

# The 2008 US PGA Championship Factsheet

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Everything you need to know about the 2008 US PGA Championship at Oakland Hills Country Club

Card of the Course			Oakland Hills Country Club	US PGA	
Hole	Yards	Par	<p>Oakland Hills Country Club is in Bloomfield Hills, Oakland County, Michigan</p> <p>2008 is the third time Oakland Hills has hosted the US PGA Championship. The previous Oakland champions are Gary Player (1972) and David Graham (1979).</p> <p>Oakland Hills has also hosted the US Open (six times), the US Senior Open (twice), the US amateur and the 2004 staging of the Ryder Cup when Bernhard Langer's Europe defeated Hal Sutton's USA.</p> <p>Oakland Hills opened with a bang in July 1918. The course was designed by Donald Ross (the top course architect of the time) and it employed the great Walter Hagan as its first professional.</p> <p>Hagan's professional's shop was, literally, a chicken coop - a reminder of the course's past as farmland.</p> <p>The 'Walk of Champions': boulders bearing plaques commemorating golfing greats line the first tee.</p> <p>A far cry from Walt's chicken coop: in 1999 work began on a \$16.25 million renovation of the club. The clubhouse, pro shop and bag room were all renovated.</p>	<b>2007 US PGA, Southern Hills, Tulsa</b>	
1	435	4		<b>Player</b>	<b>Total</b>
2	529	5		<b>Woods</b>	<b>272</b>
3	198	3		Austin	274
4	446	4		Els	275
5	490	4		Senden	279
6	387	4		Oberholser	279
7	449	4		<b>Last Ten Champions</b>	
8	491	4		2007 - Tiger Woods	
9	257	3		2006 - Tiger Woods	
<b>Out</b>	<b>3682</b>	<b>35</b>		2005 - Phil Mickelson	
10	462	4		2004 - Vijay Singh	
11	423	4		2003 - Shaun Micheel	
12	593	5		2002 - Rich Beem	
13	191	3		2001 - David Toms	
14	501	4		2000 - Tiger Woods	
15	401	4		1999 - Tiger Woods	
16	406	4		1998 - Vijay Singh	
17	238	3		<b>International Winners</b>	
18	498	4	78 of the 89 previous championships have been won by US golfers. The international champions are:		
<b>In</b>	<b>3713</b>	<b>35</b>	1947 - Jim Ferrier (Aus)		
<b>Total</b>	<b>7395</b>	<b>70</b>	1962 - Gary Player (RSA)		
<b>Monster</b>			1972 - Gary Player (RSA)		
Oakland became known as "The Monster" in 1951. Ben Hogan shot a 67 to win the US Open and said: "I am glad I brought this course, this monster, to its knees." Hogan called it the toughest test on the greatest course in golf.			1979 - David Graham (Aus)		
			1990 - Wayne Grady (Aus)		
			1992 - Nick Price (Zim)		
			1994 - Nick Price (Zim)		
			1995- Steve Elkington (Aus)		
			1998 - Vijay Singh (Fij)		
			2004 - Vijay Singh (Fij)		

## A Stroke of Luck?

*Until 1958 the US PGA Championship was a match play event. By the late 50's, however, TV was getting involved with golf and the producers preferred the excitement of stroke play - with all the viewers favourites involved on the final day. The switch was made and the tournament began to make its mark as a major.*

*The last matchplay winner was Lionel Herbert who beat Dow Finsterwald in the final. Finsterwald became the first strokeplay winner the following year.*

## US PGA Numbers

90 - The 90th playing of the tournament and the 90th birthday of Oakland Hills

5 - Walter Hagan and Jack Nicklaus won the tournament five times. Hagan's wins all came in matchplay. Jack's all came in stroke play

265 - 2001 winner David Toms score was a US PGA record and a record for all majors.

18 - 18 under is the tournament record. Tiger Woods and Bob May managed it in 2000 and Tiger did it again in 2006

11 - Since strokeplay was introduced there have been 11 play offs. Colin Montgomerie, Greg Norman and Tom Watson are amongst the unlucky losers

## A Euro Jinx?

No European has ever won the US PGA.

Colin Montgomerie came close in 1995 before losing in a play off to Steve Elkington.

The UK does have a claim though: the first winner, Jim Barnes, was born in England. Jock Hutchison, champ in 1920, was born in Scotland as was Tommy Armour, winner in 1930.

## Record Time

1922 - Gene Sarazen is the youngest ever winner at just 20 at Flossmoor Country Club.

1927 - Walter Hagan wins his fifth and final US PGA. The 1927 win is his fourth win in a row.

1938 - The biggest matchplay win: Paul Runyan beats Sam Snead 8 and 7 at the Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort.

1947 - Jim Ferrier becomes the first international winner of the championship. He beats Chick Harbert at Plum Hollow Country Club.

1968 - Julius Boros becomes the oldest winner, triumphing at the age of 48 at Pecan Valley Golf Club.

1975 - Bruce Campton's 63 in the second round is a new tournament record. Nine players have since matched this score - including Tiger Woods in the second round in 2007.

1980 - Jack Nicklaus wins his fifth and final US PGA at Rochester, New York. His seven shot winning margin remains a tournament record.

## Glory's Last Shot

As the final major of the season the US PGA has become known as Glory's Last Shot. In 1953, however, it didn't come late enough for Ben Hogan. The US PGA clashed with the Open. Hogan went to the Open and won but was denied the chance of a Grand Slam. Dates were soon changed to stop this happening again.

## Sir Walt

Walter Hagan can have reasonable claim to be the father of both the US PGA and Oakland Hills. He was the dominant factor in the creation of the Professional Golfers Association of America and he was the first professional at Oakland Hills. He was also an incredible golfer. Very much ahead of his time, and a man who enjoyed the good life, he wowed crowds with his skill and showmanship. His rivalry with, the outwardly completely different, Bobby Jones set the stage for modern golf as we know it. Hagan won 11 majors in a stellar career. He once said "I never wanted to be a millionaire, just to live like one." The 90th US PGA is the perfect time to remember this golf giant.

## Where it began...

In January 1916 Walter Hagan and 34 other professionals formed what would become the Professional Golfers Association of America.

At that meeting it was decided to start a national championship and the US PGA was born.

Department store magnate Rodman Wanamaker agreed to fund the tournament and provide a trophy. The Wanamaker Trophy remains the winning prize today.

## Putt for Dough?

What a difference 90 tournaments makes!

In 1916 Jim Barnes won the first event and a prize of \$500 from a total purse of \$2580.

Tiger Woods victory in 2007 netted him the slightly larger sum of \$1.26 million!

## Oakland's Other Winners

Amazingly for a tournament so dominated by America, Oakland's two previous US PGA's have been won by international players (Gary Player and David Graham).

In other major events, however, Oakland has seen the US dominate.

Cyril Walker, Ralph Guldahl, Ben Hogan, Gene Littler, Andy North and Steve Jones have all tasted US Open glory at Oakland Hills.

Ricky Barnes won the 2002 US Amateur Championship.

And in the US Senior Open Arnold Palmer won in 1981 and his old rival Jack Nicklaus matched him in 1991. It's not a bad rollcall for any course!