



77th U.S. Women’s Open Championship – Fact Sheet

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

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PAR AND YARDAGE

Pine Needles Lodge & Golf Club will be set up at 6,544 yards and will play to a par of 35-36-71. The yardage for each round of the championship will vary due to course setup and conditions.

HOLE BY HOLE

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
Par	5	4	3	4	3	4	4	4	4	35
Yards	487	418	131	393	189	402	410	355	376	3,161
Hole	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
Par	5	4	4	3	4	5	3	4	4	36
Yards	518	367	395	203	390	509	171	426	404	3,383

ABOUT PINE NEEDLES LODGE & GOLF CLUB

Pine Needles Lodge & Golf Club has earned its place amongst the country’s best golf resorts. In 1954, women’s golf legend and World Golf Hall of Famer Peggy Kirk Bell and her husband, Warren “Bullet” Bell, bought and restored Pine Needles Lodge & Golf Club. Today, Pine Needles ownership remains in the Bell family and honors Mrs. Bell’s fun spirit and passion for the game.

Designed by Donald Ross and opened in 1928, Pine Needles was renovated in 2004 by John Fought, who oversaw the restoration of greens and bunkers to their original forms with the aid of vintage aerial photos. In 2017, Kyle Franz was involved with a green rebuilding and bunker restoration project that aimed to maximize hole locations.

Pine Needles will become the first course to host four U.S. Women’s Open Championships. Its first U.S. Women’s Open was held in 1996, when Annika Sorenstam took home the trophy. Karrie Webb won the 2001 championship at Pine Needles, and Cristie Kerr claimed the 2007 title at the resort.

PINE NEEDLES NOTES

- Pine Needles Lodge & Golf Club is hosting its fourth U.S. Women’s Open Championship
- The club has hosted six previous USGA championships, the second-highest total in North Carolina
- Pine Needles was the host site of the second U.S. Senior Women’s Open Championship in 2019

WHO CAN ENTER

The championship is open to any female professional golfer and any female amateur golfer with a Handicap Index® not exceeding 2.4. Entries open in late February 2022.

ENTRIES

Since 2014, the USGA has annually surpassed the 1,500 mark in entries, with a record 1,873 entries accepted for the 2015 U.S. Women’s Open at Lancaster (Pa.) Country Club. In 2021, the USGA accepted 1,595 entries, the fifth-highest total in championship history. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, there were no entries as the U.S. Women’s Open featured a fully exempt field.

QUALIFYING

Qualifying, played over 36 holes, will be conducted at more than 20 U.S. and international sites in the months of April and May.

CHAMPIONSHIP FIELD

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

SCHEDULE OF PLAY

Eighteen holes of stroke play are scheduled each day from June 2 (Thursday) through June 5 (Sunday). In the event of a tie after 72 holes, a two-hole aggregate playoff will take place following the completion of Sunday's final round.

TELEVISION COVERAGE

NBCUniversal (NBC, USA Network, Peacock) will provide live television coverage of all four rounds of the 77th U.S. Women's Open Championship. The broadcast schedule will be announced at a later date.

2021 CHAMPION

Yuka Saso, of the Philippines, converted a 12-foot birdie putt on the first sudden-death playoff hole to defeat Nasa Hataoka, of Japan, and win the 76th U.S. Women's Open on The Olympic Club's Lake Course, in San Francisco, Calif. Saso joined two-time champion Inbee Park as the youngest winner (age 19 years, 11 months, 17 days) in the event's history and became the first Filipino to capture the Harton S. Semple Trophy. It took three extra holes to decide the outcome after Saso and Hataoka each made back-to-back pars in the two-hole aggregate playoff. Lexi Thompson, the 54-hole leader, was five strokes ahead of the field with 10 holes remaining in regulation but played that stretch in 5 over par. Her final-round 75 was one stroke shy of Saso and Hataoka, who completed 72 holes at 4-under 280. Saso posted consecutive birdies on 16 and 17 to move into a tie for the lead.

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).

WHAT THE WINNER RECEIVES

Among the benefits enjoyed by the U.S. Women's Open winner are:

- A U.S. Women's Open exemption for the next 10 years
- An exemption to the next five Chevron Championships (formerly ANA Inspiration)
- An exemption to the next five AIG Women's Opens
- An exemption to the next five KPMG Women's PGA Championships
- An exemption to the next five Evian Championships
- Custody of Harton S. Semple Trophy and Mickey Wright Medal

PURSE

The 2021 purse was \$5.5 million, the highest among women's golf's major championships at the time; the winner earned \$1 million. The 2022 purse will be announced at a later date.

CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY

This is the 77th 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 winners of the U.S. Women's Open are Inbee Park (2008) and Yuka Saso (2021). Each player captured the championship at the age of 19 years, 11 months, 17 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 dates to mid-December due to 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. The previous latest championship dates occurred when Babe Didrikson Zaharias was crowned the 1950 champion on Sept. 30.

USGA CHAMPIONSHIPS AT PINE NEEDLES LODGE & G.C.

1989 U.S. Girls' Junior: Brandie Burton def. Camie Hoshino, 1 up

1991 U.S. Senior Women's Amateur: Phyllis Preuss by one stroke over Belle Robertson, Anne Sander, 221-222

1996 U.S. Women's Open: Annika Sorenstam by six strokes over Kris Tschetter, 272-278

2001 U.S. Women's Open: Karrie Webb by eight strokes over Se Ri Pak, 273-281

2007 U.S. Women's Open: Cristie Kerr by two strokes over Lorena Ochoa, Angela Park, 279-281

2019 U.S. Senior Women's Open: Helen Alfredsson by two strokes over Juli Inkster, Trish Johnson, 285-287

1996 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

Annika Sorenstam won her second consecutive U.S. Women's Open and established the championship scoring record with a four-round total of 8-under-par 272. She shattered the previous 72-hole mark by five strokes and posted a second-round 67, the lone sub-par round of the day. Following a 69 in third round, Sorenstam held a three-stroke advantage over Brandie Burton and Jane Geddes. On the last day, Sorenstam eagled the par-5 10th with a 20-foot putt for a seven-shot lead. Her birdie on No. 17 gave her a closing 66 as she became the sixth player to win back-to-back U.S. Women's Opens, including the legendary Mickey Wright, who was the first to accomplish the feat in 1958 and 1959. Kris Tschetter's final round of 66 vaulted her into second place six strokes behind.

2001 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

Karrie Webb successfully defended her U.S. Women's Open title with the largest margin of victory in more than two decades. Webb's 7-under total of 273 was eight strokes ahead of her nearest competitor Se Ri Pak, who finished at 1-over 281. Dottie Pepper was third with a 72-hole score of 282. Webb pulled ahead with the championship's best effort on Friday, a 5-under 65 in the rain-affected second round, and steadily increased her advantage. Webb entered the final round with a five-shot lead over Pak and was never really challenged. In 2000 at the Merit Club, in Gurnee, Ill., the Australian saw a four-stroke lead evaporate after nine holes before she regrouped and won by five.

2007 U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN

Cristie Kerr shot a final-round, 1-under-par 70 to stave off world No. 1 Lorena Ochoa, of Mexico, and 18-year-old Angela Park, of Brazil, by two strokes and capture her first major championship. Kerr, who played 6-under-par golf over the final 36 holes, finished at 279 (5 under). Ochoa, who had won three times on the LPGA Tour in 2007, shot an even-par 70 to share second place at 281. Park, who had the 18- and 36-hole leads, carded a 70 for her third sub-par round of the championship. Early Sunday, Kerr put the final touches on a weather-delayed, third-round 66. She would battle with Ochoa over the final 18 holes until the par-4 14th when she sank a 24-foot birdie putt to go in front. Ochoa never had an answer following poor tee shots at Nos. 15 and 17. Kerr, meanwhile, made a 7-foot par putt on No. 16 to stay ahead.

USGA CHAMPIONSHIPS IN NORTH CAROLINA

This will be the 35th USGA championship and sixth U.S. Women's Open contested in North Carolina. In 2024, the U.S. Open will be played at Pinehurst Resort and Country Club.

Recent USGA Championships in North Carolina

2021 U.S. Junior Amateur: The Country Club of North Carolina, Village of Pinehurst (Nicholas Dunlap)

2019 U.S. Senior Amateur: Old Chatham Golf Club, Durham (Bob Royak)

2019 U.S. Amateur: Pinehurst Resort & Country Club (Courses No. 2 & No. 4), Village of Pinehurst (Andy Ogletree)

2019 U.S. Senior Women's Open: Pine Needles Lodge & Golf Club, Southern Pines (Helen Alfredsson)

2018 U.S. Mid-Amateur: Charlotte Country Club, Charlotte (Kevin O'Connell)

2017 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball: Pinehurst Resort & Country Club (Course No. 2), Village of Pinehurst (Frankie Capan & Shuai Ming (Ben) Wong)

2014 U.S. Women's Open: Pinehurst Resort & Country Club (Course No. 2), Village of Pinehurst (Michelle Wie)
2014 U.S. Open: Pinehurst Resort & Country Club (Course No. 2), Village of Pinehurst (Martin Kaymer)

OTHER EVENTS AT PINE NEEDLES LODGE & G.C.

1962 Carolinas Senior
1992 Carolinas Women's Four-Ball
1994 North Carolina Mid-Amateur
1995 Carolinas-Virginias Team Matches
2005 Mid-Atlantic Challenge
2007-10 Tar Heel Cup

LONGEST U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN COURSES

7,026 yards, The Broadmoor (East Course), first round, Colorado Springs, Colo., 2011
6,986 yards, The Broadmoor (East Course), third round, Colorado Springs, Colo., 2011
6,944 yards, The Broadmoor (East Course), second round, Colorado Springs, Colo., 2011
6,860 yards, The Broadmoor (East Course), fourth round, Colorado Springs, Colo., 2011
6,799 yards, Blackwolf Run, second round, Kohler, Wis., 2012
6,783 yards, CordeValle, first round, San Martin, Calif., 2016

LONGEST PAR 3s IN U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN HISTORY

257 yards, 8th, fourth round, Oakmont (Pa.) C.C., 2010
243 yards, 8th, first round, Oakmont (Pa.) C.C., 2010
234 yards, 8th, fourth round, Interlachen C.C., Edina, Minn., 2008
233 yards, 8th, second round, Oakmont (Pa.) C.C., 2010
230 yards, 8th, third round, Oakmont (Pa.) C.C., 2010

LONGEST PAR 4s IN U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN HISTORY

468 yards, 10th, second round, The Broadmoor (East Course), Colorado Springs, Colo., 2011
464 yards, 10th, third round, The Broadmoor (East Course), Colorado Springs, Colo., 2011
464 yards, 13th, second round, The Broadmoor (East Course), Colorado Springs, Colo., 2011
460 yards, 15th, third round, Oakmont (Pa.) C.C., 2010
460 yards, 18th, second round, Oakmont (Pa.) C.C., 2010

LONGEST PAR 5s IN U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN HISTORY

623 yards, 17th, second round, The Broadmoor (East Course), Colorado Springs, Colo., 2011
606 yards, 17th, third round, The Broadmoor (East Course), Colorado Springs, Colo., 2011
603 yards, 17th, fourth round, The Broadmoor (East Course), Colorado Springs, Colo., 2011
602 yards, 12th, second round, Oakmont (Pa.) C.C., 2010
602 yards, 12th, third round, Oakmont (Pa.) C.C., 2010

THE LAST TIME IT HAPPENED

Last international winner: Yuka Saso, 2021
Last to defend title: Karrie Webb, 2001
Last to win Women's Open on first attempt: A Lim Kim, 2020
Last 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 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 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 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: Yuka Saso, 19, 2021
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 defending champion to miss the cut: A Lim Kim, 2021

FUTURE U.S. WOMEN'S OPEN SITES THIS DECADE

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.
TBD, 2028: Oakmont (Pa.) Country Club

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.

MEDIA OPERATIONS

Please contact Julia Pine and the communications staff for more information regarding U.S. Women's Open coverage.

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All information regarding the U.S. Women's Open will be available at uswomensopen.com and mediacenter.usga.org. For more information about the USGA, visit usga.org.

Applications for media credentials for the 2022 U.S. Women's Open will be available in March at mediacenter.usga.org/credentials.

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