

FROM THE MGA FOUNDATION



The Official Newsletter of the MGA Foundation

November 2021

GOLFWORKS BACK IN ACTION!

After a COVID pause in 2020, the MGA Foundation's signature GOLFWORKS student intern program was back in session for the 2021 season. With nearly 150 participants at 39 member clubs and facilities, interns were back at work in pro shops, bag rooms, on the grounds crew, and in the kitchen and clubhouses throughout the Met Area. Notably, 18 former GOLFWORKS interns were hired directly by clubs, proving the program's success for both the interns and our participating clubs.



CHARLES WIREKO, WESTCHESTER HILLS

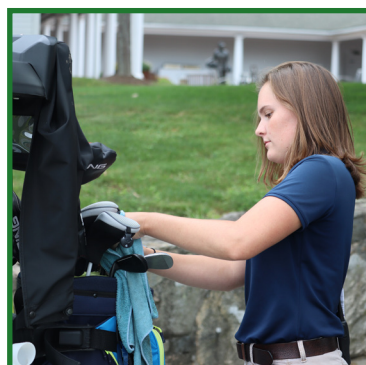
"I enjoyed my experience in the program. All of the members were very nice and it was great to be outside and on my feet for the job. I was able to learn a lot about golf and the professional world this summer."

Charles was born and raised in the Bronx and said this summer was his first experience around golf.

KAYLIE KLEMME, CENTENNIAL

"I love the GOLFWORKS program because it allows me to meet and interact with new people and it's a great way to grow the golf community."

Kaylie completed her third year as a GOLFWORKS intern; she is a junior at The College of Saint Rose and is a member of the women's golf team. She aspires to become an actuary after graduation.



JONATHAN GUERRERO, MOSHOLU

"The job has really grown my interest in golf. I enjoy working at the course and having conversations with my coworkers. We always have a good time and it's a good environment to work in."

During his first summer as an intern, Jonathan said his main responsibilities included course maintenance, cleaning carts and making sure all golfers had a great time.



2021

By The Numbers

147 GOLFWORKS interns were placed to work at **39** clubs and facilities this season.

More than **250** new caddies were certified by the MGA Foundation through **10** virtual Caddie Academies in the spring.

...

299 Westchester Golf Association and Long Island Caddie Scholars were awarded **\$1,184,000** for the 2021-2022 academic year.

These scholars attend **157** colleges and universities and work in service to golf at **93** Met Area clubs.

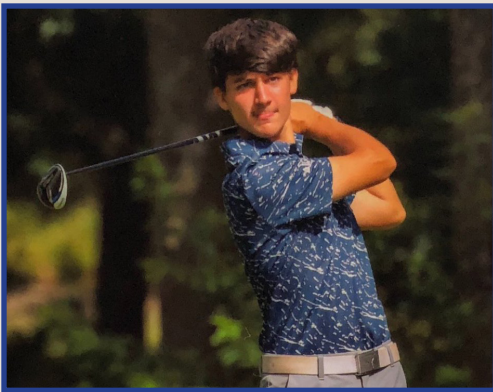
...

\$45,700 was raised from the "Fore the Kids" virtual auction in the spring, which directly supported all MGA Foundation initiatives and programs.



Since 2018, the MGA Foundation has partnered with the national **Youth on Course** program to provide discounted rounds and increased golf access for junior golfers. This season, nearly **2,500** rounds were played by local YOC members. Participating golfers ages 6-18 can enjoy **\$5 rounds** at more than **30 courses and facilities** across the Met Area.

Matthew DiFiore has been a Youth on Course member since 2018. He learned about YOC through the staff at Bethpage, and Matthew has taken full advantage of the discounted access to all five participating Bethpage courses.



"Thanks to Youth on Course, I am able to play golf a lot more. Golf has taught me plenty, but most importantly it has taught me how important honesty and integrity are." -Matthew

2021 JUNIOR CHAMPIONS

104TH MET JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP SPONSORED BY METLIFE

Colin Summers of Westfield, N.J., defeated John Hiller of New York, N.Y., 4 and 2 in the 104th Met Junior to claim his first MGA title at the Tuxedo Club. The 17-year-old won all four of his matches, from the Round of 16 through the final, on the 16th hole.



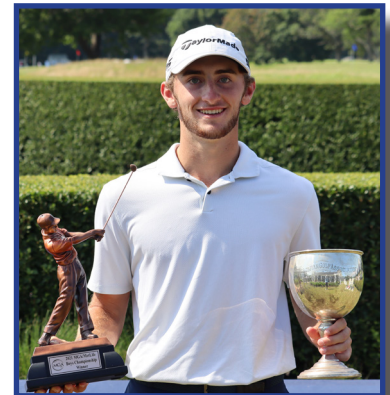
19TH MGA CARTER CUP

A 5-under 67 on Baltusrol Golf Club's Lower Course clinched the come-from-behind victory in the 19th MGA Carter Cup for **Nathan Drogin** of Essex Fells, N.J. Drogin began the final round six shots off the morning pace set by Charlie Berridge of Scarsdale, N.Y., but roared back with a trio of birdies on the inward nine, including one on the par-5 18th.



53RD MGA/METLIFE BOYS CHAMPIONSHIP

Lance Hollingshead of Basking Ridge, N.J., never saw the 18th hole in match play en route to winning the 53rd MGA/MetLife Boys. Hollingshead won the final match 4 and 3 over Liam Pasternak of Morristown, N.J. Hollingshead won the first four holes on the back nine to take control and closed things out on 15 with a birdie.



Congratulations to the

**2021 JUNIOR PLAYER OF THE YEAR PRESENTED BY CALLAWAY:
COLE EKERT
CHATHAM, N.J.**

For full championship recaps, photos, and videos, visit mgagolf.org.



JAY MOTTOLA SCHOLARSHIP UPDATE



Mottola and Masters at The Tuxedo Club, where Mottola caddied and worked on the grounds staff.

The inaugural Jay Mottola Scholarship was awarded to Sam Masters of Rye, N.Y., in the spring of 2020. Masters is now preparing to graduate with a degree in economics from SUNY Binghamton.

"This scholarship has helped me explore everything Binghamton University has to offer," said Masters. "It has allowed me to widen my education outside of the classroom as well." Upon graduation, he will pursue a career in finance.

Masters caddied for five seasons at Bonnie Briar Country Club in Larchmont, N.Y., and conveys that his experience as a caddie shaped his ability to market himself in the professional world as he navigated through multiple internships and prepares for his future. *"I think caddieing is such a great experience," said Masters. "It teaches you real life lessons and helps you position yourself for future success."*

About the JMS: The Jay Mottola Scholarship is a significant financial grant awarded to an outstanding caddie or young person who works in service to golf in the Met Area. This need-based award is available to exceptional graduating high school seniors from Long Island, New Jersey, and Westchester who are eligible under their local Caddie Scholarship Fund's criteria. *The MGA Foundation is currently in the process of identifying the next candidate to receive the Jay Mottola Scholarship; the JMS Committee will announce the new recipient by spring of 2022.*

GROWING THE CADDIE YARD

During the 2021 season, the MGA Foundation conducted 10 virtual Caddie Academies for young men and women in the Met Area, certifying 250 new caddies. A cornerstone of the Foundation's programming, Caddie Academies provide participants with a basic understanding of how to get started as a caddie and make their first successful loop. The MGA Foundation offers a selection of on-site Advanced Caddie Trainings during the season. These "next step" sessions offer more in-depth, on-course topics and best practices to current caddies at Met Area clubs. Support of youth caddieing has remained a pillar of the Foundation since its inception. To learn more about Caddie Academies and Advanced Caddie Trainings, please contact the MGAF staff.

Save the Dates: 2022 Foundation Events

MGA Foundation Day of Golf - Wednesday, June 1 at Atlantic Golf Club

MGA Caddie Scholarship Pro-Am - Monday, August 22 at Bethpage State Park - Black Course

MGA French-American Challenge Am-Am - Monday, October 24 at Quaker Ridge Golf Club

Mark your calendars for great days of golf and friends, all to directly support the MGA Foundation's programs and initiatives.



The MGA Foundation was saddened to announce the passing of Paul R. Dillon on July 20. Dillon, a past president of the MGA, chair of the MGA Foundation, and recipient of the MGA's Distinguished Service Award, was a longtime advocate of the game as a leader, coach, and artist. He was one of the most recognizable figures in Met Area golf, and was dedicated to spreading the game's values and traditions.

Dillon first began volunteering with the MGA and the Westchester Golf Association in the early 1990s. He quickly began to take on leadership positions and served as President of the WGA from 1994-1995. He was President of the Westchester Golf Association Caddie Scholarship Fund from 1997-2001, and post-presidency remained an active Director on the WGACSF Board.

Dillon also rose through the ranks of volunteer leadership at the MGA, and was elected to two terms as President of the MGA and Chair of the MGA Foundation from 2003-2004. Dillon was instrumental in launching the MGA's Capital Campaign, on which he served as co-chairman with Lowell Schulman, and his efforts played a large part in expanding the MGA Foundation's GOLFWORKS program.

Sentiments summarized in the announcement of Dillon's Distinguished Service Award remained true until his passing: Paul's dedication to spreading the game's values and traditions along with his relentless service have made him one of the most beloved members of our golf community.

To form a lasting memorial, a Paul R. Dillon Endowed Scholarship within the Westchester Golf Association Caddie Scholarship Fund (WGACSF) is in the process of being established. To learn more, please visit caddiescholarship.org.

THE MGA FOUNDATION IS PROUD TO CONTINUE AND GROW ITS MISSION:

To offer young people from all our communities life-changing experiences through golf. Innovative programs reflecting the values and traditions of golf provide a great education and a solid link to future opportunities. Provide a pathway to bright futures for Met Area youth through golf's foundational values that include education, hard work, honesty, citizenship, and self-belief.

As the MGA prepares to celebrate its milestone 125th anniversary in 2022, help us pave the way for the next generation of golfers and prepare Met Area youth for the next 125 years.

Your support directly fuels our growth.

End-of-year donations can be made via check to the MGA Foundation or online at mgagolf.org/donate and select the 2022 General Fund. The MGA Foundation is a 501(c)3 organization; your donation is tax deductible.

You can support the MGA Foundation on AmazonSmile! Select the MGA Foundation as your designated charity and Amazon will donate a percentage of your eligible purchases to the MGA Foundation.

WE ARE GRATEFUL FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT!

MGA Foundation
49 Knollwood Road
Elmsford, NY 10523
914-347-4653
www.mgagolf.org/foundation



 **MetLife**
Official Supporter