

PLAYER PRIVATE HOUSING

A U.S. Amateur tradition is for local families to host players. Players stay with host families to save money on hotel rooms and to meet more people in the local area. The chart below shows how many players and guests were accommodated at recent U.S. Amateur Championships:

Year	Players Private Housing
2009	45
2010	54
2011	60
2012	75
2013	53
2014	44
2015	32 homes - 39 players
2016	45 homes - 55 players
2017	26 homes - 36 players
2018	15 homes – 18 players
2019	27 homes - 28 players

Requests for private housing will be made on the Player Pre-Registration online form. Placement of the players should be handled on a first-come, first-served basis. We ask each Host Club to please have two or three families on stand-by for alternates who are accepted in the field at the last minute. The following are various guidelines to assist both the host family and the player:

- Private housing will be provided from Thursday (before Practice Rounds) through Sunday (Championship Round). **Note: Player will be informed in the Player Memorandum that once they are eliminated from the championship, they should try to depart the private housing within 24 hours.**
- Private housing is provided for the player and at maximum one family member or guest. The first priority is to accommodate players. The USGA would appreciate if the Host Club could try to identify a few local homes where a player and his guest could stay together; keeping in mind that sometimes the accompanying family member or guest may be a female. Once assigned to a house, a player may not switch houses (unless unusual circumstances prevail). In the case where a host family is willing to house more than one player, the club will do its best to assign players who ask to room together.
- The host family is responsible for player transportation to and from the course during practice rounds and on competition days. The host family should also help with transportation to social events (USGA Players' Reception or club functions).
- The host family should realize that the range of players' ages varies.
- The host family is responsible for making meals available to the player when meals are not available at the Host Club.

It is helpful to send the player his host family's name and telephone number before the player arrives for registration. In the past, e-mail and cell phone numbers have been good forms of

communication between the players and their host families before the player arrives. Otherwise, during registration, players requesting private housing should check with the Championship Staff for their host family information. Usually the host family will meet the player at Player Registration.

Host Clubs will usually solicit local families known to the club to serve as hosts for players. The Host Club should develop an introductory letter to give potential host families an idea of the specifics about the program including the bullet points mentioned above. The USGA should review and approve the letter.

If a family would like to proceed with serving as a host, they should complete a form giving specifics about the home, sleeping arrangements, amenities that will be available to the player (cable, internet, etc.) and any other important information. Once a form is completed, the Host Club should make every effort to verify the information provided by the potential host family.

BACKGROUND CHECK INFORMATION

In addition to verifying information about the home, the USGA and the Host Club need to make efforts to ensure that potential host families will provide a safe environment for the player. In the initial introductory letter, the Host Club should let all potential host families know that the club (in conjunction with the USGA) will verify information about the home and will conduct background checks on each resident of the home that is 18 years old or older. The background checks may be conducted by law enforcement officials or the USGA's selected service provider at the USGA's expense. A sample statement is below:

- The USGA and *Host Club* will take steps to provide a safe and secure environment for all players in the U.S. Amateur Championship. As such, before placing a player with a host family, the USGA and *Host Club* will verify information regarding the home and will conduct background checks on each resident of the home that is 18 years old or older. The background checks may be conducted by law enforcement officials or the USGA's selected service provider at the USGA's expense.

The USGA and the Host Club should meet with local law enforcement officials to discuss background checks. If law enforcement officials can conduct the background checks on the host family, all potential host family should acknowledge their understanding of the background check process by signing a release. A sample release specific to law enforcement is attached.

If the law enforcement officials cannot process the background checks, the USGA and Host Club will use the USGA's selected background check service provider at the USGA's expense. A separate release specific to the USGA's provider is attached.

If a resident within the home is a person that appears on State/Federal Sex Offender Registry, the family cannot serve as a host. After assessment of the background check of a resident, if any of the following appears, the family may be excluded from serving as host:

- Felony conviction(s) related to drugs within last seven (7) years.
- Felony conviction(s) related to other offenses within last seven (7) years.
- Misdemeanor conviction(s) related to theft of property, credit card fraud, identification theft, shoplifting and/or assault with a weapon with last seven (7) years.
- Any conviction regardless of felony or misdemeanor for pedophile offenses. (no time limit)

- Individual is listed on registry of a state or federal sex offender list. (no time limit)
- Any history showing a civil rights or hate crime conviction(s). (no time limit)

Law enforcement officials and/or the USGA's selected service provider should review the results of background check for any repeat offenses that by themselves do not warrant exclusion but grouped together show a pattern of behavior that causes concern. The USGA's Chief Security Advisor and/or the lead law enforcement agency have discretion to review the results of the background check as necessary and ultimately exclude someone with history that causes concern, but offenses are not mentioned above.