

USGA Announces LI Golf Fans Lose Out on Tickets After Rain Out and No Refund Policy

Long Island, NY – On Thursday, Rep. Steve Israel of Long Island called on the President of the United States Golf Association to reconsider a policy that left many Long Islanders without a full day of golf or a refund for the day they missed.

“Having the US Open on a public course on Long Island is great for our community, but it’s not so great for those who shelled out money for tickets and were told by USGA to throw them away,” Rep. Israel said. “For many of my constituents today’s event was a special occasion: a gift for father’s day or a special splurge during a tough time. They shouldn’t be left with only a wet pair of shoes to show for their hard-earned money.”

Rep. Israel called on USGA President James F. Vernon to alter their policy and issue refunds or rain-checks for those who held tickets Thursday. The letter follows below:

James F. Vernon
President
USGA
Golf House, P.O. Box 708
Far Hills, N.J. 07931-0708

Dear Mr. Vernon,

I was sorry to hear of the USGA’s intention not to issue refunds for the rained out U.S. Open today. For many Long Islanders this tournament was a special event—a gift for father’s day or a welcome respite during some stressful times. While the \$100 ticket costs may not concern those who fill the corporate boxes or those fortunate enough to be able to afford sports events with regularity, I am concerned that many others in our community will simply be out the money that they struggled to afford in the first place. Especially since this tournament is being held on a public course, this decision sends the wrong message.

I urge you to reconsider the no-refund policy and offer some way for the people who were not able to enjoy the U.S. Open today, some method by which they might be able to see some of the remaining tournament. It is a wonderful opportunity for Long Island to have the U.S Open back in our community and I hope that all those who hoped to take advantage of this special occasion will be able to enjoy it as they had hoped.

Sincerely,

Steve Israel

Member of Congress