U.S. Open, which included lengthening it, altering par on several holes and adding a fairway bunker to the 6th hole.

In 2009, Bill Love oversaw a restoration and renovation that featured the first routing change since 1927. A new 8th hole was created in the natural amphitheater below the clubhouse. Most recently, in 2016, the Club undertook a renovation of the Lake Course's bunkers. Today, the Olympic Club has more than 10,000 members competing in 16 sports, two clubhouses and 45 holes of golf.

The 2021 U.S. Women's Open will be the 11th USGA championship contested on The Olympic Club's Lake Course, and it will mark the first USGA women's championship for the five-time U.S. Open host site. The first of those U.S. Opens, in 1955, was won in an 18-hole playoff by Jack Fleck over Ben Hogan, one of the biggest upsets in sports history. In 1966, Billy Casper outlasted Arnold Palmer in a Monday playoff after Palmer surrendered a seven-stroke lead over the final nine holes on Sunday. Additionally, Scott Simpson (1987), Lee Janzen (1998) and Webb Simpson (2012) each earned come-from-behind U.S. Open victories at The Olympic Club. Most recently, the course hosted the inaugural U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship in 2015, won by Todd White and Nathan Smith.

### OLYMPIC CLUB NOTES

- This will be the first major women's championship ever conducted at The Olympic Club
- The Olympic Club's Lake Course is the 12th course to host both the U.S. Open and the U.S. Women's Open
- In 1924, the club sent 23 athletes to the Summer Games in Paris, France, the most by any club in the United States

- Member Ralph Rose, a world-class shot putter, won six Olympic medals and seven AAU titles
- Member J. Scott Leary became the first American to swim 100 yards in 60 seconds

## **ENTRIES**

The championship is open to any female professional, and any female amateur golfer with a Handicap Index® not exceeding 2.4, who file an entry by 5 p.m. EDT on April 14, 2021. The 2015 championship at Lancaster (Pa.) Country Club holds the entry record with 1,873.

## **QUALIFYING**

Qualifying returns this year after health and safety concerns surrounding the global COVID-19 pandemic led to the cancellation of all championship qualifying in 2020. Played over 36 holes, qualifying will be conducted at 22 domestic and two international sites between April 22 and May 13.

Of the 22 domestic qualifying sites, California has the most of any state with four, while Florida has three. The international qualifiers will take place in Japan and Korea. Due to the impact of COVID-19, qualifiers typically held in England and China will not take place this year. One-year exemption categories have been added in an attempt to mirror a traditional field.

[Click here](#) for a full list of qualifying sites and dates.

## **CHAMPIONSHIP FIELD**

A starting field of 156 golfers will be cut after 36 holes to the low 60 scorers and ties.

## **SCHEDULE OF PLAY**

Practice rounds will be played Monday, May 31 and continue through Wednesday, June 2. Eighteen holes of stroke play are scheduled each day from Thursday, June 3, through Sunday, June 6. If the championship is tied after four rounds, a two-hole aggregate playoff will take place immediately following the conclusion of the fourth round. If the playoff results in a tie, play will immediately continue hole by hole until a champion is determined.

## **TELEVISION COVERAGE**

NBC, Golf Channel and Peacock will broadcast the 2021 U.S. Women's Open Championship. Broadcast times will be announced at a later date.

## **2020 CHAMPION**

A Lim Kim, of the Republic of Korea, birdied the final three holes to edge Amy Olson and world No. 1 Jin Young Ko by one stroke at Champions Golf Club in Houston, Texas. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the championship was rescheduled from its original June dates to mid-December. Both courses at Champions (Cypress Creek and Jackrabbit) were used the first two days due to daylight issues, and the USGA made the decision to have an all-exempt field. The championship also spilled over to Monday because of a Sunday storm. Kim, 25, was competing in her first major championship and first event in the United States.

## **TITLE DEFENSE**

Since 1991, two players have successfully defended their championship (Annika Sorenstam, 1995 and 1996; Karrie Webb, 2000 and 2001), and only four other players have finished in the top 10 in the championship following their victory (2019 winner Jeongeun Lee6, sixth in 2020; 2002 winner Juli Inkster, eighth in 2003; 1992 winner Patty Sheehan, sixth in 1993; 1991 winner Meg Mallon, fourth in 1992).

## CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY

This is the 76th U.S. Women's Open Championship. The first U.S. Women's Open, played at Spokane (Wash.) Country Club in 1946, was the only one conducted at match play. The Women's Professional Golfers Association (WPGA) conducted the inaugural championship, won by Patty Berg. The WPGA conducted the Women's Open until 1949, when the newly formed Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) took over operation of the championship. The LPGA ran the Women's Open for four years but in 1953 asked the United States Golf Association to conduct the championship, which it has done ever since.

The youngest winner of the U.S. Women's Open is Inbee Park, who won the 2008 championship at the age of 19 years, 11 months, 18 days. Babe Didrikson Zaharias, who won the 1954 Women's Open at age 43 years, 6 months, is the oldest winner.

In 1967, Catherine Lacoste, daughter of French tennis player Rene Lacoste and 1927 British Ladies Amateur champion Simone Thion de la Chaume, became the only amateur to win the U.S. Women's Open. Seven other amateurs – most recently Hye-Jin Choi in 2017 – have finished as runner(s)-up.

In 2020, the championship was moved from its original June date to mid-December due to evolving dynamics of the global COVID-19 pandemic. For the first time in U.S. Women's Open history, the championship was played on two courses (Cypress Creek Course and Jackrabbit Course at Champions Golf Club) to account for reduced daylight in December. It was the latest championship dates since Babe Didrikson Zaharias was crowned the 1950 champion on September 30.

## WHAT THE WINNER RECEIVES

The champion will receive the Mickey Wright Medal, custody of the Harton S. Semple Trophy for the ensuing year and an exemption from qualifying for the next 10 U.S. Women's Open Championships. They will also receive an exemption from qualifying for the next five ANA Inspirations, AIG Women's Opens, KPMG Women's PGA Championships and Evian Championships.

In 2020, the purse for the U.S. Women's Open increased to \$5.5 million, the largest in women's golf, with the champion receiving \$1 million.

## THE LAST TIME IT HAPPENED

Last international winner: A Lim Kim, 2020

Last to defend title: Karrie Webb, 2001

Last to win three consecutive Women's Opens: Never been done

Last champion to win Women's Open on first attempt: A Lim Kim, 2020

Last winner to win Women's Open on second attempt: Sung Hyun Park, 2017

Last amateur to win Women's Open: Catherine Lacoste, 1967

Last start-to-finish winner: Annika Sorenstam, 2006

Last winner to win money title in same year: Inbee Park, 2013

Last winner to birdie the 72nd hole: A Lim Kim, 2020

Last winner to birdie the 72nd hole to force playoff: So Yeon Ryu, 2011

Last winner to birdie the 72nd hole to win by one stroke: A Lim Kim, 2020

Last to win with four sub-par rounds: Jeongeun Lee6, 2019

Last to win without a round in the 60s: Eun-Hee Ji, 2009

Last to win with all rounds in the 60s: Never been done

Last to win with a round of 74: A Lim Kim, second round, 2020

Last to win with a round of 75: Brittany Lang, second round, 2016

Last to win with a round of 76: Se Ri Pak, fourth round, 1998  
Last to win with a round of 77: JoAnne Carner, third round, 1976  
Last to win with a round of 78: Sandra Palmer, first round, 1975  
Last to win with a round of 79: Susie Maxwell Berning, first round, 1972  
Last to win with a round in the 80s: Mickey Wright, 80, second round, 1961  
Last player to win after being in local qualifying: Hilary Lunke, 2003  
Last player to win after being in final qualifying: Birdie Kim, 2005  
Last winner younger than 20: Inbee Park, 19, 2008  
Last winner between ages 20-29: A Lim Kim, 25, 2020  
Last winner between ages 30-39: Brittany Lang, 30, 2016  
Last winner over age 40: Meg Mallon, 41, 2004  
Last winner who received a special exemption: Never been done  
Last defending champion to miss the cut: Sung Hyun Park, 2018

### **USGA CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE OLYMPIC CLUB**

**1955 U.S. Open** (Jack Fleck)  
**1958 U.S. Amateur** (Charles Coe)  
**1966 U.S. Open** (Billy Casper)  
**1981 U.S. Amateur** (Nathaniel Crosby)  
**1987 U.S. Open** (Scott Simpson)  
**1998 U.S. Open** (Lee Janzen)  
**2004 U.S. Junior Amateur** (Sihwan Kim)  
**2007 U.S. Amateur** (Colt Knost)  
**2012 U.S. Open** (Webb Simpson)  
**2015 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball** (Nathan Smith/Todd White)  
**2021 U.S. Women's Open**  
**2025 U.S. Amateur**

### **OTHER NOTABLE CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE OLYMPIC CLUB**

**1971 Pacific Coast Amateur** (Jim McLean)  
**1975 Pacific Coast Amateur** (John Fought)  
**1980 Pacific Coast Amateur** (Brian Haugen)  
**1984 Pacific Coast Amateur** (Kurt Bosen)  
**1989 Pacific Coast Amateur** (Randy Sonnier)  
**1993 Tour Championship** (Jim Gallagher Jr.)  
**1994 Tour Championship** (Mark McCumber)  
**2000 Pacific Coast Amateur** (Billy Harvey)  
**2006 Pacific Coast Amateur** (Patrick Nagle)  
**2018 Pacific Coast Amateur** (Isaiah Salinda)

### **MOST USGA CHAMPIONSHIPS HOSTED BY A CLUB**

(Includes 2021 championships)

18 - Merion G.C., Ardmore, Pa.  
17 - Oakmont (Pa.) C.C.  
16 - The Country Club, Brookline, Mass.  
16 - Baltusrol G.C., Springfield, N.J.  
13 - Pebble Beach (Calif.) G.L.  
13 - Winged Foot G.C., Mamaroneck, N.Y.

12 - Chicago G.C., Wheaton, Ill.

**11 - The Olympic Club, San Francisco, Calif.**

11 - Oakland Hills C.C., Bloomfield Township, Mich.

10 - Pinehurst Resort and Country Club, Village of Pinehurst, N.C.

### **USGA CHAMPIONSHIPS IN CALIFORNIA**

The 2021 U.S. Women's Open will be the 84th USGA championship and fourth U.S. Women's Open conducted in the state of California. The 2021 U.S. Open will be the state's 85th championship, taking place June 16-19 at Torrey Pines Golf Course in San Diego.

This is the second time in a five-year span that the U.S. Women's Open is played in Northern California. Brittany Lang captured her first major championship victory at the 2016 U.S. Women's Open at CordeValle Golf Club in San Martin, Calif., defeating Anna Nordqvist in a three-hole aggregate playoff.

The U.S. Women's Open will return to the Golden State in 2023 at Pebble Beach Golf Links. Other upcoming USGA championships in California include the 2023 U.S. Open at The Los Angeles Country Club, the 2023 U.S. Senior Amateur at Martis Camp Club, the 2025 U.S. Amateur at The Olympic Club, the 2025 Walker Cup at Cypress Point Club, and the 2027 U.S. Open at Pebble Beach Golf Links.

### **PAST U.S. WOMEN'S OPENS IN CALIFORNIA**

1964: San Diego Country Club, Chula Vista (Mickey Wright)

1982: Del Paso Country Club, Sacramento (Janet Alex)

2016: CordeValle, San Martin (Brittany Lang)

### **MOST USGA CHAMPIONSHIPS HOSTED BY VENUES IN CALIFORNIA**

13 – Pebble Beach Golf Links, Pebble Beach

**11 – The Olympic Club, San Francisco**

5 – Del Paso Country Club, Sacramento

4 – Monterey Peninsula Country Club, Pebble Beach

3 – The Los Angeles Country Club, Los Angeles

3 – Riviera Country Club, Pacific Palisades

3 – San Diego Country Club, Chula Vista

3 – Torrey Pines Golf Course, San Diego (includes 2021 U.S. Open)

### **FUTURE U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN SITES**

June 2-5, 2022: Pine Needles Lodge & Golf Club, Southern Pines, S.C.

June 1-4, 2023, Pebble Beach (Calif.) Golf Links

May 30-June 2, 2024: Lancaster (Pa.) Country Club

May 29-June 1, 2025: Erin Hills, Erin, Wis.

### **PHOTO MEDIA SERVICE**

The USGA will offer daily complimentary high-resolution photographs during the U.S. Women's Open (Monday-Sunday) for editorial use only. For more information, email [photorequests@usga.org](mailto:photorequests@usga.org).

### **MEDIA OPERATIONS**

Please contact **Julia Pine** for more information regarding U.S. Women's Open coverage at [jpine@usga.org](mailto:jpine@usga.org) or (510) 701-1491.

All information regarding the U.S. Open will be available at [uswomensopen.com](http://uswomensopen.com) and [mediacenter.usga.org](http://mediacenter.usga.org). For more information about the USGA, visit [usga.org](http://usga.org). USGA communications will also share information through a Twitter handle **@USGA\_PR** to deliver news related to the championship.

Applications for media credentials for the 2021 U.S. Women's Open will be available in March at [mediacenter.usga.org/credentials](http://mediacenter.usga.org/credentials).