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2010 U.S. Women's OPEN PREVIEW



Where energy meets innovation.

Oakmont July 5-11 2010

BY LAUREN KIRSCHMAN

The Oakmont Country Club has hosted 20 major golf championships, more than any other course in the United States. When the U.S. Women's Open comes to Oakmont July 5-11, it will make number 21.

This year marks the second time Oakmont has hosted the U.S. Women's Open. The last occasion was in 1992, when Patty Sheehan became the first woman to win the U.S. Women's Open and the British Women's Open in the same year.

Oakmont has also hosted a record eight U.S. Opens, three PGA Championships, five U.S. Amateurs, and three National Intercollegiate Championships.

A record 1,296 entries were submitted by golfers from almost 50 countries, ranging from 10 to 64 years old, for a shot to play in this year's Women's Open. Sixty-eight players are exempt from qualifying. Those who are not exempt started playing for spots at 20 sites on May 17 with the qualifying rounds running through June 3.

Eun-Hee Ji will come to Pittsburgh attempting to become the first repeat-

champion of the U.S. Women's Open since Karrie Webb in 2000-01. Last year, Ji shot a 71 in the final round at Saucon Valley Country Club in Bethlehem, PA, to finish at even par. She defeated Candie Kung (+1) and Cristie Kerr (+2).

Kerr is playing great golf entering this year's Open, currently ranked fifth in the Rolex World Golf Rankings. She has four top ten finishes in 2010, including a tie for fifth at the Kraft Nabisco Championship and a season-high second place finish at the HSBC Women's Champions.

South Korea's Jiyai Shin, however, is the number one ranked player in the world. She has three top ten victories in five starts this season. Shin tied for third at the HSBC Women's Champions and the KIA Classic. She became the first South Korean to top the women's money list last year, when she also finished tied for 13th in the '09 U.S. Women's Open.

But it's Ai Miyazato, the second ranked player in the world, who is possibly playing the best golf of any player on the LPGA tour this season. She'll enter the Open as one of the favorites to win.

Miyazato has three victories in six starts this season, with first place finishes in the



Honda PTT LPGA Thailand, the HSBC Women's Champions, and the Tres Marias Championship. Last season, she finished tied for sixth in the U.S. Women's Open.

Yani Tseng took home the first major of the 2010 season with a victory in April's Kraft Nabisco Championship and will look to add another at the U.S. Women's Open. She finished at -13 in the Kraft Nabisco Championship in Rancho Mirage,

California, defeating Suzann Pettersen by one stroke.

Pettersen is ranked third in the world. Her finish in the Kraft Nabisco was her third runner-up performance this season and her fourth top ten finish. She tied for sixth at the U.S. Women's Open in 2009.

Keeping Score

Practice rounds July 5-7

Tournament July 8-11

72-hole stroke play

Cut: Low 60 and ties, plus anyone within 10 strokes of the leader after the second round



LPGA All-Time Major Winners

1. Patty Berg (15)
2. Mickey Wright (13)
3. Louise Suggs (11)
4. Annika Sorenstam (10)
5. Babe Zaharias (10)
6. Betsy Rawls (8)

Previous U.S. Women's Open at Oakmont

1992: Won by Patty Sheehan

- The last event Oakmont hosted was the 2007 U.S. Open, when Angel Cabrera became the first Argentinean to win the event.
- Oakmont was founded 1903 by H.C. Fownes, who wanted to build a harder course than any other in the area. It was the first and only course that Fownes ever designed and became the prototype "penal" golf course.
- A penal golf course, unlike a strategic golf course, doesn't give players more than one route to a hole.
- The original course was finished before the concept of "par" existed, but it translated into a par 80 with 1 par 6, 8 par 5s, 7 par 4s, and two par 3s.
- Today, Oakmont Country Club is a National Historic Landmark.
- Golf Digest ranks Oakmont fifth among America's top courses.

Where energy meets responsibility.

