



86TH MGA SENIOR
AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP

— • —
NAVESINK COUNTRY CLUB

Middletown, N.J.

May 6 & 7, 2013



TOP FIELD TO COMPETE IN MGA SENIOR AMATEUR AT NAVESINK



A full field of 168 Met Area amateurs ages 55 and over will put their early-season form to test in one of the most competitive events on the MGA schedule. The field will play 18 holes of stroke play on Monday, May 6, after which a cut will be made and the low 40 scores and ties will advance to the second round. The championship will conclude with 18 holes of stroke play on Tuesday, May 7.

Bakst will play in his first Senior Am

Highlighting a talented group of players is first time Senior Amateur participant Ken Bakst of Friar's Head and eight past champions, including 2012 and 2008 victor Ron Vannelli of Forsgate. Bakst, a former U.S. Mid-Amateur champion and Met Amateur champion, is playing at a high level and just last year made the on-site cut at the Met Amateur at Hollywood. Vannelli was on the winning end of a one-hole playoff against Tom Trakoval of Port Jefferson last year at Metedeconk National and continued a strong summer, advancing to match play at the U.S. Senior Amateur at Mountain Ridge.

The runner-up Trakoval also returns to the field this year, as well as 2009 winner Al Small of Fairmount. Small, the reigning NJSGA Senior Amateur winner, finished third at Metedeconk in 2012 and was the low amateur at the MGA Senior Open last August at Garden City Country Club.

Another past winner looking to add another victory to his impressive amateur career is John Ervasti of Sleepy Hollow, the only player ever to win both the MGA Senior Am and Senior Open (2010). 2007 champion Jay Blumenfeld of Mountain Ridge is also poised to hoist the trophy

again as he also advanced to match play at the 2012 U.S. Senior Amateur at his home course.

Three-time champion ('10, '05 and '03) Steve Rose of Fresh Meadow, Shawn McLoughlin of Ridgewood ('06 and '01), Bob Housen of Manasquan River ('99 and '97) and Ned Steiner of Mountain Ridge ('00) round out the list of returning champions.

Other strong competitors who can make their mark at Navesink include: Robert Howe of Winged Foot, who carded a four-stroke victory at the inaugural MGA Senior Masters Tournament at the Country Club of Fairfield this past September; 2012 Westchester Golf Association Senior Player of the Year Jim Graham of Winged Foot, who finished T4 last year at Metedeconk; and Jay Sessa of Cherry Valley, who qualified for the stroke-play portion of the U.S. Senior Am in 2012 and advanced to match play in 2011.



2009 winner Al Small

Celebrating its 50th year in 2013, Navesink Country Club, located just five miles off the coast of the Jersey Shore, will be hosting its first MGA championship. The Hal Purdy design has hosted LPGA Tour events as well as the New Jersey Open and Amateur championships, and will provide a fun test for competitors on May 6.

Quick Facts

Final Field: 168

2012 Champion: Ron Vannelli, Forsgate

Past Champions in Field: 8

Format: 36 holes, stroke play. Cut to low 40s and ties after first round



Eligibility

The competition is open to male amateur members of MGA member clubs who will have reached their 55th birthday by May 6, 2013, and have a current USGA Handicap Index not exceeding 8.0. All entrants are subject to the Rules and Regulations

Format of Play

36 holes of stroke play. Field cut after 18 holes to low 30 and ties and any player within 5 shots of the lead.

Age Classifications

Senior: 55-59 years

Masters: 65-69 years

Super Senior: 60-64 years

Legends: 70 years & older

Prizes

Overall

Champion

Runner-up

Third Place

Class Winners

Low Gross and second Low Gross for all age classifications.

**Except for the overall championship winner, all ties will be decided by date of birth. A player may win only one prize.*

About Navesink Country Club

The only golf club in New Jersey with an ice skating rink among its amenities is the Navesink Country Club in Middletown, just five miles from Atlantic Highlands on the Jersey Shore. The receding Ice Age formed Atlantic Highlands as the highest point on the Atlantic seaboard between Maine and Florida, a fact to which the club owes the rolling nature of its terrain.

Formed in 1963, the club turned to Hal Purdy, a former disciple of Robert Trent Jones, who was building a thriving business of his own at the time. Purdy had the Navesink course ready for play by May of 1964 and the course has undergone only cosmetic changes since. The course's signature is the pair of side-by-side twin par 5's, the fifth and 15th holes, both of which cross the same water hazards.

Navesink has witnessed considerable tournament activity over its fifty years. On such occasions, the nines are usually reversed, the competitors starting at the members' tenth. The first championship to be played at Navesink was the 1974 New Jersey Amateur. The New Jersey Open came to Navesink for the first time in 1977, and the LPGA Tour played the final two editions of what was called the Chrysler-Plymouth Classic at Navesink in 1987 and 1988. Arnold Palmer visited Navesink in the early 1970s and shot a 72. He had high praise for the course, and especially liked the fifth hole.



Founded:
1963

Course Opened:
1964

Architect:
Hal Purdy

Championship Tees:
Par: 72

Yardage: 6,716
Course Rating: 72.5
Slope: 128

85th MGA Senior Amateur Championship

Metedeconk National Golf Club, Jackson, N.J.

May 7 & 8, 2012

Former Met Amateur, MGA Senior Amateur, and MGA Player of the Year Ron Vannelli added another trophy to his collection when he defeated Tom Trakoval of Port Jefferson on the first hole of a sudden-death playoff. Vannelli began his final round at Metedeconk with a one-shot lead, and his par on the 18th hole during the playoff earned him his second MGA Senior Amateur victory (his first was in 2008 at Wee Burn). The 2005 MGA Player of the Year led the field of 168 competitors, narrowed down to 33 players who made the cut after the first-round on Metedeconk's challenging course, facing a windy two days of competition and fast greens.

Final Results

| Finish | Name | Club | To Par | Score |
|--------|-------------------------|-----------------------|--------|-----------|
| 1 | Ron Vannelli* | Metuchen | +5 | 72-77—149 |
| 2 | Tom Trakoval | Port Jefferson | +5 | 75-74—149 |
| 3 | Allan Small | Fairmount | +8 | 77-75—152 |
| T4 | Jim Hamburger | McCann | +9 | 76-77—153 |
| | James Graham | Winged Foot | +9 | 73-80—153 |
| T6 | Stephen Tympanick | Noyac | +10 | 77-77—154 |
| | George J. Zahringer III | Deepdale | +10 | 76-78—154 |
| 8 | Tom Yellin | Stanwich | +12 | 80-76—156 |
| T9 | William Brightly | Hackensack | +15 | 80-79—159 |
| | Kevin McGrain | MGA eClub - N.J. | +15 | 77-82—159 |
| | John Ervasti | Sleepy Hollow | +15 | 76-83—159 |
| | Jay Blumenfeld | Mountain Ridge | +15 | 76-83—159 |
| T13 | Bill Henry | Forsgate | +16 | 79-81—160 |
| | Michael Birmingham | Nassau Players | +16 | 79-81—160 |
| | Billy Bruse | Lido | +16 | 79-81—160 |
| T16 | Tom Greenwood | MGA eClub - N.J. | +17 | 79-82—161 |
| | Tom Dicinti | MGA eClub - N.J. | +17 | 77-84—161 |
| T18 | John Powers | Meadow Brook | +18 | 80-82—162 |
| | Matt Corrigan | Nassau Players | +18 | 79-83—162 |
| | David Pilossoph | Pelham Bay/Split Rock | +18 | 77-85—162 |
| T21 | Randall Keleher | Sterling Farms | +19 | 80-83—163 |
| | Robert Howe | Winged Foot | +19 | 79-84—163 |
| | Peter Rymer | Hamilton Farm | +19 | 79-84—163 |
| | Robert Britton | Knob Hill | +19 | 79-84—163 |
| | Rick Lawrence | Ridgewood (Conn) | +19 | 77-86—163 |
| | Robert Housen | Manasquan River | +19 | 77-86—163 |



SENIOR AMATEUR

| | | | | |
|-----|------------------|---------------------|-----|-----------|
| T27 | Bill Sherry | Dutchess | +21 | 80-85—165 |
| | Denis Johnson | Plainfield - West 9 | +21 | 79-86—165 |
| | Philip Dessinger | Bonnie Briar | +21 | 77-88—165 |
| 30 | Nelson Debow | Newton | +22 | 75-91—166 |

*Won in a playoff



Ron Vannelli won his second Senior Amateur title in 2012 at Metedeconk National Golf Club.

Follow the action live at www.mgagolf.org, like the MGA on Facebook, follow @MGA1897 on Twitter or download the mobile app My MGA.

History of the MGA Senior Amateur

Senior golf in the Met Area has a long and distinguished history, starting in 1905 with a competition created by members of the Apawamis Club in Rye, N.Y. That tournament led directly to the founding of the U.S. Seniors Golf Association, which today is administered by the MGA at Golf Central.

This legacy of senior golf was taken a step further in 1928 with the inaugural MGA Senior Amateur Championship. Over the ensuing 80 years, the MGA Senior Amateur has grown in stature to become the premier event for senior amateur golfers (aged 55 years and older). It is one of the most sought-after titles in the Met Area, and has been contested at many of the finest championship courses.

The first player to exert some dominance in the Senior Amateur was Samuel Graham, who won in 1943 and 1944, and then again in 1946. Three years later, Thomas Robbins won the first of his four Senior Amateur titles, the last coming in 1955 at Rockaway Hunting Club. He and Mike Mattwell, who dominated the event in the 1980s, are the only players to win four Senior Amateur titles.

Other prominent champions of the Senior Amateur include three-time winner J. Wolcott Brown (1967-69), Mal Galletta Sr. (1984), Jerry Courville Sr. (1992), and Dick Siderowf (1996). The championship consists of 36 holes of stroke play over two days, with the field cut to low 30 and ties after the first round.

Past Champions

| Year | Champion | Score | Site |
|-------------|-------------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1928 | Frank Hoyt | 84-83—167 | Garden City GC |
| 1929 | Hugh Halsell | 83-83—165 | Hudson River |
| 1930 | Charles Cooke | 82-82—164 | Arcola |
| 1931 | T. Henry Clarkson | 80-83—163 | Garden City GC |
| 1932 | Enos Booth | 81-81—162 | Sleepy Hollow |
| 1933 | Alex Gray | 78-85—163 | Montclair |
| 1934 | Morton Downs | 83-77—160 | Rockaway Hunting |
| 1935 | Rex Beach | 81-80—161 | Saint Andrew's |
| 1936 | Dwight Rockwell | 76-78—154 | Englewood |
| 1937 | Bechtel Alcock | 80* | Garden City GC |
| 1938 | Wilfred Garretson | 79 | Siwanoy |
| 1939 | August Kammer | 79 | Essex County |
| 1940 | Charles Jennings | 80 | Garden City GC |
| 1941 | August Kammer | 78 | Siwanoy |
| 1942 | Charles Burgess | 75 | Baltusrol |
| 1943 | Samuel Graham | 79 | Garden City GC |
| 1944 | Samuel Graham | 77 | Winged Foot |
| 1945 | Charles McMillen | 78 | Baltusrol |
| 1946 | Samuel Graham | 80 | Seawane Harbor |
| 1947 | Ellis Knowles | 75 | Winged Foot |
| 1948 | Ellis Knowles | 72 | Upper Montclair |



SENIOR AMATEUR

| Year | Champion | Score | Site |
|-------------|--------------------|--------------|------------------|
| 1949 | Thomas Robbins | 72 | Seawane Harbor |
| 1950 | Thomas Robbins | 74 | Siwanoy |
| 1951 | Jack Brittain Sr. | 72 | Upper Montclair |
| 1952 | Vincent Fitzgerald | 76 | Wheatley Hills |
| 1953 | Thomas Robbins | 74 | Winged Foot |
| 1954 | Carl Timpson | 76 | Ridgewood (N.J.) |
| 1955 | Thomas Robbins | 74 | Rockaway Hunting |
| 1956 | Martin Issler | 73 | Hudson River |
| 1957 | Jack Dowling | 73 | Mountain Ridge |
| 1958 | Edward Smith | 75 | Upper Montclair |
| 1959 | Paul Dunkel | 72 | Rockaway Hunting |
| 1960 | Michael Cestone | 76 | Sunningdale |
| 1961 | Martin Issler | 75 | Arcola |
| 1962 | Jack Mullen | 72 | Century |
| 1963 | John Ledbetter Jr. | 75 | Rockville Links |
| 1964 | Stephen Berrien | 77 | Knickerbocker |
| 1965 | Olin Cerrochi | 74 | Innis Arden |
| 1966 | Anthony Vileno | 74 | Garden City CC |
| 1967 | J. Wolcott Brown | 69 | Raritan Valley |
| 1968 | J. Wolcott Brown | 76 | Leewood |
| 1969 | J. Wolcott Brown | 76 | Glen Oaks |
| 1970 | William Dear Jr. | 71 | Knickerbocker |
| 1971 | Seymour Holub | 76 | Apawamis |
| 1972 | Ed Majka | 72 | Rockville Links |
| 1973 | Arthur Lefelar | 73 | Mountain Ridge |
| 1974 | James Tingley | 72 | Mount Kisco |



Three-time (2010, '05, and '03)
champ Steve Rose



Mal Galletta Sr., 1984 winner,
with Gene Westmoreland

| Year | Champion | Score | Site |
|-------------|---------------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 1975 | John Humm | 68 | North Hempstead |
| 1976 | Gerold Lauck | 78 | Canoe Brook |
| 1977 | John Rogers | 75 | Old Oaks |
| 1978 | John Humm | 74 | Rockville Links |
| 1979 | Tony Macellaro | 72 | Sunningdale |
| 1980 | Norb Harrer | 74 | Edgewood |
| 1981 | Mike Mattwell | 72 | North Hempstead |
| 1982 | Joseph Donahue | 74 | Ridgeway |
| 1983 | Mike Mattwell | 73 | Dellwood |
| 1984 | Mal Galletta Sr. | 73 | Woodcrest |
| 1985 | Michael LoBosco | 74 | Glen Ridge |
| 1986 | Art Thomas | 75 | Wee Burn |
| 1987 | Mike Mattwell | 75-76—151 | Huntington |
| 1988 | John Farrell Jr. | 76-72—148 | Suburban |
| 1989 | Mike Mattwell | 73-78—151 | Elmwood |
| 1990 | Joe Davis | 76-75—151 | North Shore |
| 1991 | Don Edwards | 74-73—147 | Hackensack |
| 1992 | Jerry Courville Sr. | 75-75—150 | Westchester Hills |
| 1993 | Mario Posillico | 71-74—145 | Cherry Valley |
| 1994 | John French | 70-75—145 | Spring Brook |
| 1995 | William Sala | 77-74—151 | Sunningdale |
| 1996 | Dick Siderowf | 75-70—145 | Arcola |
| 1997 | Bob Housen | 74-71—145 | Montclair |
| 1998 | Robert Navesky | 76-72—148 | Wheatley Hills |
| 1999 | Bob Housen | 74-75—149 | Brae Burn |
| 2000 | Ned Steiner | 74-80—154 | Crestmont |
| 2001 | Shawn McLoughlin | 71-78—149 | Inwood |
| 2002 | Joe Polizzano | 72-77—149 | Scarsdale |
| 2003 | Stephen Rose | 72-76—148 | Arcola |
| 2004 | Douglas Vergith | 73-73—146 | Glen Head |
| 2005 | Stephen Rose | 70-76—146 | Woodway |
| 2006 | Shawn McLoughlin | 79-71—150 | Mountain Ridge |
| 2007 | Jay Blumenfeld | 73-71—144 | Piping Rock |
| 2008 | Ron Vannelli | 72-77—149 | Wee Burn |
| 2009 | Al Small | 72-69—141 | Preakness Hills |
| 2010 | Stephen Rose | 77-72—149 | North Shore |
| 2011 | John Ervasti | 73-75—148 | Shorehaven |
| 2012 | Ron Vannelli | 72-77—149 | Metedeconk |

Future Sites

2014 — Rockrimmon Country Club
Stamford, Conn.

2015 — Westchester Country Club (West)
Harrison, N.Y.



Senior Amateur Championship Records

AGE

Oldest Winner

70 – Enos Booth, 1932

SCORING

Lowest Score, 18 Holes

68 – John Humm, 1975

69 – J. Wolcott Brown, 1967

69 – Richard Stancavage, 2001

69 – Al Small, 2009

Lowest Winning Score (18-Hole Tournament)

68 – John Humm, 1975

69 – J. Wolcott Brown, 1967

Lowest Winning Score (36-Hole Tournament)

141 – Al Small, 2009

144 – Jay Blumenfeld, 2007

Largest Margin of Victory (18-Hole Tournament)

7 strokes – Ellis Knowles, 1948

6 strokes – Thomas Robbins, 1949

5 strokes – Ellis Knowles, 1947

5 strokes – J. Wolcott Brown, 1969

5 strokes – Billy Dear, 1970

Largest Margin of Victory (36-Hole Tournament)

9 strokes – Bob Housen, 1997

7 strokes – Dwight Rockwell, 1936

7 strokes – Al Small, 2009

5 strokes – John Farrell Jr., 1988

CHAMPIONS

Most Wins

4 – Thomas Robbins (1949, 1950, 1953, 1955)

4 – Mike Mattwell (1981, 1983, 1987, 1989)

3 – Samuel Graham (1943, 1944, 1946)

3 – J. Wolcott Brown (1967, 1968, 1969)

3 – Stephen Rose (2003, 2005, 2010)

Largest Number of Years Between First and Last Win

8 – Mike Mattwell

7 – Thomas Robbins, Stephen Rose

MISCELLANEOUS

Winners of both the Met Amateur and MGA Senior Amateur

Michael Cestone

Jerry Courville Sr.

Dick Siderowf

Ron Vannelli

Winners of both the MGA Senior Open and MGA Senior Amateur

John Ervasti

Most Times, Host Club

5 – Garden City Golf Club (1928, 1931, 1937, 1940, 1943)

4 – Arcola (1930, 1961, 1996, 2003)



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