

Hello Golfers!

The 2015 golf season is just about here. The United States Blind Golf Association (USBGA) is pleased to announce the 2015 ISPS Handa US Blind Golf Open Championship will be held August 15-19 at the City Club Marietta in Marietta, Georgia.

The entry fee of \$150 will be used to pay for four nights at the Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Hotel and Conference Center, three rounds of golf including range balls each round, breakfast each day, lunch on the course on Monday and Tuesday, welcome reception with dinner at the club house on Sunday and Awards Banquet at the hotel after completion of play on Tuesday.

Players should plan to arrive on Saturday, August 15 and depart on Wednesday, August 19. Transportation to and from the airport is being worked out and will be announced later. Players and coaches wishing to rent cars should plan on doing so at the airport. The hotel and golf course are on the same property, so transportation to the course each day is not necessary.

On Sunday, August 16, the USBGA will hold its Annual General Meeting (AGM) from 8:30 AM-10:30 AM in the Sanford Room at the hotel. All USBGA members and coaches are asked to attend. Breakfast will be served at Hamilton's Restaurant in the hotel starting at 6:00 AM. The practice round will also be held on Sunday, August 16 starting at 12 PM. Players will be able to schedule tee times after 12 noon on August 9 by calling the pro shop at 770-794-5611. Coaches wishing to play will be charged a \$20 fee which will need to be paid to the pro shop on Sunday. The Welcome Reception will be held at the clubhouse at 7:30 PM with the Players-Coaches Meeting following dinner. We anticipate conducting the youth golf clinic Sunday afternoon with the time and location to be announced later.

The first day of competition will be Monday, August 17 beginning at 8:00 AM at the first tee. Breakfast will be served at Hamilton's Restaurant in the hotel starting at 6 AM, a box lunch will be given out on the course and players will be on their own for dinner at this point.

The final day of the tournament will be held on Tuesday, August 18 with tee times beginning at 8:00 AM at the first tee. Breakfast will be served at Hamilton's Restaurant in the hotel starting at 6:00 AM and lunch will again be given out on the course. The Awards Banquet will be held at 7:30 PM in the Sanford Room at the hotel and jacket and tie for men and dress or pant suit for women will be required.

Air Travel:

Atlanta Hartsfield Jackson International Airport (ATL) will be the airport to use. This airport is approximately 45 minutes from the hotel. Flights are available from almost anywhere in the world.

Hotel:

The Hilton Atlanta/Marietta Hotel and Conference Center is located in Marietta Georgia. The address is 500 Powder Springs Street, Marietta, GA 30064. The phone number is: 770-427-2500 and website: www.AtlantaMarietta.hilton.com. Players wanting additional days at the hotel can

make those arrangements and the room rate will be \$119 per evening with breakfast for 2 included in the price.

Golf Course:

City Club Marietta is located on the same property as the hotel in Marietta Georgia. The phone number is: 770-794-5611 and the E-mail is: proshop@mariettaga.gov. Players and coaches will not need transportation between the hotel and golf course.

Ground Transportation:

Transportation is being arranged and will be announced later.

As in previous USBGA and IBGA tournaments, the USGA and R&A Rules of Golf and the Modifications of the Rules of Golf for Golfers with Disabilities will be followed. Players must have an IBGA handicap to participate in this Open Championship. All B1 participants will be required to wear blackout glasses, so please bring your own pair of sunglasses and blackout material will be available.

We are very excited to host the Championship in Atlanta and the local community is embracing the organization as planning the event grows. We look forward to having everyone who attended in Rhode Island and hope that with scheduling and ease of access we will have many more IBGA golfers attend.

Please call Jim Baker, USBGA President at 615-679-9629 or Alan Hooper, Tournament CO-Director at 404-259-1917 or Greg Hooper, Tournament CO-Director at 770-855-4057 with any questions.

Respectfully,

Jim Baker, USBGA President
Alan Hooper USBGA Board Member

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