

# CHAMPIONSHIP Chatter

Official Newsletter of the MGA Rules and Competitions Committee

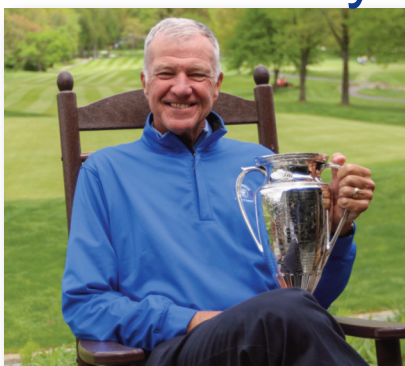
March 2018

## 2018 - Leaving The Cold Behind

Even though the weather hasn't been quite what we'd like, The Championships Department and R&C Committee Leadership have been spotted not only at our Member Clubs but also at the IAGA Conferences in Arizona, the PGA Show in Orlando, and the USGA Annual Meeting in Miami. At the USGA Annual Meeting, they honored those Volunteers who have served 25 years with the USGA in presenting the Ike Grainger Award. This year our very own Jim Litvack (pictured right), of Springdale Golf Club, received the honor! Congrats to Jim, and to MGA R&C Committee Members (past & present) who are past Ike Grainger recipients: Jay Mottola, James Patton, Lou Riccio, Lowell Schulman, Dr. Richard Silver, Bob Thomas, Gene Westmoreland & Paul Wise.



## Early Season Preview...



**MGA SENIOR AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**OLD OAKS CC, PURCHASE, NY**  
**MAY 7-8, 2018**

In our first Championship of the season, Old Oaks Country Club welcomes the Senior Amateur, a 36-hole stroke play Championship, where MGA Past President Allan Small will look to defend his title. After taking advantage of his local knowledge at his home course of Fairmount last year, Allan and the rest of this highly competitive field will travel to Westchester County to take on the well-guarded and diabolical green complexes of Old Oaks.

**U.S. OPEN SECTIONAL QUALIFYING**  
**CANOE BROOK CC, SUMMIT, NJ**  
**JUNE 4TH, 2018**

The longest day in golf is a time honored tradition. Celebrated at 12 Courses across the World, the US Open Sectional is one of the more grueling test of golf. Participants compete in 36-holes, where every stroke matters, and those lucky few, advance to the United States Open. Last year 8,979 entered Local Qualifying, and only 79 players advanced to the US Open!



**63rd IKE STROKE PLAY CHAMPIONSHIP**  
**PRESENTED BY CALLAWAY**  
**MEADOW BROOK CLUB, JERICHO, NY**  
**JUNE 25-26, 2018**

After firing a 10-under 61 in the Final Round to claim the 62nd Ike, what will Defending Champion Matt Lowe have in store for us this time around? The Richmond Senior looks to defend his crown against another top-tier field at Meadow Brook, which now tips out at a whopping 7,444 yards!



## New & Improved Committee Portal



Last year, many of you noticed our change to the Committee Newsletter. This offseason, we spent time revamping the R&C Committee Portal. Coore & Crenshaw were not available for the redesign, so we looked to our team of Potts & Niebuhr to take on this project!

### New Features:

- The "My Events" Section will list the Events you have signed up for, and give you the ability to unregister, or change your commitment.
- The "What's Happening" Section will show the upcoming Major Championships.
- Many other resources will be at your fingertips; (Committee Assignments, Pairings, R&C Handbook, MGA Hard Card, etc.).
- Committee Directory (coming soon!!!)



# MGA CHAMPIONSHIP DEPARTMENT NOTICES



## Upcoming Events

Regional Rules Seminars	
March 10	(NJ) -- Baltusrol Golf Club
March 10	(W/CT) -- Golf Central (MGA Offices)
March 17	(LI) -- Garden City Country Club
USGA / PGA Rules of Golf Workshop	
March 16-19	Location: USGA HQ
Handicap Education Seminar	
March 24	(NJ) -- Montclair Golf Club
April 7	(LI) -- Cherry Valley Club
April 14	(W/CT) -- The Apawamis Club
MGA/MetPGA Rules Seminar	
March 29th	Location: Brae Burn Country Club
Tournament Officials Seminar	
May 1	Volunteer Protocol & Rules Procedures Location: Baltusrol Golf Club
May 7-8	MGA Sr. Amateur — Old Oaks CC (W)
May 7	US Open LQR — Essex County CC (NJ)
May 7	US Open LQR — Spring Lake GC (NJ)
May 7	US Open LQR — Southampton GC (LI)
May 8	US Open LQR — Mount Kisco CC (W)
May 16	US Open LQR — Suburban GC (NJ)

## Director's Desk



The Season is rapidly approaching and here at Golf Central we're preparing for an eventful 2018 season! The Met Area is filled with competitive golf all season long and the MGA Committee will be at the center of it all. In addition to our busy schedule of MGA & WGA events, and USGA qualifiers, the MGA will administer LIGA events in 2018 as well — giving all of those involved with the MGA even more opportunities to experience historic Championships. Not only will we have the usual excitement provided by the local Met Area schedule, but we also have the honor of watching three top-tier events be conducted at MGA Member Clubs and having all eyes of the collective golf world on our region. We'll have a sneak peek at a few of these properties early in the season, so plan accordingly.

To kickoff the year, we head to Baltusrol for the Tournament Official Seminar (May 1st). Committee Members will have the opportunity to play and spend the day at this historic club before the world's best juniors arrive in mid-July to vie for the U.S. Junior Amateur Championship. The USGA qualifying season begins with the U.S. Open Local Qualifying Round at Southampton Golf Club. This is the first stop on the road to Shinnecock and for those of you stationed on the 5th or 6th hole, you'll have a perfect view of the U.S. Open venue as the two courses share a border. The Curtis Cup Match will also be conducted in the Met Area, heading to Quaker Ridge Golf Club in early June. It is an honor to have so many quality championships in our backyard and it shows how lucky we are to conduct events on those world-renowned courses year in and year out. It will be an eventful year for all, so enjoy the rest of the offseason and see you all in April!

- Chris

## MGA Staff Profile

### Sean Murphy

**Hometown:** Whittier, North Carolina

**Title:** Championship Ops. Manager

**Date Started:** January, 2018

**College:** George Mason University

**Favorite Golf Course:**

Karsten Creek Golf Club

**Memorable Golf Moment:**

First trip to The Masters in 2015

**Favorite PGA Tour Player:**

Matt Kuchar

**Dream Foursome Would Include:**

Bill Murray, Derek Jeter, John Smoltz

**Something Unique About Yourself:**

2003 North Carolina Punt, Pass & Kick Runner-Up





## Test Your Rules Knowledge

Here's this issue's question from the MGA R&C Committee:  
(head to [www.mgagolf.org](http://www.mgagolf.org) for more)

A Competitor stands outside the teeing ground to hit his tee shot which is teed within the teeing ground. He misses the ball and, deciding he was standing too far away from the ball, removes the tee marker and stands a bit closer to the ball. He hits this drive in the fairway but fails to replace the tee marker. He hits his next shot on the green and two-putts from there. His score for the hole is:

- A. 5
- B. 6
- C. 7
- D. 9

Answer on final page

### MGA CHAMPIONSHIP DEPARTMENT & RULES & COMPETITIONS COMMITTEE

**Rules & Competitions Committee:**  
Charlie Beach, Chair

**Long Island:**  
Scott Stearns, Regional Chair  
Bob Conyers, Vice Chair  
Dennis Lynch, Vice Chair

**New Jersey:**  
Joseph Bardon, Regional Chair  
Andy Stock, Vice Chair  
Dave Menapace, Vice Chair

**Westchester:**  
Wendy Dominick, Regional Chair  
Charles Weisman, Vice Chair  
Brad Steinthal, Vice Chair

**Championship Department Staff:**  
Chris Gaffney, Director, Championships  
Mike Kendrick, Manager, Championship Ops.  
Sean Murphy, Manager, Championship Ops.  
Rose Tomassetti, Championship Admin.  
Mike Zamalkany, Manager, Volunteer Ops. & Champ. Admin.

## Committee Spotlight

### Bob Ferguson



**Resident of:** Connecticut  
**Club:** Bedford Golf & Tennis Club  
**Occupation:** Retired; Formerly an Attorney  
**MGA Position:** R&C Cmte Member, W/CT Region

#### What prompted you to join the R&C Committee?

I was encouraged to start R&C work by Rosemary Mankiewicz, who had done this work for the USGA & MGA Ladies events for many years.

#### Most Memorable Golf Moment:

2 Rounds at Pebble Beach; capped off with a Birdie on #8!

**Favorite Course:** Fishers Island Club

**Hobbies:** Puzzles of any kind!

## We Want You!



*Do you know someone who is interested in giving back to the game of golf? Do you know someone who is looking to volunteer in the community?*

The Rules & Competitions Committee has seen strong growth in both quality and quantity in recent years. The Committee roster has grown by 26% since 2013, with a current roster of 182 members. Mike Zamalkany will continue to lead the volunteer operations lead for 2018, with a focus on recruiting and retention of volunteers - please direct any potential volunteers to Mike ([mzamalkany@mgagolf.org](mailto:mzamalkany@mgagolf.org)).



# AFFILIATES IN THE GOLFING WORLD

## Westchester Golf Association

### The 99th Westchester Amateur June 5-7, Brooklawn CC

*Christian Cavaliere (Mahopac) looks to defend his title against a very strong group of accomplished area veterans, as well as a great core of young talent, which includes 2017 MGA Player of the Year, James Nicholas. Also conducted at the same time are the WGA Senior & Super Senior Championships.*



## Long Island Golf Association

### Long Island Open Championship June 5-7, Nassau CC

*JD Guiney, of Piping Rock had 3 sub-par rounds to claim his 1st Long Island Open. Nassau CC plays host this year, and with a recent renovation of the green complexes by Tom Fazio, this is sure to be a great test for Long Island's best!*



## 2018 SPOTLIGHT NATIONAL EVENTS IN OUR BACKYARD

The concentration of historic and world-class golf courses in the Metropolitan New York Area is second to none. It is no surprise that at least one national championship or PGA Tour event comes to our area seemingly every year. In 2018 the worlds best come to compete in the Met Area!

**40th CURTIS CUP – JUNE 8-10  
QUAKER RIDGE GOLF CLUB  
SCARSDALE, NY**



**118th US OPEN – JUNE 14-17  
SHINNECOCK HILLS GOLF CLUB  
SOUTHAMPTON, NY**



**71st US JUNIOR AMATEUR – JULY 16-21  
BALTSUROL GOLF CLUB  
SPRINGFIELD, NJ**



**NORTHERN TRUST – AUGUST 23-26  
RIDGWOOD COUNTRY CLUB  
PARAMUS, NJ**

