



May 26, 2017

Dear U.S Open Player:

It is hard to believe that the 2017 U.S. Open Championship is only three weeks away. For the first time in history, the USGA is looking forward to heading to Wisconsin and Erin Hills. We wanted to take this opportunity to share some important information with regard to the prize money for the 2017 U.S. Open Championship and its distribution. First, the USGA is pleased to confirm that the total prize money for the U.S. Open will be \$12 million, a two million dollar increase from last year. The U.S. Open Champion will now receive \$2.16 million. The USGA is also pleased to increase the amount we pay any professional who fails to make the cut to \$10,000.

The USGA will continue with the 2016 modification of the allocation of prize money when amateurs make the cut at the U.S. Open. If an amateur player wins the championship, the first place money will be redistributed proportionally to the professionals who return a 72-hole score. The USGA feels that this is an appropriate modification of the prize money distribution policy as the runner-up would not have won the championship. If amateurs finish in both first and second places, the sum of the prize monies allocated to those positions will be redistributed to the professionals who return a 72-hole score. All other amateur finishes will result in the prize money being awarded to the professional in the next position, including if an amateur is runner-up to a professional champion.

In 2017, the USGA is excited to begin offering financial assistance to amateurs competing in the U.S. Open. This financial assistance will not be taken from the championship's prize money, the total purse of \$12M will be entirely distributed to the professionals in the field.

Finally, beginning in 2017, we are excited to be able to offer the opportunity for prize money to be sent via direct deposit or wire transfer in addition to having checks mailed to you. It is an IRS requirement that all professionals must complete the U.S. Open Prize Money Payment Information Form where you can also select your preferred money distribution method. It is a State of Wisconsin requirement that the USGA withhold 6% of a player's total gross compensation from nonresidents of the state for prize money exceeding \$7,000. This applies to individuals as well as corporations and the USGA will send form WT-11 to the state and the player. The U.S. Open Prize Money form is available at:

<https://register.usga.org/userlogin.aspx?evntID=1973>

Event code: 2017

In order to reduce your on-site player registration time at Erin Hills, we would appreciate if you would complete the sheet on-line as soon as possible. If you have any questions about the form, please contact the U.S. Open Player Services Office at 908-748-4770.

On behalf of the USGA, we look forward to seeing you at Erin Hills in June for the 2017 U.S. Open Championship.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Robbie Zalzneck".

Robbie Zalzneck  
Director, U.S. Open Player Services