



USGA Accepts More Than 2,600 Entries for 38th U.S. Senior Open Championship

Twelve past champions scheduled to compete at Salem Country Club

FAR HILLS, N.J. (May 11, 2017) – The United States Golf Association today announced that it has accepted 2,680 entries for the 38th U.S. Senior Open Championship, scheduled for June 29-July 2, 2017 at Salem Country Club in Peabody, Mass. Twelve past champions are among the 83 players who are currently fully exempt into the championship.

“We look forward to bringing the U.S. Senior Open Championship to Salem Country Club for the first time since 2001 and adding another chapter to the club’s storied history,” said Stuart Francis, USGA Championship Committee chairman. “The U.S. Senior Open is considered senior golf’s most coveted championship. The number of entries demonstrates the great interest in competing for the Francis D. Ouimet Memorial Trophy.”

The U.S. Senior Open is open to professional golfers, and amateurs with a Handicap Index® not exceeding 3.4 who are 50 years of age at the start of championship play.

Sectional qualifying will be played over 18 holes at 34 sites across the United States between May 15 and June 12. There are qualifying sites in 27 states, including five in California and three in Florida. In addition, places in the 156-player field are reserved for eligible winners of official PGA Tour and PGA Tour Champions events in the weeks remaining before the 2017 U.S. Senior Open.

The USGA accepted entries from golfers in 48 states, including 81 from Massachusetts, and the District of Columbia, as well as 25 foreign countries. The record for entries was established in 2002, when 3,101 golfers applied to play.

This will be the third U.S. Senior Open in New England and the second at Salem Country Club. Bruce Fleisher won at Salem in 2001, defeating Isao Aoki and Gil Morgan by one stroke. Fleisher, the runner-up in the previous year’s U.S. Senior Open to Hale Irwin, shot a 2-under 68 in the final round. In 1987, Gary Player won by six strokes over Doug Sanders at Brooklawn Country Club in Fairfield, Conn.

Salem Country Club is hosting its sixth USGA championship. Two of the greatest players in golf history have earned the U.S. Women’s Open title at the club. Babe Didrikson Zaharias claimed her third Women’s Open in 1954 while Hollis Stacy also won her third in 1984. Salem also hosted the 1932 U.S. Women’s Amateur (won by Virginia Van Wie) and 1977 U.S. Senior Amateur (won by Dale Morey).

Gene Sauers, the defending champion, and 11 other Senior Open champions are fully exempt from having to qualify for the championship. They are: Olin Browne (2011), Brad Bryant (2007), Roger Chapman (2012), Allen Doyle (2005, 2006), Dave Eichelberger (1999), Hale Irwin (1998,

2000), Peter Jacobsen (2004), Bernhard Langer (2010), Jeff Maggert (2015), Colin Montgomerie (2014), and Kenny Perry (2013).

There are five U.S. Open champions among the 83 exempt players. They are: three-time champion Hale Irwin (1974, 1979, 1990), two-time champion Lee Janzen (1993, 1998), Tom Kite (1992), Corey Pavin (1995) and Tom Watson (1982). There are also nine U.S. Open runners-up entered. They are: Nick Faldo (1988), Miguel Angel Jimenez (2000), Tom Lehman (1996), Rocco Mediate (2008), Colin Montgomerie (1994, 1997, 2006), Loren Roberts (1994), Jeff Sluman (1992), Watson (1983, 1987) and Ian Woosnam (1989).

For the seventh consecutive year, only online entries were accepted, beginning on March 8. Andy Santor, a 52-year-old professional from Youngstown, Ohio, submitted his entry two minutes and 17 seconds before the deadline of 5 p.m. EDT on May 10. Doug Clapp, a 49-year-old amateur (will turn 50 on May 28) from Walpole, Mass., was the first entrant.

More information about the U.S. Senior Open before, during and after the 2017 championship at Salem Country Club can be found at www.usga.org.

The list of the 83 golfers who are fully exempt into the 2017 U.S. Senior Open (as of May 10):

Michael Allen	Tom Kite
Stephen Ames	Barry Lane
Billy Andrade	Bernhard Langer
Tommy Armour III	Tom Lehman
Magnus Atlevi	Steve Lowery
Woody Austin	a-Chip Lutz
Andre Bossert	Jeff Maggert
Paul Broadhurst	Prayad Marksaeng
Olin Browne	Billy Mayfair
Bart Bryant	Scott McCarron
Brad Bryant	a-Michael McCoy
Tom Byrum	Rocco Mediate
Mark Calcavecchia	Colin Montgomerie
Roger Chapman	Gil Morgan
John Cook	Jose Maria Olazabal
Fred Couples	Mark O'Meara
John Daly	Jesper Parnevik
Marco Dawson	Corey Pavin
Allen Doyle	Tom Pernice Jr.
Scott Dunlap	Kenny Perry
Joe Durant	Loren Roberts
Dave Eichelberger	a-Dave Ryan
Bob Estes	Takeshi Sakiyama
Nick Faldo	Gene Sauers
Steve Flesch	Wes Short Jr.
Peter Fowler	Joey Sindelar
Carlos Franco	Vijay Singh

David Frost	Jeff Sluman
Doug Garwood	Jerry Smith
Philip Golding	Steve Stricker
Mike Goodes	a-Matthew Sughrue
Paul Goydos	Kevin Sutherland
Jay Haas	Esteban Toledo
Scott Hoch	David Toms
John Huston	Kirk Triplett
Kohki Idoki	Bob Tway
Hale Irwin	Scott Verplank
Peter Jacobsen	Duffy Waldorf
Lee Janzen	Tom Watson
Miguel Angel Jimenez	Mark Wiebe
Brandt Jobe	Ian Woosnam
Jerry Kelly	

Bold – U.S. Senior Open champion a-amateur