

30th PGA Cup – Fact Sheet



PGA



Date: Sept. 16-18, 2022
Site: Foxhills Club & Resort
Surrey, England

Defending Champion: United States of America

U.S. Captain: Suzy Whaley

Great Britain & Ireland Captain: David Russell

Prize Money and Honors

No prize money is awarded to competitors in the PGA Cup. Members of both teams compete solely for their country and their country's right of possession of the Llandudno International Golf Trophy.

Method of Play

Identical to that of the Ryder Cup: match play, including fourball (two-man teams in better ball); foursomes (two-man teams in alternate shot); and singles (18 holes at match play).

Rules and Regulations

Play is governed by the Rules of Golf effective January 2019 and applied by the PGA of America.

2022 U.S. PGA Cup Eligibility

Must be a member of the PGA of America and in good standing. Membership on the 2022 PGA Cup Team will be forfeited should the player subsequently become reclassified as a Tour professional or any other ineligible classification.

United States PGA Cup Team

PGA Honorary President Suzy Whaley of Palm Beach Gardens, Florida, is Captain of the United States Team of PGA Professionals in the 30th PGA Cup. Members of the 2022 United States Team are determined over a two-year points system, based on performances in the 2021 and 2022 PGA Professional Championships; and 2021 and 2022 PGA Championships. The 2022 U.S. Team was completed in May 2022, following the 103rd PGA Championship at Southern Hills Country Club in Tulsa, Oklahoma.

Great Britain & Ireland PGA Cup Team

David Russell, a Golf Course Architect and PGA Professional at Archerfield Links in Scotland, is Captain of the Great Britain & Ireland Team. He has played in over 650 European and Legends Tour events and has five wins on the European Tour. At age 19, he was the youngest player to record a hole-in-one in a major at the 1973 Open Championship at Royal Troon. He served as a Vice Captain at the 2006 Ryder Cup. His son, Chris Russell, a PGA General Manager at Ealing Golf Club, is serving as Vice Captain. The 2022 GB&I PGA Cup Team consists of a team of 10 PGA Members and was determined on cumulative points from placings at the 2021 & 2022 PGA Professional Championships (5 places), the 2022 PGA Play-Offs (3 places), and 2 Captains Picks.

Great Britain & Ireland PGA Cup Team

| PLAYER | COUNTRY | CLUB/FACILITY | PGA CUP EXPERIENCE |
|------------------------|----------|--|-----------------------------------|
| Matthew Cort | England | Beedles Lake Golf Club Leicestershire, England | 2017, '19 (6-3-0) |
| David Higgins | Ireland | Waterville Golf Link, Co.s Kerry, Ireland | 2017 (3-1-1) 2019 Vice Captain |
| Greig Hutcheon | Scotland | Torphins Golf Club Kincardineshire, Scotland | 2013, '17 (3-4-1) |
| Adam Keogh | England | Woodhall Spa Golf Club Lincolnshire, England | Debut |
| Simon Lilly | England | Attached to Wellingborough Golf Club Northamptonshire, England | Debut |
| Ashley Mansell | England | Clevedon Golf Club Somerset, England | Debut |
| Paul McKechnie | Scotland | Braid Hills Golf Range Midlothian, Scotland | Debut |
| James Ruth | England | China Fleet Golf & C.C. Cornwall, England | Debut |
| Simon Thornton | Ireland | Tulfarris Hotel & Golf Resort, Co. Wicklow, Ireland | Debut |
| Daniel Whitby-Smith | England | Drayton Park Golf Club Staffordshire, England | Debut |

United States PGA Cup Team

| PLAYER | HOMETOWN | CLUB/FACILITY | PGA SECTION | PGA CUP EXPERIENCE |
|-------------------------|------------------------------|--|------------------------|--------------------|
| Alex Beach | Stillwater, Minn. | Westchester Country Club Rye, N.Y. | Metropolitan | 2019 (2-2-0) |
| Frank Bensel, Jr. | Jupiter, Fla. | Century Country Club Purchase, N.Y. | Metropolitan | Debut |
| Michael Block | Mission Viejo, California | Arroyo Trabuco Golf Club Mission Viejo, Calif. | Southern California | 2015 (3-1-0) |
| Larkin Gross | Center Cross, Va. | Springfield Golf & C.C. Springfield, Va. | Middle Atlantic | Debut |
| Jared Jones | Houston, Texas | River Oaks Country Club Houston | Southern Texas | Debut |
| Jesse Mueller | Phoenix, Ariz. | Grand Canyon Univ. G.C. Phoenix, Ariz. | Southwest | Debut |
| Ben Polland | Jackson, Wyo. | Shooting Star of Jackson Hole, Teton Village, Wyo. | Rocky Mountain | 2015 (0-3-2) |
| Omar Uresti | Austin, Texas | Onion Creek Club Austin, Texas | Southern Texas | 2015, '17 (4-1-3) |
| Ryan Vermeer | Omaha, Neb. | Happy Hollow Club Omaha, Neb. | Nebraska | 2019 (3-2-0) |
| Wyatt Worthington II | Reynoldsburg, Ohio | The Golf Depot at Central Park Gahanna, Ohio | Southern Ohio | Debut |

The Llandudno International Golf Trophy

The scars of a tumble from long ago are no longer visible under its lid. The Llandudno International Golf Trophy, the prize of the winning team of the PGA Cup, looks as good as new today. You can credit the silversmith, Samuel Pitt & Company near Birmingham, England, for performing a minor facelift on the 82-year-old, 18-pound piece of hardware. Named after one of the largest ports in Wales, the Llandudno Trophy incurred a small dent, which had been carried since World War II on the underside of its lid, until it was finally repaired. However, the legend lives on. First awarded to England in 1939, the trophy was the idea of members of Maesdu Golf Club in Llandudno Conwy County, Wales. It began as the prize to the winning side in the first Home Tournament Series, which featured teams from Ireland, Scotland and Wales. The series was abolished with the outbreak of World War II. Former Great Britain Ryder Cup veteran Percy Alliss (1929, '31, '33, '35, '37), who had served as the captain of England, retired the trophy to his personal collection. The story of that famous dent is linked to World War II, when Germany's relentless bombing missions against Britain reached a crescendo. During one mission to rain havoc upon Southampton and Portsmouth, a German bomber was perilously low on fuel and had to turn its munitions loose on non-targets. One bomb exploded on the first fairway of Ferndown Golf Club near Bournemouth, less than 50 yards from the Alliss' home. The ensuing tremor was so strong that it rumbled through the neighborhood and anything fragile within nearby homes was in peril. "My grandmother (Dorothy) kept the trophy on the mantelpiece," said Master Professional Gary Alliss of Sutton Coldfield, England, who served as Great Britain & Ireland Captain in 2007 and '09. "It tumbled to the floor on its head and caused the dent to the lid. After my parents married in 1953, my mother took on the role of guardian and cleaned that trophy for years." Percy Alliss, who passed away in 1975, ensured that the Llandudno Trophy would be forever secure with the "Home Professionals." In 1972, he and his son, Peter, a former captain of the Professional Golfers' Association, an eight-time Ryder Cup participant and one of the BBC's most popular voices of golf, donated the trophy to The Professional Golfers' Association. The trophy would forever be awarded to the winner of the PGA Cup.

History — A Special Cup for the PGA Professional

The PGA Cup originated in 1973 at Pinehurst (North Carolina) Country Club as an outgrowth of the PGA Professional Championship. Structured after the format of the Ryder Cup, with match-play competition between the U.S. and Europe, the PGA Cup features the top PGA club professionals from both sides of the Atlantic. Competition was held annually until 1984, when both countries agreed to hold this event biennially at alternating sites. Proceeds from the PGA Professional Championship in 1975 at Callaway Gardens, Pine Mountain, Georgia, covered the expenses of the U.S. Team for the first overseas PGA Cup. A pro-am event, held prior to the 1975 PGA Cup, raised \$12,000 and made it possible for the British PGA to stage the competition. Great Britain & Ireland Captain Christy O'Connor Sr., then 51, did his part to keep the event alive, winning the pro-am. The teams began with nine players, but the rosters were expanded to 10 in 1988. Qualification for the United States team is based upon performances in the PGA Professional Championship and the PGA Championship. Since 1973, there have been a combined 313 PGA Professionals, from both teams, who have competed in the PGA Cup. From 1973-88, the European team was comprised of PGA club professionals from Great Britain and Ireland. The format was changed from 1990-94, opening qualifying spots to professionals throughout Europe. The selection process was revised in 1996 to feature only Great Britain & Ireland players.

Longcross Course – Foxhills Club & Resort

Surrounded by Scots pine, beech and silver birch, the Longcross Course at Foxhills is consistently ranked one of the top 100 golf courses in England. Surrounded by Scots pine, beech and silver birch trees, the course is also one of Surrey's top tree-lined golf courses. The course has many different highlights, one of which, the 14th hole stretches 533 yards from the elevated tee and was voted by BBC Radio 5 Live as one of the greatest holes ever played. The front nine starts with a relatively gentle downhill opener and ends with perhaps the hardest hole, a 431-yard par 4 that plays uphill at first and then round to the left to a green set close to the club's driving range and superb short-game practice area. The short par-4 10th may well be in range in certain conditions, with the final approach dropping down to a well-protected green. The par 3 that follows is one of the visual highlights – a little less enclosed than some holes and stretching to 219 yards across a wide dip. The two par 5s coming home are both memorable too, the 14th playing steeply downhill from a launchpad tee, with the left half of the hole slightly obscured, and the 18th then sweeping up and round to the left to a vast double green shared with the last on the Bernard Hunt course. The Foxhills name comes from politician Charles James Fox, who came to live in Surrey in the late 18th

century. Between his death in 1806 and now, the estate passed into various hands before the potential to turn it into a grand golf club and resort was realized in the mid-1970s.

30th PGA Cup Official Yardages – Longcross Course - Foxhills Club & Resort

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Hole | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 |
| Par | 4 | 4 | 4 | 3 | 5 | 3 | 5 | 4 | 4 |
| Yards | 407 | 376 | 435 | 167 | 534 | 192 | 548 | 348 | 431 |

Out 3,438 yards Par 36

| | | | | | | | | | |
|-------|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|-----|
| Hole | 10 | 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| Par | 4 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 | 4 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| Yards | 327 | 219 | 386 | 347 | 533 | 353 | 219 | 392 | 528 |

In 3,304 yards Par 36 Total 6,742 yards Par 72

PGA Cup Through the Years

United States: 18 Wins — Great Britain & Ireland-Europe: 7 Wins, 4 Ties

| | Year | Results | Site | Captains | Team Captain |
|-----------|------|---------------------|--|-----------------------------|----------------------|
| Inaugural | 1973 | USA 13 – GB & I 3 | Pinehurst (N.C.) CC | William Clarke | Tom Halliburton |
| 2nd | 1974 | USA 11½ – GB & I 4½ | Pinehurst (N.C.) CC | Henry Poe | Brian Hutchinson |
| 3rd | 1975 | USA 9½ – GB & I 6½ | Hillside GC, Southport, England | Don Padgett | Christy O'Connor Sr. |
| 4th | 1976 | USA 9½ – GB & I 6½ | Moortown GC, Leeds, England | Frank Cardy | George Will |
| 5th | 1977 | USA 8½ – GB & I 8½ | Mission Hills CC, Palm Springs, Calif. | Henry Poe | Jack Hargreaves |
| 6th | 1978 | GB & I 10½ – USA 6½ | St. Mellion G & CC, Plymouth, England | Henry Poe | Tommy Horton |
| 7th | 1979 | GB & I 12½ – USA 4½ | Castletown Links, Isle of Man, England | Don Padgett | Bill Watson |
| 8th | 1980 | USA 15 – GB & I 6 | Oak Tree GC, Edmond, Okla. | Don Padgett | David Talbot |
| 9th | 1981 | USA 10½ – GB&I 10½ | Turnberry Isle CC, Miami, Fla. | Joe Black | Doug Smith |
| 10th | 1982 | USA 13½ – GB & I 7½ | Holston Hills CC, Knoxville, Tenn. | Don Padgett | David Jones |
| 11th | 1983 | GB & I 14½ – USA 6½ | Muirfield, Scotland | Joe Black | Keith Hockey |
| 12th | 1984 | GB & I 12½ – USA 8½ | Turnberry, Scotland | Joe Black | Keith Hockey |
| 13th | 1986 | USA 16 – GB & I 9 | Knollwood CC, Lake Forest, Ill. | Mark Kizziar | Derek Nash |
| 14th | 1988 | USA 15½ – GB&I 10½ | The Belfry, Sutton Coldfield, England | Mickey Powell | David Huish |
| 15th | 1990 | USA 19 – EUR 7 | Turtle Point GC, Kiawah Island, S.C. | J.R. Carpenter | Richard Bradbeer |
| 16th | 1992 | USA 15 – EUR 11 | Kildare Hotel & CC, Dublin, Ireland | Patrick J. Rielly | Paul Leonard |
| 17th | 1994 | USA 15 – EUR 11 | PGA National Resort & Spa, Palm Beach Gardens, Fla. | Dick Smith | Michael Ingham |
| 18th | 1996 | USA 13 – GB&I 13 | Monarch's Course, Gleneagles, Perthshire, Scotland | Gary Schaal | Craig DeFoy |
| 19th | 1998 | USA 17 – GB & I 9 | The Broadmoor (West Course), Colorado Springs, Colo. | Tom Addis III | Craig DeFoy |
| 20th | 2000 | USA 13½ – GB&I 12½ | Celtic Manor Resort (Wentwood Hills), Newport, South Wales | Ken Lindsay | David Llewellyn |
| 21st | 2003 | USA 19 – GB & I 7 | PGA Golf Club (South Course), Port St. Lucie, Fla. | Jack Connelly & David Jones | Will Mann |
| 22nd | 2005 | GB & I 15 – USA 11 | The K Club (Smurfit Course), Straffan, Ireland | M.G. Orender | Jim Farmer |
| 23rd | 2007 | USA 13½ – GB&I 12½ | Reynolds Plantation, Greensboro, Ga. | Roger Warren | Gary Alliss |
| 24th | 2009 | USA 17½ – GB & I 8½ | The Carrick, Loch Lomond, Scotland | Brian Whitcomb | Gary Alliss |
| 25th | 2011 | USA 17½ – GB & I 8½ | CordeValle, San Martin, Calif. | Jim Remy | Russell Weir |
| 26th | 2013 | USA 13 – GB & I 13 | Slaley Hall (Hunting Course), Hexham, England | Allen Wronowski | Russell Weir |

| | | | | | |
|------|------|-------------------|--|------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 27th | 2015 | GB&I 13½ -USA 12½ | CordeValle, San Martin, Calif. | Allen Wronowski Paul Levy | Jon Bevan Albert MacKenzie |
| 28th | 2017 | GB&I 16 - USA 10 | Foxhills Club & Resort, Ottershaw, Surrey, England | | |
| 29th | 2019 | USA 14 - GB&I 12 | Omni Barton Creek Resort & Spa, Austin, Texas | Derek Sprague | Cameron Clark |

PGA Cup Records

Most Appearances

United States

| | |
|----------------|---|
| Larry Gilbert | 6 |
| Bob Ford | 5 |
| Mike Small | 5 |
| Tim Collins | 4 |
| Rives McBee | 4 |
| Don Padgett II | 4 |

Great Britain & Ireland

| | |
|-----------------|---|
| David Huish | 8 |
| Russell Weir | 8 |
| David Jones | 7 |
| Brian Waites | 7 |
| Paul Wesselingh | 6 |

Most Match Victories

United States

| | |
|---------------|----|
| Larry Gilbert | 15 |
| Bob Ford | 12 |
| Tim Thelen | 12 |
| Rives McBee | 10 |

Great Britain & Ireland

| | |
|-----------------|----|
| David Huish | 18 |
| Russell Weir | 15 |
| Peter Butler | 12 |
| Paul Wesselingh | 12 |
| Brian Waites | 10 |

2019 Summary

United States 14 Great Britain & Ireland 12
Sept. 27-29, 2019

United States completes record PGA Cup rally to reclaim Llandudno International Trophy

A little over 20 years after “The Country Club Miracle” in the Ryder Cup, a new chapter in United States team golf lore was written among the rolling terrain outside Austin, Texas. The United States crafted a 14-12 historic comeback victory over Great Britain & Ireland in the 29th PGA Cup. The ignition point for the Americans happened in a 45-minute span on the uphill 518-yard par-5 18th hole. Bob Sowards of Dublin, Ohio, holed a blind downhill pitch for eagle for the first U.S. point of the day. Then, rookie Alex Beach of Stamford, Connecticut scrambled to gouge a chip from a sidehill rough to within 10 feet and make his birdie putt. Those 1-up wins set the stage for the U.S. to capture eight of 10 Sunday singles matches. Humbled 24 hours earlier after losing seven of eight matches on the Fazio Foothills Course at the Omni Barton Creek Resort & Spa, the Americans found themselves in a 10-6 hole. It was eerily reminiscent of the same score the U.S. faced on a Sunday in 1999 in Brookline, Massachusetts, against Europe in the Ryder Cup. This time, it was a team of American PGA Club Professionals manufacturing the first comeback win on a Sunday in PGA Cup history, which also denied GB&I a third straight victory. Captained by Derek Sprague, the U.S. reclaimed the Llandudno International Trophy for the first time since 2013, when it tied 13-13 to retain the 18-pound piece of silver. It was America’s first outright PGA Cup win since 2011 (a 17½ to 8½ decision) in the premier international event for PGA Club Professionals. The U.S. now owns an 18-7-4 overall record. The fuel of the stunning comeback was lit by Sowards unimagined pitch from 25 yards with a lob wedge, and was followed 45 minutes later when Alex Beach made up-and-down for birdie from a side-hill lie at 18. Meanwhile, Ben Kern of Round Rock, Texas — in the day’s second match — battled to turn around his fortunes against Scotland’s Paul O’ Hara. He was one down through 12 holes. He found the spark by chipping in for birdie at No. 13. From there, he scored wins on Holes 16 and 17 with pars to close out a 2 and 1 victory. The final two matches on the course would determine the Americans' fate. Jason Caron of Greenlawn, New York, closed out David Dixon, 3 and 2, to set off celebration among the U.S. team and entourage. But, the game wasn’t over. The scoreboard read 13-12, and one match was left to be decided.

Marty Jertson of Phoenix, Arizona, the Vice President of Fitting & Performance for PING Golf, and who has designed several of the clubs in his bag, got the honor of scoring the decisive U.S. point. He ran home a 10-foot birdie putt on the 16th hole for his lone point of the week, and a 4 and 2 decision over Craig Lee. The two-year residence of the Llandudno Trophy was adjusted to read, "United States." The quality U.S. performance included a pair of flawless wins by rookies Ben Cook of Caledonia, Michigan, and Ryan Vermeer of Omaha, Nebraska. They won Sunday's seventh and eighth matches without dropping a single hole – the only players to accomplish that on either side. Vermeer's 5 and 4 decision over Jordan Godwin was the America's largest margin victory of the weekend, and it resulted in his third point, which tied Sowards for most on the squad. Cook celebrated his 26th birthday by dispatching Jason Levermore, 4 and 3. Sean McCarty of Solon, Iowa, was another rookie winner for the U.S., downing England's Matt Cort, 2 and 1, handing him his lone loss of the Cup in five starts. The GB&I scored victories in the day's fifth and sixth matches. Rob Coles defeated Danny Balin of Irvington, New York, 2 up, and Richard Wallis routed Rich Berberian Jr., 6 and 5. Sowards built a steady 2-up lead through 13 holes, winning Holes 5, 7 and 13 before Forsyth rallied with birdies on No. 14 and 16, the latter a 30-foot bomb to tie the match. Sowards' ensuing tee shot on No. 18 was in the right rough and watched as Forsyth hit his soaring approach 10 feet behind the flagstick. Sowards' approach landed on the cart path, bounced high and came to rest at the crest of a hill. From there, Sowards pitched the ball softly down the side of the hill, and gravity took over.