



## **2015 U.S. OPEN MEDIA INFORMATION PACKAGE**

Please note the following information in advance of the 2015 U.S. Open Championship at Chambers Bay in University Place, Wash. – the first U.S. Open in the Pacific Northwest.

USGA Communications greatly appreciates your coverage of the 2015 U.S. Open and consideration of our media service operations throughout the championship. While we have endeavored to create a plan that is efficient and enhances your experience at Chambers Bay, we respectfully request you build time into your schedule to allow for transportation and walking to and from facilities.

In addition to reading the below information, we highly suggest you review the Spectator Information Guide at [usopen.com/KnowBeforeYouGo](http://usopen.com/KnowBeforeYouGo). Beginning Sunday, June 14 at 8 a.m. (PDT), you can also call the on-site USGA Media Center at (253) 880-3764.

### **Schedule of Key Events**

*All times PDT*

#### **Thursday, June 11**

8 a.m. U.S. Open Merchandise Fashion Show at the Merchandise Pavilion

10 a.m.-6 p.m. U.S. Open Merchandise Tent Grand Opening at the Merchandise Pavilion

#### **Sunday, June 14**

8 a.m. Media registration opens at the Media Center

1:30 p.m. Kickoff to the U.S. Open at Spectator Square (interview opportunities: USGA President Thomas J. O'Toole Jr. and Major General Kenneth Dahl of I Corps Joint Base Lewis-McChord)

2:15 p.m. Junior golf activities at the practice facility (golf clinic and chipping challenge)

2:30 p.m. Junior golf activities on the lawn in Spectator Square (various activities run by The First Tee; First Green; Drive, Chip & Putt; and LPGA-USGA Girls Golf)

#### **Monday, June 15**

9 a.m. "Outside-the-Ropes" Media Preview in the USGA Partner Village (sneak peek at the American Express Championship Experience, Lexus Performance Drive Pavilion and local culinary offerings)

#### **Tuesday, June 16**

3 p.m. Media Q&A with 2015 Bob Jones Award recipient, Barbara Nicklaus, in the Media Center (interview opportunities: Barbara and Jack Nicklaus)

5 p.m. Red Carpet photo opportunity at the Bob Jones Award Ceremony, located at the Museum of Glass (1801 Dock St, Tacoma)

#### **Wednesday, June 17**

5 p.m. "Open For All™" Fan Programming and Community Activities at South Lake Union Park (near downtown Seattle (sneak peek of experiential fan activities))



[usopen.com](http://usopen.com) | [@USOpenGolf](https://twitter.com/USOpenGolf) | [#USOpen](https://www.facebook.com/USOpen) | [#USGA](https://www.youtube.com/USGA)

### **Pre-Championship Interview and Meeting Schedule**

*\*Times (PDT) are subject to change, and you will be notified via email about time changes.*

*\*All interviews will take place in the Media Center unless otherwise noted.*

#### **Monday, June 15**

- 12:30 p.m. Lee Janzen
- 1 p.m. Ryan Moore
- 2:30 p.m. Jason Day
- 3 p.m. Jordan Spieth
- 3:30 p.m. Photography Meeting
- 4 p.m. Architecture Forum (featured speakers: USGA Executive Director Mike Davis; Chambers Bay course architect Robert Trent Jones Jr.)

#### **Tuesday, June 16**

- 9 a.m. Cole Hammer (15-year-old)
- 10 a.m. Rory McIlroy
- 10:30 a.m. Michael Putnam
- 11 a.m. Tiger Woods
- 12:30 p.m. Graeme McDowell
- 1 p.m. Martin Kaymer
- 1:30 p.m. Henrik Stenson
- 2 p.m. Rickie Fowler
- 2:30 p.m. Phil Mickelson
- 3 p.m. Barbara and Jack Nicklaus (will speak about Barbara receiving the Bob Jones Award)

#### **Wednesday, June 17**

- 10 a.m. GWAA meeting
- 11 a.m. USGA news conference (featured speakers: USGA Executive Director Mike Davis; USGA President Thomas J. O'Toole Jr; USGA Vice President Diana Murphy)
- 12:30 p.m. Justin Rose
- 1 p.m. Media operations walk through (open to all credentialed media, attendance is highly encouraged)

#### **Thursday, June 18**

- Noon Gary Player (will take place in the Flash Area; Player is celebrating the 50th anniversary of his 1965 U.S. Open win)



### **Television/Radio Schedule**

*The 2015 U.S. Open will be televised in approximately 180 countries. Here is the broadcast schedule in the United States, all times PDT:*

#### **Friday, June 12**

2 p.m.-3 p.m. Groupings – Fox Sports 1

#### **Sunday, June 14**

7 p.m.-8 p.m. Drive to the Open – Fox Sports 1

#### **Tuesday, June 16**

12:30 p.m.-1 p.m. Preview – Fox Sports 1

#### **Wednesday, June 17**

9 a.m.-10 a.m. Preview – Fox Sports 1

10 a.m.-noon Wednesday at the Open – Fox Sports 1

#### **Thursday, June 18**

9 a.m.-5 p.m. First Round – Fox Sports 1

10 a.m.-8 p.m. First Round – Sirius Channel 208 / XM Channel 93

5 p.m.-8 p.m. First Round – Fox

#### **Friday, June 19**

5 a.m.-8 a.m. First Round (re-air) – Fox Sports 1

9 a.m.-5 p.m. Second Round – Fox Sports 1

10 a.m.-8 p.m. Second Round – Sirius Channel 208 / XM Channel 93

5 p.m.-8 p.m. Second Round – Fox

#### **Saturday, June 20**

7 a.m.-10 a.m. Second Round (re-air) – Fox Sports 1

11 a.m.-7 p.m. Third Round – Fox and Sirius Channel 208 / XM Channel 93

4 p.m.-7 p.m. Third Round – Fox Deportes

#### **Sunday, June 21**

6 a.m.-9 a.m. Third Round (re-air) – Fox Sports 1

11 a.m.-7:30 p.m. Final Round – Fox

11 a.m.-8 p.m. Final Round – Sirius Channel 208 / XM Channel 93

4:30 p.m.-7:30 p.m. Final Round – Fox Deportes

#### **Monday, June 22**

6 a.m.-9 a.m. Final Round (re-air) – Fox Sports 1

*\*If needed, an 18-hole playoff is scheduled for Monday, June 22. The playoff, slated to start at noon PDT, will air live on Fox.*



## **Media Center Information**

### **Office phone numbers**

U.S. Open Media Center: (253) 880-3764

U.S. Open Championship Office: (253) 883-3433

### **Media mobile device policy**

Since mobile devices are essential journalistic tools, accredited media will be allowed to bring mobile devices into the Media Center. However, media will be asked to follow the general spectator guidelines for usage and protocols on the golf course,\* with the following modifications and important reminders:

- Phone calls away from play only
- Silent mode, NOT vibrate
- No photography while near play
- No video
- Social media encouraged, but no play-by-play or activity that competes with live scoring
- Texting or emailing allowed for coverage/business needs

*\*General spectator mobile device policy: Spectators may carry mobile devices smaller than 7" in length and/or height including cellphones, smartphones and PDAs. All device volume controls must be set to "silent" or "vibrate" at all times. Phone calls must be received or placed only in designated "Phone Zones" located around the golf course. Phone calls must not be received or placed in any area that may disrupt play, including grandstands. Use of approved devices for photographs must fall within the camera/photography policy. Video and audio recording or video streaming are not permitted at any time with any device. Texting and email are permissible throughout all areas of the golf course but should NOT disrupt players. Violation of any of the terms herein may result in immediate expulsion and loss of ticket privileges for the remainder of the championship.*

### **Media registration**

Media credentials and parking passes, if applicable, will be available for pickup in the Media Center starting at 8 a.m. (PDT) on Sunday, June 14. USGA staff and the 'Minnesota 10' volunteer group will be glad to assist. Bag tags and equipment stickers will be provided at registration. *On Thursday, June 11 through Sunday, June 14 only, please park in the designated pre-championship lot. From the parking lot, there will be a shuttle that drops you off at Gate 1, a short walk from the Media Center. Please email Stephanie DiPilla at [sdipilla@usga.org](mailto:sdipilla@usga.org) if you need a parking map and directions.*

Please make sure you have printed your one-day gate pass prior to arriving at Chambers Bay. Your personal one-day gate pass will give you one-day-only access to media parking (Lot F) and the Media Center. Once you arrive at the Media Center, you will exchange your one-day gate pass for a media credential and parking pass, if you were issued one. If you have not yet received your one-day gate pass via email, please check your spam folder. If you still have not received this email, email [sdipilla@usga.org](mailto:sdipilla@usga.org).

### **Prohibited items**

Please remember the prohibited items list will be strictly enforced. Any bags larger than 6"x6"x6" (with the exception of clear/transparent bags no larger than 12" x 12" x 6") will not be permitted without a USGA-approved 'oversized' bag tag and personal luggage-type tag. At registration, USGA staff will provide the required tags, including a laptop sticker. All items will be subject to search prior to entry at any admission gate. Please take great care to keep your bag with you at all times. Any unattended bags, even if an approved tag is displayed, will be removed by law enforcement. Thank you for your understanding and help in keeping the championship a safe and enjoyable experience for all.

### **Media Center (location and functionality)**

The Media Center, located near the Central Meadow and Spectator Square, provides seating for more than 400 journalists along with 30 radio booths. The Media Center will offer high-speed Internet access, a large digital leader board with scoring and video sections at the front of the room, and IPTVs, which will be placed throughout the Media Center, providing enhanced scoring and video options. Additionally, TVs located throughout the Media Center will show live telecasts of the U.S. Open as well as video feeds from the Interview Room and the Flash Area, an outdoor post-round interviewing space. Also included are tents for media workspace, a photography work area, media-only dining and an interview area at the back of the media center.



Local TV affiliates will have access to pooled work spaces within general media seating to edit video. These designated “Local TV Editing” seats will be located in the back right of the Media Center. Feeds from Fox will also be available (details to follow). Local radio stations will also have access to pooled work spaces to edit audio or for broadcasting. Sections of seating in the back right of the Media Center will be designated “Local Radio.”

This Central Meadow location is a short walk from Spectator Square, which includes a large open-deck area with two jumbotrons, concessions, the Main Merchandise Pavilion, USGA Member Clubhouse and corporate partner areas. Spectator Square is located near the main spectator entrance (Gate 1), at the end of the players’ practice range.

### **Photographers’ work area**

The photographers’ work area is adjacent to the Media Center. Those wishing to use the lockers can obtain a combination lock from the registration area.

### **Media dining**

Media dining is located in a tent adjacent to the media work area. A continental breakfast will be available from 5:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., followed by a buffet lunch from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Also, afternoon snacks will be available from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m., except for Thursday through Sunday, when they will be available from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.

### **Interview areas**

The main interview area is located within the Media Center, adjacent to the media work area. All pre-championship interviews will be conducted in this location, and select players will be interviewed in this area following championship rounds. The Flash Interview Area will be located approximately 75 yards from the back of the Media Center.

Pre-championship interviews on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday of U.S. Open week will be conducted in the Main Interview Room. During competition, leaders will be asked to visit both the Flash Area and Interview Room. However, you should expect that the majority of interviews will be conducted *only* in the Flash Area, so you should seek USGA staff or volunteers so requests can be made to the players as they depart the scoring area.

Audio and video of the interviews can be requested from the Event Cable and Sound AV technicians in the Media Center, and transcriptions of all Media Center and Flash Area podium interviews will be available through ASAP Sports. Interview transcripts with players and key personnel can be accessed anytime at [asaptext.com/usga/media/us\\_open\\_2015](http://asaptext.com/usga/media/us_open_2015) (username: usgamedia; password: usopen2015).

Flash Area assistants will assist with player interview requests. These assistants include Steve Merrill, Skip and Trip Foreman, Bob Condrón and Rob Boulware, as well as the following locals: Kacie Bray with the Washington State/Pacific Northwest Golf Association; Nick Dawson of Evergreen State sports information; Lane Gammel from the Seattle Seahawks communications team; and Gregor Walz of the University of Puget Sound sports information department. Additionally, Jamie Kennedy and Paul Symes from the PGA European Tour will assist.

### **Media services**

All information regarding the U.S. Open will be available at [usopen.com](http://usopen.com) or [usga.org/media.html](http://usga.org/media.html). Additionally, Pierce County has built an online media tip sheet providing stories from around Puget Sound, which can be accessed at [mediatips.co.pierce.wa.us](http://mediatips.co.pierce.wa.us).

The official 2015 U.S. Open hashtags are **#USOpen** and **#USGA**. You can also follow along via the official 2015 U.S. Open mobile app, which will go live Friday, June 12. The app is an on-the-go resource with an interactive course map, practice round starting times, player locator, real-time analytics, push notifications and other features.

The 2015 USGA Media Guide and 2015 U.S. Open Players’ Guide are available to download at [usga.org/media.html](http://usga.org/media.html). Limited print quantities will be available in the Media Center. Several terminals located throughout the Media Center will have Media Guide links and will be connected to printers. Photo lightboxes (for electronic download) will be available starting on Monday, June 15. Please contact the USGA registration area for more information.

Media working on-site at Chambers Bay will be emailed regularly throughout the championship with up-to-date information, such as a fact sheet, groupings and starting times, interview transcripts, hole locations, weather, notes, etc. Also, Travel Tacoma is providing a media concierge service with local information such as restaurant recommendations



and where to get a haircut. To utilize the service, call (253) 284-3269 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday-Friday. Voicemails will be returned within 24 hours.

### **Media shuttles from Best Western Plus Tacoma Dome**

Parking passes will not be issued for media staying at the Best Western Plus Tacoma Dome. Instead, a shuttle service will be provided to and from the golf course starting Monday, June 15. These shuttles will run from the hotel to Gate 13 (Central Meadow) between 4:30 a.m. and 11 p.m. each day. The ride will take between 20-25 minutes.

### **Directions to local media parking (Lot F)**

Those with parking passes for the Media Lot should follow the directions link on the One-Day Gate Pass. It is approximately a five-minute walk from the parking lot to Gate 3. After arriving at Gate 3, you will go through security screening before boarding a three-minute internal shuttle to the Central Meadow.

As previously mentioned, if you are coming to the Media Center on Sunday, June 14, please park in the designated pre-championship lots. You will then take a shuttle from the lot to Gate 1, which is a short walk to the Media Center.

### **Inside-the-ropes access**

Roping on the Chambers Bay course was designed to ensure spectator safety on the dunes and hilly terrain. Due to the rising dunes and large bunker complexes, the course cannot be roped like past U.S. Opens, in which the ropes were placed along fairways, providing spectators close and intimate sightlines to play and appropriately credentialed media were typically granted one arm's length, inside-the-ropes access. In order to preserve high-quality playing conditions on the fine fescue grass of Chambers Bay, the number of media who can walk the course inside the ropes will be limited. Inside-the-ropes access will be designated by yellow, numbered lanyards, which will be delivered on-site at the discretion of the USGA.

To accommodate a pleasant viewing experience for all, there will be 18,000 bleacher seats available for spectators. Also, designated media-only viewing areas, which will be monitored by marshals, will be located at 16 positions on the course. Courtesy dictates that photographers have access to the front row. A walking map with specific directions will be reviewed during the early part of Open week.

### **Championship trophy ceremony procedures**

There are procedures in place to secure the area around the 18th green for the post-championship trophy ceremony. As a result, a very limited number of special 72nd-hole ceremony badges will be distributed to allow access to the green. Inside-the-ropes lanyards will not allow access to this area after an appointed hour, which will be determined and announced by the USGA prior to the final round. Please stay tuned for more information later in the week regarding the procedures for that ceremony.

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### **USGA media contacts**

#### Championship/competition (inside-the-ropes)

Pete Kowalski, [pkowalski@usga.org](mailto:pkowalski@usga.org), (908) 216-8435

Brian DePasquale, [bdepasquale@usga.org](mailto:bdepasquale@usga.org), (908) 655-8395

#### Non-championship (outside-the-ropes)

Janeen Driscoll, [jdriscoll@usga.org](mailto:jdriscoll@usga.org), (910) 690-9711

Jeff Altstadter, [jaltstadter@usga.org](mailto:jaltstadter@usga.org), (973) 908-9991

### **Other on-site USGA communications staff**

Senior Director of Communications – Adam Barr

Championship Communications – Stephanie DiPilla, Christina Lance, Vanessa Zink

Digital/Multimedia/Social – Ron Driscoll, Joey Flyntz, Scott Lipsky, Greg Midland, David Shefter, Jonathan Wilhelm

Creative Services – Kim Barney, John Mummert, Rob Rabena

