SHOAL CREEK, Ala. (May 9, 2017) – The United States Golf Association (USGA) today opened volunteer registration for the 73rd U.S. Women's Open Championship at Shoal Creek (Ala.) May 28-June 3, 2018. The U.S. Women's Open is the first and most prestigious championship for female amateur and professional golfers, annually providing the game's ultimate test to 156 of the best players in the world.

The USGA is seeking approximately 2,300 volunteers to fill positions on 19 committees, including marshals, player services, leaderboards and merchandise. Volunteer assignments for these committees occur on a first-come, first-served basis. Interested volunteers should visit www.usga.org/2018womensopen, and click on the "Volunteers" tab, which also provides comprehensive committee descriptions.

All volunteers are required to purchase the volunteer apparel package for \$85. This includes one championship golf shirt, one championship jacket, one championship hat or visor, one water bottle and one volunteer credential valid for all seven (7) days of the championship, as well as complimentary food, snacks and beverages on the days they volunteer. Each volunteer will be asked to complete four (4) five-to six-hour shifts throughout the duration of the championship.

Opened in 1977, Shoal Creek's former owner, the late Hall Thompson, enlisted the help of Jack Nicklaus to deliver on his vision for a timeless classic that would delight generations of club members while also testing the best players in the world. The layout, which consists of 1,550 densely wooded acres located between Oak and Double Oak Mountains in the southern foothills of the Appalachians, recently underwent a renovation and rebuild of all 18 putting greens. This will be the third USGA championship contested at Shoal Creek and the seventh in the state of Alabama.

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 <u>usga.org</u>.

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