



## **Record Entries Accepted for 2015 U.S. Women's Open**

FAR HILLS, N.J. (May 11, 2015) – The United States Golf Association (USGA) has accepted a record 1,873 entries for the 2015 U.S. Women's Open Championship at Lancaster (Pa.) Country Club.

The 1,873 entries for the 2015 championship surpasses the previous mark of 1,702 set in 2014 at Pinehurst Resort and Country Club's Course No. 2 in the Village of Pinehurst, N.C. It also marks the ninth time since 2004 that the championship has accepted a record number of entries. Among this year's total are 96 fully exempt players, including 11 Women's Open champions.

"The United States Golf Association is proud to again have accepted record entries for the U.S. Women's Open, which is an indicator of the growing strength of and interest in the women's game," said Diana Murphy, USGA vice president and chairman of the Championship Committee. "We have received tremendous support for this championship from Lancaster Country Club, as well as the residents and businesses in the greater Lancaster area. We look forward to bringing the championship, the pinnacle of women's golf, to this classic course."

To be eligible for the U.S. Women's Open, a player must have a Handicap Index® not exceeding 2.4, or be a professional. Sectional qualifying will be conducted over 36 holes between May 9 and June 15. Qualifying will be held at 21 sites in the United States, as well as four international sites, in the People's Republic of China, England, the Republic of Korea and Japan.

Michelle Wie, who captured the 2014 U.S. Women's Open, is one of 11 fully exempt champions. Wie is joined by Na Yeon Choi (2012), Paula Creamer (2010), Laura Davies (1987), Eun-Hee Ji (2009), Cristie Kerr (2007), Birdie Kim (2005), Se Ri Pak (1998), Inbee Park (2008, 2013), So Yeon Ryu (2011) and Karrie Webb (2000, 2001). Twenty-five of the exempt players have combined to win 31 USGA championships, including four of the last five U.S. Women's Amateurs – Kristen Gillman (2014), world No. 1 Lydia Ko (2012) and Danielle Kang (2010, 2011).

The USGA accepted entries for the 70th U.S. Women's Open from golfers in 49 states (all except Maine) and 54 foreign countries. Of the United States entries, California had the most with 294, followed by Florida with 275 and Texas with 143. Of the foreign entries, 191 were received from Japanese players, followed by Korea with 94 and Canada with 61. For the second consecutive year, 10-year-old Alexa Pano, of Lake Worth, Fla., was the championship's youngest entrant. The oldest entrant is Debby Pinnell, 64, of Leland, N.C.

Sally Watson, a professional from Scotland who played on the 2008 and 2010 Great Britain and Ireland Curtis Cup Teams, was the first applicant when entries opened on Wednesday, March 4. Amateur Lauren Atkinson, of Bow, Wash., submitted the championship's final entry approximately six minutes before entries closed on Wednesday, May 6.

There are still several ways for players to gain an exemption into the U.S. Women's Open. The winner of the 2015 KPMG Women's PGA Championship and any other LPGA co-sponsored events prior to the start of the U.S. Women's Open will earn exemptions. Additionally, the top 50 point leaders and ties from the Rolex Rankings as of July 5 will be added to the exempt list, provided they were not previously exempt into the championship.

More information about the U.S. Women's Open before, during and after the 2015 championship is available at [uswomensopen.com](http://uswomensopen.com).

The following 96 golfers are fully exempt into the 2015 U.S. Women's Open (as of May 6):

Sun Ju Ahn	<b>Cristie Kerr</b>	Haru Nomura
Marina Alex	<b>Birdie Kim</b>	Anna Nordqvist
Q Baek	Christina Kim	Ji-Young Oh
Dori Carter	Hyo Joo Kim	Lee-Anne Pace
Chella Choi	I.K. Kim	<b>Se Ri Pak</b>
<b>Na Yeon Choi</b>	Sei Young Kim	Yanhong Pan
In Gee Chun	Katherine Kirk	Hee Young Park
Carlota Ciganda	Lydia Ko	<b>Inbee Park</b>
<b>Paula Creamer</b>	Jessica Korda	Suzann Pettersen
<b>Laura Davies</b>	Candie Kung	Pornanong Phatlum
Laura Diaz	Brittany Lang	Gerina Piller
Austin Ernst	Ilhee Lee	Morgan Pressel
Shanshan Feng	Jung Min Lee	Beatriz Recari
Sandra Gal	Meena Lee	<b>So Yeon Ryu</b>
a-Kristen Gillman	Mi Hyang Lee	Lizette Salas
Julieta Granada	Mirim Lee	Dewi Claire Schreefel
Mina Harigae	Amelia Lewis	Jodi Ewart Shadoff
Caroline Hedwall	Stacy Lewis	Jenny Shin
Brooke Henderson	Xiju Lin	Sarah-Jane Smith
Yoon Kyung Heo	Brittany Lincicome	Angela Stanford
Charley Hull	Pernilla Lindberg	Thidapa Suwannapura
Mi Jung Hur	Babe Liu	Kris Tamulis
Karine Icher	Teresa Lu	Lexi Thompson
Ha Na Jang	Mo Martin	Yani Tseng

<b>Eun-Hee Ji</b>	Caroline Masson	Ayako Uehara
Tiffany Joh	Catriona Matthew	Mariajo Uribe
Jennifer Johnson	Stephanie Meadow	Line Vedel
Ariya Jutanugarn	Sydnee Michaels	<b>Karrie Webb</b>
Moriya Jutanugarn	Belen Mozo	<b>Michelle Wie</b>
Danielle Kang	Azahara Munoz	Amy Yang
Haeji Kang	Misuzu Narita	Sakura Yokomine
Kim Kaufman	Gwladys Nocera	Sun Young Yoo

**Bold** – U.S. Women's Open champion  
a-amateur