

# 124TH U.S. WOMEN'S AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP®

Conducted by the United States Golf Association®

Southern Hills Country Club, Tulsa, Oklahoma | August 5 – 11, 2024



## CHAMPIONSHIP REGULATIONS

### LANGUAGE

The official language of the U.S. Women's Amateur Championship is English. It is the responsibility of the player to obtain appropriate translation services as needed.

### NOTICE REGARDING COVID-19

In order to conduct USGA qualifiers and championships in a safe manner for all players and staff, the USGA, the Allied Golf Associations, and any other golf associations reserve the right to institute COVID-19 protocols. Such COVID-19 protocols may be instituted in accordance with CDC guidelines, including but not limited to testing prior to arrival and/or on-site, for any specific qualifier and/or the championship. Failure to comply with such COVID-19 protocols may result in the withdrawal of the players' entry and removal from the course.

Adherence to any COVID-19 protocols is a condition of competition for all players. Players may be prohibited from participating in a qualifier or USGA championship if they test positive for COVID-19 or exhibit COVID-19 symptoms. Players who are unable to participate in a qualifier or USGA championship due to COVID-19 will receive a full refund.

### ELIGIBILITY

Entries are open to female amateur golfers who have an up-to-date Handicap Index® not exceeding 2.4 under the Rules of Handicapping. A current Handicap ID number (GHIN) issued through an authorized golf club is required and must be submitted on the entry form. The USGA accepts an up-to-date Handicap Index issued from authorized national and regional associations around the world, that would be equivalent to a Handicap Index within the prescribed limit for entry into the Championship. The USGA reserves the right to refuse any entry, or having accepted, subsequently reject any entry where, in its reasonable opinion, there is evidence to suggest that the player's Handicap Index does not accurately reflect their demonstrated ability. Please note that the USGA may contact your home club, authorized association, or national federation to request your full scoring record and to conduct a handicap review.

Athletes from Russia and Belarus are permitted to participate in USGA championships, but may not represent Russia/Belarus or the Russian/Belarusian Federations in any capacity (i.e. pairings, scoring, hometown, etc...). These athletes are permitted to compete under another country or alternate hometown if they so choose or may compete as unattached with no country or hometown. As the championship organizer, we will not fly the Russian or Belarus flag on-site at USGA championships.

**Age:** The championship is open to players of all ages. Player's date of birth is required on all USGA entry forms.

An application for a player who is a minor must be submitted by a parent/guardian, and must list the parent/guardian's name, phone numbers, and e-mail address. We cannot accept a phone number or email address of any minor. A player is deemed a minor based upon the date of submission and the laws of the state in which they reside (e.g. if a player is a New Jersey resident, the player is a minor if under the age of 18 at the time of submission). The parent/guardian agrees to be bound by all the terms and conditions on their own behalf and on behalf of the minor player. The USGA reserves the right to require submission of an original signature of the parent/guardian in a confirmation copy of the application upon notification by the USGA to the parent/guardian.

**Amateur Status:** All players must conform to the Rules of Amateur Status as approved by the United States Golf Association and The R&A.

**Anti-Doping Policy:** All players must comply with the USGA Anti-Doping Policy as a condition of competition. Information regarding the USGA Anti-Doping Policy, including applicable drug testing processes and information regarding Therapeutic Use Exemptions, may be found on the Apply to Play page of the USGA website at the following link: <https://champ-admin.usga.org/player/articles/Anti-Doping>.

**Code of Conduct:** The USGA may reject an entry application, revoke an accepted application, expel from the Championship and/or suspend a player or caddie from any current or future championships if the player or caddie engages in conduct that is deemed abusive, derogatory, aggressive or detrimental to the integrity and image of the Championship, 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, club facilities or the player's equipment; verbal or physical abuse of players, caddies, spectators, officials, volunteers or staff, including derogatory remarks about the eligibility of players and related matters; blatant or excessive profanity; disorderly behavior; conduct which is disruptive to competition (including playing music through portable speakers or drinking alcohol during the competition); conduct which could result in an unfair advantage to a player or disadvantage to another player; failure to abide by club rules; violation of the USGA Championship Betting Policy or other championship policy or any other unbecoming conduct. The USGA Championship Betting Policy can be found on the Apply to Play page of the USGA website, located at the following link: <https://champ-admin.usga.org/player/articles/usga-championship-betting-policy>.

**Equipment Used for Medical Reasons:** Players who wish to request permission to use a medical device due to a medical condition or injury and proceed under Rule 4.3b(1) of the Rules of Golf should refer to:

<https://champ-admin.usga.org/player/articles/equipment-permitted-for-medical-reasons>.

### ELIGIBILITY (CONT.)

**Gender Policy:** For the purposes of registration, players are required to register as either male or female in accordance with their biological assigned-at-birth gender. For any player wishing to compete as a gender that is different than their biological assigned-at-birth gender or for any player who has transitioned or is currently transitioning to a gender that is different than their assigned-at-birth gender, you will need to follow the processes outlined in the USGA Gender Policy and comply with all eligibility requirements therein. Information regarding the USGA Gender Policy may be found on the Apply to Play page of the USGA website located at the following link: <https://champ-admin.usga.org/player/articles/Gender-Policy>.

**Performance in Qualifying:** If a player fails to return a score within 12 strokes of the Course Rating™, future entries for USGA Championships may be declined if documentation is not provided demonstrating that the player is capable of competing at the national championship level. Please note that players who "no card" are subject to receive a letter from the USGA under the same guidelines as those who do not return a score within 12 strokes of the Course Rating. Players who shoot 15 or more strokes above the course rating for 9-holes may be withdrawn from the qualifier.

**Withdrawal from Qualifying:** Players can withdraw by logging into their account and clicking on the WITHDRAW tab. They must also notify the Official in Charge prior to their scheduled Qualifying round. Failure to do so may result in disqualification from future USGA competitions.

### ENTRIES: FEE, REFUNDS, CLOSING DATE

All players, including those who are exempt, must file an entry application online at [champ-admin.usga.org](http://champ-admin.usga.org).

- The Championship Entry Fee of \$290 must be paid by players who are exempt into the championship.
- The Qualifying Entry Fee of \$190 must be paid by players who participate at a Qualifying Location.
  - Players who qualify for the championship will be charged an additional fee of \$100 within 72 hours of the start of the championship. The fee is non-refundable.
  - The Waitlist Fee of \$10 must be paid by players who select to join a waitlist. The fee is non-refundable.

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.

Players can withdraw by logging into their account and clicking on the WITHDRAW tab:

- **Exempt players**
  - Withdrawals prior to the close of entries will receive a refund of \$217.50 regardless of reason.
  - Withdrawals after the close of entries and no later than 11:59 PM EDT 72 hours before the start of the championship will receive a refund of \$145 regardless of reason.
  - Withdrawals after 11:59 PM EDT 72 hours before the start of the championship will not receive a refund.
- **Players in qualifying**
  - Withdrawals prior to the close of entries will receive a refund of \$142.50 regardless of reason.
  - Withdrawals after the close of entries and no later than 11:59 PM EDT 72 hours before the qualifier will receive a refund of \$95 regardless of reason.
  - Withdrawals after 11:59 PM EDT 72 hours before the qualifier will not receive a refund.
  - Withdrawals after the date of the qualifier will not receive a refund.

**Entry applications must be received by the USGA no later than 5:00 PM EDT on Wednesday, June 12, 2024.** 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:

1. **Qualifying – 18 holes stroke play** for all except exempt players listed herein. See schedule.

2. **Championship – 156 players eligible**, including exempt players.

(A) **STROKE PLAY** – 36 holes stroke play to determine 64 qualifiers for match play. All qualifiers and exempt players must compete. A tie for last qualifier's place will be decided by a hole-by-hole play-off.

MONDAY, AUGUST 5: Round 1, 18 holes.

TUESDAY, AUGUST 6: Round 2, 18 holes.

(B) **MATCH PLAY** – A draw based on qualifying scores will be used. Ties in stroke play will be decided by blind draw, except that places of those participating in the play-off to determine the final spot(s) in the match-play field will be determined by performance in the play-off and then by the order they are listed for tee times of Round 2.

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 7: A.M. Round of 64, 18 holes.

THURSDAY, AUGUST 8: A.M. Round of 32, 18 holes.

P.M. Round of 16, 18 holes.

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9: P.M. Quarterfinals, 18 holes.

SATURDAY, AUGUST 10: P.M. Semifinals, 18 holes.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 11: A.M. Final, 36 holes.

## PRIZES

### CHAMPIONSHIP

**WINNER:** Gold medal and custody of the Robert Cox Cup for the ensuing year, subject to such conditions as the USGA may establish.

**RUNNER-UP:** Silver medal.

**OTHER SEMIFINALISTS:** Bronze medals.

**LOWEST QUALIFYING SCORER:** Bronze medal; if a tie, duplicate medals will be awarded.

**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.

### QUALIFYING ROUNDS

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

## MODIFICATIONS FOR PLAYERS WITH DISABILITIES

Players wishing to utilize Rule 25 (Modifications for Players with Disabilities) in USGA Championships or Qualifying should refer to: <https://champ-admin.usga.org/player/rules/rule-25---modifications-for-players-with-disabilities>.

## RULES OF GOLF

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.

## 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/equipment-standards/conforming-club-ball-lists.html](http://www.usga.org/equipment-standards/conforming-club-ball-lists.html) or by contacting the USGA Equipment Standards Department at (908) 234-2300.

At the Championship proper only, the one ball Rule (Model Local Rule G-4) as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

## CLUBS: GROOVES

Model Local Rule G-2 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

## PROHIBITION ON CERTAIN TYPES OF SHOES

Model Local Rule G-7 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

## PROHIBITING CLUBS LONGER THAN 46 INCHES

At the Championship proper only, Model Local Rule G-10 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect.

## PROHIBITING USE OF MATERIALS TO HELP READ LINE OF PLAY ON PUTTING GREEN

At the Championship proper only, Model Local Rule G-12 as prescribed in Section 8 of the Committee Procedures is in effect. More information can be found at [www.usga.org/localruleg12](http://www.usga.org/localruleg12).

## 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 during 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, except at certain Qualifying sites as indicated on this entry application where the caddie only is permitted to use motorized transportation. Model Local Rule G-6.

As a general rule, players and their caddies must walk the course at USGA Championships and at most Qualifying rounds. 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://champ-admin.usga.org/player/articles/Requesting-Golf-Cart>.

## PUBLICITY AND PROMOTION; BROADCASTING

I understand that the USGA or its designees, may record, film, photograph, or otherwise capture my likeness, image, voice, biography, references to me, my quoted statements, and my play in the Championship (the foregoing, together with my name, my "Appearance"). In consideration of the opportunity to participate in the Championship, by submitting this Application, I grant (and/or have the authority to grant to the USGA in the case of a parent/guardian of a minor or other legal guardian or authorized representative submitting the Application on my behalf) to the USGA, and its licensees, successors and assigns, the perpetual, transferable, assignable, worldwide, royalty-free, irrevocable right to use my Appearance, in whole or in part, in all manner (including exhibition, distribution, reproduction, publication, display, broadcast, transmission or otherwise), and media now known or hereafter invented or discovered, and for any purpose whatsoever. The rights granted herein include, without limitation, the right to use the Appearance, or portions thereof, in promotion of the Championship and future championships through any of the foregoing means of distribution, as well as in the design, manufacture and distribution of merchandise related to the Championship or other championships, that include elements of my Appearance. The USGA is not obligated to use my Appearance in any matter, and materials embodying any aspect of my Appearance do not need to be submitted to me for approval. I release and discharge the USGA, its licensees, successors and assigns from any claims arising from use of my Appearance, including claims for misrepresentation of me, my character, or my person by any means. As between the USGA and me, the USGA shall own all right, title and interest, including the copyright(s), in and to any works created by the USGA, its licensees, successors and assigns, that include all or a portion of my Appearance. This grant shall be binding on my heirs, executors, administrators and assigns, and the successors and assigns of the USGA. I hereby waive all privacy, publicity, defamation, libel, and proprietary rights relating to the Appearance as used by the USGA in conjunction with these terms.

Players are required to cooperate with representatives of the media; however, no pre-Championship activities outside of those activities which are part of the Championship will be required. Authorized representatives of the media will not interfere with the player's Championship play in an unreasonable manner.

## ONSITE 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. If the USGA does not receive word from a player, their spot in the championship may be forfeited.

## ACCOMMODATIONS; PLAYER SERVICES AND ACTIVITIES

Information will be provided to qualifiers upon completion of Qualifying by the U.S. Women's Amateur Player Services Staff. Exempt players will receive this information from the Player Services Staff after close of entries.

## PERSONAL APPEARANCE; LOGO AND MARKS POLICY

Players must be neat in appearance with respect to personal grooming and clothing.

Players and caddies who are subject to the Logo and Marks Policy for USGA Championships must comply with all terms and conditions of the policy. The Logo and Marks Policy for USGA Championships can be found at the USGA website, located at <https://champ-admin.usga.org/player/articles/usga-logo-marks-policy>.

## 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. 2024 Local Rules and Terms of the Competition: [www.usga.org/hardcard](http://www.usga.org/hardcard).

## QUALIFYING

### LOCATION

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

Qualifying sites may be canceled due to lack of participation. Qualifying sites are final after entries close. Please note that due to weather or other factors, a Qualifying location may need to be delayed or postponed one or more days, and players should be prepared to play on the posted rain date if necessary. Players who withdraw after 11:59 PM EDT 72 hours before the qualifier will not receive a refund.

### WAITLIST

When a Qualifying location has met capacity, players may sign up on a waitlist. The fee to join a waitlist is \$10 and non-refundable. Priority of each list will be based on the date of receipt of entry application. The player's current waitlist status is located on the Upcoming Competitions/Transfer Sites Tab on the Apply to Play page. Players who sign up for a waitlist are not guaranteed a spot in the qualifier. Waitlist expires 72 hours from the qualifier and all players who remain on the waitlist within 72 hours of the qualifier will be withdrawn with no refund.

**Prior to the close of entries:** If the original waitlist site becomes available, the player will be assigned to that site, charged the qualifying entry fee and receive a confirmation email. If payment is declined, the player will have 24 hours to provide updated credit card information. If payment is not received within 24 hours, the player will be withdrawn and the next player on the waitlist will be added to the field.

**After the close of entries and no later than 11:59 PM EDT 72 hours before the qualifier:** If the original waitlist site becomes available, the player will be added to the field, charged the qualifying entry fee and receive a confirmation email. If payment is declined, the player will have 24 hours to provide updated credit card information. If payment is not received within 24 hours, the player will be withdrawn and the next player on the waitlist will be added to the field. The Allied Golf Association will email player information within 24 hours. Players are not eligible for a practice round until confirmed in the field and are not guaranteed a practice round. As players on the waitlist gain entry into the field, additional players will not be allowed to join the waitlist.

**After the close of entries and after 11:59 PM EDT 72 hours before the qualifier:** All players remaining on the waitlist will be withdrawn with no refund.

### TRANSFERRING

Players can transfer from a Waitlist to a Waitlist, Waitlist to a Qualifying Site or a Qualifying Site to a Qualifying Site prior to the close of entries by accessing the championship specific View Qualifying Sites pop out on the Apply to Play page > Upcoming Competitions/Transfer Sites Tab: <https://champ-admin.usga.org/player#/upcoming-competitions>. Players are limited to two transfers per championship.

Players who applied to a Qualifying location and want to transfer to a waitlist site must withdraw their application by contacting the USGA Championship Administration Department at [champs@usga.org](mailto:champs@usga.org) prior to the close of entries. The full entry fee will be refunded. Once withdrawn, the player can re-apply to sign up on a Waitlist.

Transfers are not permissible after entries close. If a 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.

### 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 strength of 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.

Alternates 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, 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.

Alternates have no status at the Championship.

### 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 (908-326-1950 or via e-mail at [champs@usga.org](mailto: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.

### SCORE POSTING

The AGA will post Stroke Play scores for all competitors in the field who have a Handicap Index<sup>®</sup> issued by the USGA. It will be the player's responsibility to post scores for all other formats of play throughout the competition.

In formats of play where a player may not finish a hole (i.e. Match Play or Four-Ball), the player is responsible for recording their score for handicap purposes using the Most Likely Score (MLS) procedure. MLS on a hole includes: the number of strokes already taken, plus the number of strokes most likely required to complete the hole, plus any penalty strokes incurred on the hole.

If a Match is completed on or after the fourteenth hole but prior to the eighteenth hole, the player will record a score of net par for handicap purposes for any holes not played. If a Match is completed prior to the fourteenth hole, the player will post a nine-hole score for handicap purposes.

Players who have a Handicap Index from another authorized golf association should post their scores in accordance with the association's protocols.

### EXEMPTIONS

Exemption categories list herein are applicable for the 2024 Championship only. The USGA reserves the right to revise any of the exemption categories. Exempt players who wish to participate in the Championship must file an entry, except those players for whom blank entries are filed as noted.