

The 2009 Solheim Cup at Rich Harvest Farms

The Solheim Cup

The Solheim Cup is a biennial, trans-Atlantic team match-play competition featuring the best U.S.-born players from the Ladies Professional Golf Association (LPGA) Tour and the best European members from the Ladies European Tour (LET). The U.S. Team leads the competition, 7-3, and has never lost The Solheim Cup on home soil. In 2009, the Americans will be looking to keep their untarnished home record intact at Rich Harvest Farms in Sugar Grove.

U.S. Solheim Cup team captain Beth Daniel, a member at Rich Harvest Farms, will lead a cast of 12 Americans against Allison Nicholas' European team from Aug. 17-23, 2009. Daniel, a player on eight U.S. Solheim Cup Teams, was assistant captain for the U.S. Team at the 2007 Solheim Cup in Hamstad, Sweden.

"I am very excited that the Solheim Cup is being played at Rich Harvest Farms," said Daniel. "The layout of the course adds to the risk and reward of match play competition."

The rich history of The Solheim Cup dates back to 1990 when the first international competition was held in Orlando. Since then, the event has grown not only in patriotism, but also in fan involvement. The 2005 Solheim Cup at Crooked Stick Golf Club in Carmel, Ind., sold out eight months in advance via a random drawing. A record 103,000 attended the last staging of The Solheim Cup on American soil, and estimates for the 2009 crowd are pushing 150,000.

"The greater Chicago area is a perfect venue for this event and we couldn't be more excited to make a variety of ticket packages available to fans in the United States and abroad," said Kelly Hyne, 2009 Solheim Cup executive director. "Rich Harvest Farms provides a fantastic layout for fans and corporate guests to experience the event in a unique setting."

Fans from around the world can purchase tickets at www.solheimcup.com or by phone at 866-848-4639. Tickets at Rich Harvest Farms will be limited to 40,000 fans per day.

The Solheim Cup is named in honor of Karsten Solheim, and his family, the makers of PING golf equipment. In addition to founding sponsor PING, Global Partners of The Solheim Cup include AIB Group and Rolex.

For more information on the 2009 Solheim Cup, including a schedule of events, hotels and accommodations, log on to www.SolheimCup.com.

Rich Harvest Farms

Rich Harvest Farms was built in 1989 by architect and sole owner Jerry Rich and has earned a reputation as one of the most prestigious and challenging courses in the country. The course represents a true links-style setup with players heading out for nine holes and then back in for the remaining nine. The par-72 design can be played from 6,334 to 8,200 yards. Rich's influence can be found in many areas around the facility, including the naming of each hole which reflects his inspiration for the course. The unique property also is home to Rich's private car collection, some of which will be on display for spectators during The Solheim Cup.

Rich Harvest Farms is also home to the Kids Golf Foundation of Illinois which supports several junior golf programs in the last 10 years. The Kids Golf Foundation of Illinois teaches the fundamentals of the sport along with the rules, etiquette and history to more than 100,000 children in the surrounding area and is the primary beneficiary of The Solheim Cup.