ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to female professional golfers, amateur golfers, and applicants for reinstatement. Amateurs and applicants for reinstatement must have an up-to-date Handicap Index® not exceeding 2.4 under the Rules of Handicapping. A Handicap Index must be issued from a “golf club” (as defined in the Rules of Handicapping book) that is authorized to use the Rules of Handicapping. The USGA accepts an up-to-date Handicap Index issued from the international body of golf that would be equivalent to a Handicap Index within the prescribed limit for entry into the Championship.

Age: Player’s date of birth is required 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 of COVID-19 while conducting its championships. Despite these measures, complete elimination of risk of exposure and infection to COVID-19 is not currently possible. Testing for you, the other players, and for the local community.

Entry requirements may be found at www.usga.org/genderpolicy.html.

NOTICE REGARDING COVID-19

The USGA is undertaking significant measures to mitigate the risk of transmission of COVID-19 while conducting its championships. Despite these measures, complete elimination of risk of exposure and infection to COVID-19 is not currently possible. Working together, we are confident we can make this championship a success for you, the other players, and for the local community.

SCHEDULE

Championship—72 holes: 156 players eligible, comprised of place-winners in Qualifying Rounds and those exempt from qualifying. Thursday, December 10: Round 1, 18 holes. Friday, December 11: Round 2, 18 holes. 60 lowest scorers and any tying for 60th place for first 36 holes continue play; remainder eliminated after 36 holes. Saturday, December 12: Round 3, 18 holes. Sunday, December 13: Round 4, 18 holes. Lowest scorer for 72 holes will be the champion. In the event of a tie for the Championship, a two 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 a champion is determined.

PRIZES

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.

AMATEUR RETURNING LOWEST 72-HOLE SCORE: Gold Medal.

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.

OTHER REMUNERATION: 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”).

RULES OF GOLF: WHEN COMPETITION IS FINAL

Play will be governed by The Rules of Golf as approved by the United States Golf Association and R&A Rules Limited. Questions will be settled by the on-site Rules Committee, whose decision will be final. The competition is final when the trophy has been presented to the winner or, in the absence of a prize ceremony, when all scores have been approved by the Committee.
GOLF BALLS; DRIVER HEADS

Only brands of golf balls on the most current List of Conforming Golf Balls and driver heads on the most current 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 Equipment Standards Department at (908) 334-2300. See Model Local Rules G-1 and G-3.

The one ball Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. See Model Local Rule G-4.

CLUBS: GROOVES

The Local Rule as prescribed by Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect, except that the Exception in the Model Local Rule does not apply (see Model Local Rule G-2).

DISTANCE-MEASURING DEVICES

During the Championship Proper, the Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect and prohibits the use of electronic distance-measuring devices. Model Local Rule G-5.

PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN TYPES OF SHOES

The Local Rule as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect at all Qualifying sites unless the Qualifying site is indicated by an asterisk on this entry application. Model Local Rule G-7.

CADDIES

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/CART REQUESTS

The Local Rule prohibiting the use of motorized transportation as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. Model Local Rule G-6.

As a general rule, players and their caddies must walk the course at USGA Championships. But consistent with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), a disabled player or caddie may be permitted to use a golf cart as an accommodation to his or her disability for those events where golf carts are not allowed. As required by the ADA, the USGA will evaluate such requests on a case-by-case basis.

In order for the USGA to properly evaluate the merits of such requests, while maintaining the fundamental fairness of the golf competition, it is necessary for players requesting this accommodation (whether submitted by the player, by the player for the player’s caddie or by the parent/legal guardian of a minor player) to submit medical documentation to facilitate that analysis. The documentation provided must demonstrate: (1) a player’s (or caddie’s) disability as defined by the ADA; (2) the medical need for the golf cart that results from that disability; and (3) that by providing a golf cart to a player or caddie in that particular circumstance, the USGA would not be fundamentally altering the fairness of the competition by providing a player with an advantage over other players. The required form entitled Golf Cart Request Form (as well as additional important information for first time and subsequent requests for a cart) is available at the following link: https://www.usga.org/championships-hub/additional-entry-resources/requesting-a-golf-cart.html.

ONLINE CHAMPIONSHIP REGISTRATION

Register in person at location and time listed in the Memorandum to Players or notify the USGA as directed in the Memorandum to Players if a late arrival. Place may be forfeited by a player from whom no word has been received.

PRACTICE PRIVILEGES

Privileges of Champions Golf Club are extended to qualified players in the Championship from December 7 through December 9.

LOCAL RULES; TERMS OF THE COMPETITION; SCHEDULES

The USGA Championship Committee/on-site Rules Committee reserves the right to alter any of the Local Rules, Terms of the Competition, provisions and/or schedules herein. The decision of the Championship Committee/on-site Rules Committee in any matter will be final. 2020 Terms of the Competition: https://www.usga.org/content/dam/usga/pdf/2020/rules/2020%20USGA%20Local%20Rules%20and%20Terms%20of%20the%20Competition.pdf

NOTICE OF WITHDRAWAL

If an exempt player withdraws, she must notify the USGA (908-336-1950 or via e-mail at champs@usga.org) promptly in order to insure an alternate fair opportunity to play. Failure to comply may result in disqualification from future USGA competitions.
EXEMPTIONS
Players in the following categories will be eligible for exemption in the 2020 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 a Championship Entry Application by November 11, 2020 at 5:00 PM EST. (Note: Blank entries will be filed by the USGA for players who become exempt after close of entries.)

1. Winners of the U.S. Women’s Open Championship for the last 10 years (2010-2019):
   - Paul Gaetano 2015-in Gee Chun
   - So Yeon Ryu 2016-Brittany Lang
   - Na Yeon Choi 2017-Sung Hyun Park
   - Inbee Park 2018-Ariya Jutanugarn
   - Michelle Wie 2019-JeonGee Lee

2. From the 2019 U.S. Women’s Open Championship, the 10 lowest scorers and anyone tying for 10th place:
   - Celine Boutier Ally McDonald
   - Jaye Marie Green Gerina Piller
   - Mami Oda So Yeon Ryu
   - Jessica Korda Lexi Thompson
   - Jeongeun Lee6 Angel Yin

3. Winner of the 2019 U.S. Women’s Amateur Championship: Gabriella Ruffels
   - U.S. Girls’ Junior Winner-Lee Ye
   - U.S. Women’s Mid-Amateur Winner-Ina Kim-Schaad

5. Winners of the ANA Inspiration Championship the last five years (2016-2020):
   - Lydia Ko 2017-Jin Young Ko
   - So Yeon Ryu 2020-Miriam Lee
   - Pernilla Lindberg

   - Brooke Henderson 2018-Sung Hyun Park
   - Danielle Kang 2019-Hannah Green

7. Winners of the Evian Championship the last five years (2015-2019):
   - Lydia Ko 2018-Angela Stanford
   - Inbee Park 2019-Jin Young Ko
   - Anna Nordqvist

8. Winners of the AIG Women’s British Open Championship the last five years (2015-2019):
   - Inbee Park 2018-Georgina Hall
   - Ariya Jutanugarn 2019-Hinako Shibuno
   - Sung Hyun Park

9. The top 30 point leaders from the 2019 LPGA Race to the CME Globe Final Points:
   - Brittany Altomare Moriya Jutanugarn Yu Liu
   - Celine Boutier Danielle Kang Gaby Lopez
   - Carlota Ciganda Hye Jin Choi LPGA Championship
   - Shahin Feng Sei Young Kim Azahara Munoz
   - Hannah Green Jin Young Ko Su Hyun Oh
   - Kasey Korda Jessica Korda Inbee Park
   - Brooke Henderson Nelly Korda Sung Hyun Park
   - M. Jung Huh Bronk Law Lizette Salas
   - Eun Hye Ji Minjee Lee Lexi Thompson
   - Ariya Jutanugarn Jeongeun Lee6 Amy Yang

10. Winners of LPGA co-sponsored events, whose victories are considered official, from the conclusion of the 2019 U.S. Women’s Open Championship to the originally scheduled 2020 U.S. Women's Open Championship (June 1-7, 2020):
    - Shanshan Feng Sei Young Kim Inbee Park
    - Hannah Green Cheyenne Knight Sung Hyun Park
    - Brooke Henderson Jin Young Ko Madeleine Sagstrom
    - M. Jung Huh Nelly Korda Hinako Shibuno
    - Ha Na Jang Gaby Lopez Ai Suzuki
    - Danielle Kang Hye Young Park Lexi Thompson

11. Winner of the 2019 USGA Women’s Amateur Championship (must be an amateur):
    - Emily Toy


13. From the 2020 official LPGA money list, the top 10 money leaders, not otherwise exempt, through the close of entries. (November 11, 2020.)

14. From the official Symetra Tour money list, the top five money leaders, not otherwise exempt, through the close of entries (November 11, 2020.)

REMAINING SPOTS; ALTERNATE LIST
After all exemption categories are complete, remaining spots in the championship field will be filled in order using the Rolex Rankings (RR) as of November 9, 2020. Once the field is set, the USGA will compile an alternate list for the championship using the RR as of November 9, 2020. Blank entries will be filed by the USGA for players who become exempt after close of entries. Players who become exempt after the close of entries will be contacted individually by the USGA and will be required to complete a championship application at that time. For ties where two players have the same ranking in the RR, the spot(s) in the championship proper will be determined by the highest-ranking points earned from each players’ current record of counting events (past 104 weeks). If a tie still exists, the spot(s) will be determined by the second highest points earned, the third highest, and so on until the tie is decided. If a tie still exists, the spot(s) will be determined by lot.

More information on the application process can be found in the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs).