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SWEDISH GOLF FEDERATION

**2021 ANNIKA Invitational Europe to be Closed to Non-Swedish Competitors**

(ORLANDO, Fla.) – [The ANNIKA Foundation](#) – golf Hall-of-Famer Annika Sorenstam’s charitable organization – and the Swedish Golf Federation today announced that the 2021 [ANNIKA Invitational Europe](#) will only be open to competitors who currently reside in Sweden.

The change to a domestic-only format is due to government-mandated health and safety protocols that currently restricts entry into Sweden by international competitors. In addition, the protocols currently strongly advise against arranging tournaments except for professional events for seniors.

At this time, plans still call for the ANNIKA Invitational Europe to be held at Isaberg Golf Club in Hestra from June 13-17. Eligibility requirements for Swedish competitors will remain unchanged. The ANNIKA Cup, which has traditionally involved only Swedish players, will still be held as well.

“While it’s unfortunate we won’t be able to welcome international competitors to Sweden for the 2021 edition of the ANNIKA Invitational Europe, our main priority is complying with all applicable regulations to ensure the safety of our competitors, their families, club members and tournament volunteers and staff,” says Daniel Rosendahl, Swedish Golf Federation. “We are continuing to closely monitor the situation and will provide further updates as any new information becomes available.”

First played in 2011, the ANNIKA Invitational Europe is one of the biggest girls’ championships on the continent. In addition to the ANNIKA Invitational Europe, the ANNIKA Foundation hosts other girls-only invitational tournaments like the ANNIKA Invitational USA presented by Rolex, ANNIKA Invitational Mission Hills (China), ANNIKA Invitational Australasia (New Zealand) and the Women’s Amateur Latin America Championship presented by The R&A and ANNIKA Foundation (Argentina). At the college level, it hosts the ANNIKA Intercollegiate presented by 3M every year in Minnesota, USA.

Since the inaugural Foundation tournament – the 2009 ANNIKA Invitational USA – 60 ANNIKA event alumnae have earned LPGA cards. Thirty-seven alumnae competed in the 2021 ANA Inspiration including the winner, Patty Tavatanakit.

For more information, please visit [www.annikafoundation.org](http://www.annikafoundation.org).

**About the ANNIKA Foundation**

Annika created the ANNIKA Foundation ([www.annikafoundation.org](http://www.annikafoundation.org)) to provide opportunities in women’s golf at the junior, collegiate and professional levels while teaching young people the importance of living a healthy, active lifestyle through fitness and nutrition. The Foundation has partnered with key organizations to promote healthy, active lifestyles for children, including SPARK, Florida Hospital for Children in support of its *Healthy 100 Kids* initiative and The First Tee in development of the *Nine Healthy Habits* curriculum for children, and an endowment of the AJGA’s ACE Grant.

It annually conducts six major golf events for aspiring junior girls: the ANNIKA Invitational USA presented by Rolex; ANNIKA Invitational at Mission Hills in China; ANNIKA Invitational Europe and ANNIKA Cup in Sweden; the Women’s Amateur Latin America with The R&A in Argentina and the ANNIKA Invitational Australasia in New Zealand. Moreover, with the support of the Haskins Commission, the Foundation created the ANNIKA Award presented by Stifel, which is given annually to the best collegiate female

golfer. Since 2014, the Foundation has also annually hosted the ANNIKA Intercollegiate presented by 3M, a college tournament featuring 12 top Division I schools. Each year, the Foundation also conducts several "Share My Passion" grass roots clinics designed to introduce kids to the game.

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