



2015 U.S. AMATEUR FOUR-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP – FACT SHEET

SITE INFORMATION

usamfourball.org

May 2-6, 2015

The Olympic Club (Lake Course), San Francisco, Calif.

Companion Course: The Olympic Club (Ocean Course), San Francisco, Calif.

PAR AND YARDAGE

The Olympic Club's Lake Course will be set up at 6,981 yards and will play to a par of 34-36-70. The Olympic Club's Ocean Course, which will serve as the companion course for the two days of stroke-play qualifying, will be set up at 6,761 yards and play to a par of 35-35-70.

(Note: Yardages subject to change.)

THE OLYMPIC CLUB (LAKE COURSE) HOLE BY HOLE

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
Par	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	3	4	34
Yards	505	425	226	438	482	458	294	181	449	3,458

Hole	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
Par	4	4	4	3	4	3	5	5	4	36
Yards	424	427	451	180	417	154	622	505	343	3,523

THE OLYMPIC CLUB (OCEAN COURSE) HOLE BY HOLE

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
Par	4	3	4	5	3	4	4	4	4	35
Yards	507	192	416	561	170	357	444	421	400	3,468

Hole	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
Par	3	5	4	4	4	4	4	3	4	35
Yards	171	530	385	350	350	470	401	205	431	3,293

ARCHITECT

Sam Whiting designed the modern layout of the Lake Course, which opened in 1927. Revisions to the Lake Course, prior to the 1955 U.S. Open, were supervised by Robert Trent Jones Sr. Bill Love has supervised all design work since 2004, which includes new tees, a green construction project in 2008-09 and the addition of a bunker on the 17th hole. Tom Weiskopf completely redesigned the Ocean Course following heavy storm damage and it opened for play in 2000.

WHO CAN ENTER

The championship is open to teams (or sides) of amateurs with a Handicap Index® not exceeding 5.4. The deadline for entries was Aug. 6, 2014. Partners comprising teams (or sides) do not have age restrictions and are not required to be from the same club, state or country.

ENTRIES

The USGA accepted 2,234 team entries for the 2015 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship.

SECTIONAL QUALIFYING

Sectional qualifying, played over 18 holes, was conducted at 51 sites around the country between Aug. 13, 2014 and March 31, 2015. The sectional qualifying sites were located in 35 states, including five in California and three in Florida, Massachusetts and New York.

INAUGURAL CHAMPIONSHIPS IN 2015

The U.S. Amateur Four-Ball and the U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball championships are the first USGA championships to be added to the Association's slate of yearly competitions since the U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur Championship was first conducted in 1987.

"We couldn't be more excited about the creation of national four-ball championships, given the popularity and enjoyment of this competitive format at the amateur level," USGA President Thomas J. O'Toole Jr. said at the time of the announcement in February 2013. "Because the four-ball format lends itself to spirited team competition and aggressive risk-reward shotmaking, we are confident these championships will deliver exciting amateur golf to the national stage for both players and spectators alike."

FOUR-BALL VERSUS FOURSOMES

... While each involves four players, four-ball and foursome are different formats.

... In four-ball, matches are played in pairs (a player and a partner, called a side, versus another player and partner), with each golfer playing his or her own ball on each hole. At the end of each hole, the player with the lowest score wins that hole for the side. In stroke-play, the low score is the side's score for that hole.

... Foursomes matches are also played in pairs (one side versus another side), but each pair plays with one ball. In this format, each player takes turns hitting the ball from the teeing grounds and during play of each hole, with "Player A" hitting the tee shot, "Player B" the second shot, "Player A" the third, and so on. While the side can choose the order, if "Player A" hits the tee shots on odd-numbered holes, "Player B" must hit them on even-numbered holes.

CHAMPIONSHIP FIELD

Practice rounds will be held April 30 and May 1. The starting field of 128 sides (256 players) will play two rounds of stroke-play qualifying on May 2-3, with the low 32 sides (64 players) advancing to match play. Five 18-hole rounds of match play will determine the champion. The schedule is as follows:

Schedule of Play

May 2 (Saturday): First round of stroke-play qualifying

May 3 (Sunday): Second round of stroke-play qualifying

May 4 (Monday): First round of match play

May 5 (Tuesday): Second and quarterfinal rounds of match play

May 6 (Wednesday): Semifinal and championship rounds of match play

EXEMPT PLAYERS: A total of three sides or six players are fully exempt into the 2015 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship based on both team competitors being ranked in the top 400 of the World Amateur Golf Ranking™ (WAGR) as of the close of entries. Here are those sides (or teams):

Sam Burns/Austin Connelly (Top 400 in WAGR)

Bryson DeChambeau/Austin Smotherman (Top 400 in WAGR)

Nathan Smith/Todd White (USGA special exemption)

USGA CHAMPIONS: There are seven USGA champions in the 2015 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship field (as of March 27). They are: Kenneth Bakst (1997 Mid-Amateur), Austin Eaton III (2004 Mid-Amateur), Scott Harvey (2014 Mid-Amateur), Tim Jackson (1994, 2001 Mid-Amateur), Kevin Marsh (2005 Mid-Amateur), Michael McCoy (2013 Mid-Amateur) and Nathan Smith (2003, 2009, 2010, 2012 Mid-Amateur).

USGA CHAMPIONSHIPS AT THE OLYMPIC CLUB

Championship Years and Winners

1955 U.S. Open: Jack Fleck def. Ben Hogan, 287 (69) - 287 (72)

1958 U.S. Amateur: Charles Coe def. Tommy Aaron, 5 and 4

1966 U.S. Open: Billy Casper def. Arnold Palmer, 278 (69) - 278 (73)

1981 U.S. Amateur: Nathaniel Crosby def. Brian Lindley, 37 holes

1987 U.S. Open: Scott Simpson by one stroke over Tom Watson, 277-278

1998 U.S. Open: Lee Janzen by one stroke over Payne Stewart, 280-281

2004 U.S. Junior Amateur: Sihwan Kim def. David Chung, 1 up

2007 U.S. Amateur: Colt Knost def. Michael Thompson, 2 and 1

2012 U.S. Open: Webb Simpson by one stroke over Graeme McDowell and Michael Thompson, 281-282

U.S. OPENS AT THE OLYMPIC CLUB

This is the 10th USGA championship, including five U.S. Opens, to be conducted at The Olympic Club (Lake Course). Webb Simpson, playing in just his second U.S. Open, won the 2012 championship. He shot 2-under 68 in the final round and moved past seven players to edge Graeme McDowell and Michael Thompson by a single stroke. Simpson's closing round featured a stretch of four birdies in five holes and no bogeys in his final 13 holes. Simpson, who was tied for 29th after 36 holes, carded a pair of 68s over the final two rounds for a 1-over-par total of 281.

In 1955, Jack Fleck defeated four-time U.S. Open champion Ben Hogan in a playoff. Fleck, a municipal-course professional in Davenport, Iowa, who was playing his first full year on the PGA Tour, birdied two of the last four holes to tie Hogan at 7-over-par 287. He shot 69 in the 18-hole playoff and never trailed, as Hogan carded a 72.

In 1966, Billy Casper won his second U.S. Open, in a playoff against Arnold Palmer. Casper trailed by seven strokes with nine holes to play in the final round, but rallied to match Palmer at 2-under-par 278. In the playoff, Palmer led by two shots after nine holes, but Casper erased the lead with a 50-foot birdie putt at the par-3 13th. Casper finished with a 1-under-par 69, while Palmer shot 73.

Scott Simpson birdied the 14th, 15th and 16th holes of the final round in winning the 1987 U.S. Open and overtaking Tom Watson. Simpson's 72-hole total of 277, 3 under par, was one stroke better than Watson's 278. They were the only players to better par for the championship.

Lee Janzen made four birdies and no bogeys over the final 15 holes to win the 1998 U.S. Open, his second Open victory. Janzen, who finished at even-par 280 for a one-stroke win, came from five strokes behind Payne Stewart after 54 holes. He earned a share of the lead with birdies on the 12th and 13th holes before recording pars the rest of the way. Stewart bogeyed the 16th, but had a chance to tie Janzen on the finishing hole. His 25-foot birdie putt slid inches below the hole.

USGA CHAMPIONSHIPS IN CALIFORNIA

This will be the 74th USGA championship contested in California. The Golden State is second to Pennsylvania (82 through 2014) in number of USGA championships hosted. California has played host to all 13 individual championships, as well as the 1974 Curtis Cup Match, 1981 Walker Cup Match and 2010 USGA Men's State Team. California has hosted 12 U.S. Opens, including 2012 at The Olympic Club's Lake Course

TELEVISION SCHEDULE

The U.S. Amateur Four-Ball will receive at least five hours of live network coverage. Fox Sports 1 will air the quarterfinal round of match play (May 5) and the semifinals and championship match (May 6).

Date	Network	Broadcast Hours (EDT)
May 5	Fox Sports 1	7-9:30 p.m.
May 6	Fox Sports 1	7-9:30 p.m.

ADMISSION

Admission is free. Tickets are not required for this USGA championship and spectators are encouraged to attend.

HISTORY

The U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship will be played for the first time in 2015, along with the U.S. Women's Amateur Four-Ball. The championships are the first additions to the USGA competition roster since the U.S. Women's Mid-Amateur was first conducted in 1987. The additions of the two Amateur Four-Ball championships was announced on Feb. 11, 2013.

FUTURE SITES

May 19-25, 2016: Winged Foot Golf Club, Mamaroneck, N.Y.

May 27-31, 2017: Pinehurst Resort & Country Club, Village of Pinehurst, N.C.

May 19-23, 2018: Jupiter Hills Club, Tequesta, Fla.

May 23-27, 2020: Philadelphia (Pa.) Cricket Club

PHOTO MEDIA SERVICE

The USGA will offer daily complimentary high-resolution photographs during the U.S. Amateur Four-Ball (Saturday-Wednesday) for news use only. For more information and to register, contact photorequests@usga.org.

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

USGA Communications Department: 908-234-2300

MEDIA OPERATIONS/SERVICE

Please contact Pete Kowalski or Brian DePasquale for more information regarding your U.S. Amateur Four-Ball coverage. Their contact information is:

Pete Kowalski: pkowalski@usga.org, (O) 908-326-1886, (C) 908-216-8435

Brian DePasquale: bdepasquale@usga.org, (O) 908-326-1884, (C) 908-655-8395

For more information about the USGA, please visit www.usga.org.

Media-specific information can be found at www.usga.org/MC_Home.aspx.