

MISCELLANY

The 39th Ryder Cup is being hosted at the 7,668 yard Medinah Country Club in Medinah, IL. It is rare that PGA players play for pride and for country and not for prize money but that is the case for the Ryder Cup.

Although matches began back in 1921 the Ryder Cup officially started in 1927 when the United States team of Walter Hagen, Leo Diegel, Johnny Farrell, Johnny Golden, Bill Mehlhorn, Gene Sarazen, Joe Turnesa and Al Watrous beat the Great Britain team 9 1/2 to 2 1/2 at the Worcester Country Club in Massachusetts.

English seed merchant and entrepreneur Samuel Ryder took up golf after his 50th birthday as a way to relax and get more fresh air. He developed a quick love for the game and through 6 day a week practice sessions quickly became a good player.

Ryder hosted a professional event in 1923 and became familiar with many of the professionals at the time. Later in 1926 as he was appreciating the 1926 unofficial international match conversation led to him donating the Ryder Cup trophy.

The Ryder Cup was originally the United States against Great Britain and then Ireland and in 1979 it became the United States against all of Europe.

The event was cancelled from 1939 to 1945 during World War II however the US team participated in challenge matches against each other to raise fund for the war effort. Ryder Cup matches continued in 1947 and continued in even years until 2001 when the terrorist attacks of September 11th caused a one year delay. Rather than play two years in a row the event has been in even years ever since.

The Medinah Country Club started in the early 1920's as a country retreat for Shriners from Chicago. The club covers 640 acres and has enjoyed a rich history having hosted the 1949, 1975 and 1990 US Opens along with the 1999 and 2006 PGA Championship.

By the late 1920's the Tom Bendelow designed courses had over 1,500 members but hardships from the great depression and War II dropped membership numbers to a point non-Shriners were admitted.



MEDINAH

2012



Hole 5 at Medinah is picture perfect.

Coming Events!

Tues Nov 15th & Wed Nov 16th - WGCSA Golf Turf Symposium @ American Club, Kohler

February 3-5 - GCSAA Golf Tournaments and National Championship, San Diego, CA

February 4-8 - GCSAA National Conference and Golf Industry Show, San Diego, CA

Mar 4,5 - NGLGCSA Educational Conference, Wausau

March 13,14 - Reinders 21st Green Industry Conference, Waukesha Expo Center, Waukesha