



PAUL DUNNE ACCEPTS SPECIAL EXEMPTION INTO 2015 U.S. AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

FAR HILLS, N.J. (Aug. 3, 2015) – The United States Golf Association announced today that Paul Dunne, 22, of Ireland has accepted a special exemption into the 2015 U.S. Amateur Championship at Olympia Fields (Ill.) Country Club. The 115th U.S. Amateur will be contested Aug. 17-23.

“Paul Dunne demonstrated his ability to compete with anyone by his outstanding play in the recent British Open at St. Andrews,” said Diana M. Murphy, chairman of the USGA’s Championship Committee. “The USGA is pleased that he will be joining the strong international field of 312 players in the U.S. Amateur, our oldest national championship, at Olympia Fields.”

Dunne, of Dublin, shot a third-round 66 to share the 54-hole lead of the 2015 British Open Championship with Jason Day and Louis Oosthuizen. A recent graduate of the University of Alabama-Birmingham, Dunne played in the final pairing of the fourth round with Oosthuizen. Dunne also played in the 2014 British Open, but missed the cut.

At UAB, Dunne was named Conference USA Player of the Year in 2014. He finished fifth in the 2015 NCAA Men’s Division I Golf Championship and earned third-team All-America honors.

Dunne is the first amateur to share the 54-hole lead at the British Open since Bob Jones in 1927. He finished at 6 under par, in a tie for 30th place. He is 38th in the current World Amateur Golf Ranking™ (having moved up from No. 80) and he represented Ireland in the 2014 World Amateur Team Championship.

He will be competing in his first USGA championship.

For tickets and additional information on the U.S. Amateur, the oldest golf championship in the United States, visit www.2015usamateurl.com.

About the USGA

The USGA conducts the U.S. Open, U.S. Women’s Open and U.S. Senior Open, as well as 10 national amateur championships, two state team championships and international matches, attracting players and fans from more than 160 countries. Together with The R&A, the USGA governs the game worldwide, jointly administering the Rules of Golf, Rules of Amateur Status, equipment standards and World Amateur Golf Rankings. The USGA’s reach is global with a working jurisdiction in the United States, its territories and Mexico, serving more than 25 million golfers and actively engaging 150 golf associations.

The USGA is one of the world’s foremost authorities on research, development and support of sustainable golf course management practices. It serves as a primary steward for the game’s history and invests in the development of the game through the delivery of its services and its ongoing “For the Good of the Game” grants program. Additionally, the USGA’s Course Rating and Handicap systems are used on six continents in more than 50 countries.

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

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