

# **GOLF PENNSYLVANIA**

# **GOLF NORTHEAST**

Vol. XXXII No. 25

Summer 2026

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OCTOBER OF 2025 TO  
THREE OF THE ORIGI-  
NAL HUNTSVILLE MEM-

# HUNTSVILLE GC TO STAY ON GOLF'S EXALTED PATH

By TONY LEODORA

The story of Huntsville Golf Club started in 1991, when the late Dick Maslow decided to execute his dream of creating a premier private country club in the northeast corner of Pennsylvania. He found a 344-acre tract of land in Lehman Township, not far from Wilkes-Barre, and started the step-by-step process.



Huntsville # ???

First step was to bring in the highly regarded golf course architect Rees Jones, who had developed a stellar reputation for designing and building spectacular layouts across the country. Jones had the technical expertise to handle the rugged landscape of the property, as well as the artistic imagination to bring an exciting design to life.

After a few meetings and a couple of attempts to draw a routing for the new course, a very intriguing conversation between Maslow and Jones took place. Jones was not happy with the original routings he had mapped out and, with an amazing amount of confidence, he looked at Maslow and said, "I can build a very good golf course with what you've given me, but if you purchase the property across the road, I can build you a great golf course."

The original generous gift of 344 acres on which to work was a virtually unheard amount of land for a golf course in the early '90s. Especially in the crowded northeastern part of the country. And now the architect was asking for 139 more acres?

Maslow tried to hide his shock, then said he would have to think it over.

Jones still chuckles over that conversation. "I didn't know what would happen. He could have hated me. Instead, he turned into one of my closest friends for almost the second half of my life.

Maslow proved to be a very committed owner. After a few months of negotiations, he managed to purchase the 139 acres and

turned it over to the architect who made the bold promise to build a great golf course.

Jones did not fail.

Huntsville opened as one of the best courses in golf-rich Pennsylvania ... and its reputation grew quickly as golf writers and raters found their way to the rugged hills and hardwood forests that were tamed to the point where a golf masterpiece was produced. Maslow had an affinity for the golf writers and the feeling quickly became mutual.

For those who came to the golf course, no warmup was needed. It was love at first sight.

With so much land at his disposal, Jones took a very inventive approach. He used very little of the low-lying terrain, preferring to snake the course along the top of the ridges, which allows for maximum vistas and thrills. Much of the course is gently undulating ... not overly hilly.

The one exception is Hole No. 2, which became rated by Golf Digest as one of the Top 500 holes in the world. It is a short dogleg left par 4 that plummets 125 feet from the tee to the fairway. The tee shot seems to hang forever above the hardwood forest below, before (hopefully) finding the emerald green ribbon of short grass.

The rest of the course was so strategically designed and visually spectacular that Huntsville immediately gained national acclaim. It debuted at No. 88 on Golfweek's list of Top 100 Modern Courses.



Huntsville # ???

Even more impressive might be the fact that it was listed No. 4 among the Top 20 Private Courses in the Greater Philadelphia area in a 1998 Philadelphia Magazine feature story – behind only Pine Valley, Merion and the Atlantic City area's Galloway National.

"Dick wanted a championship course and we gave it to him," says Jones. "It was his dream and, under his stewardship, the dream

Cont. from page 3

continued to be realized through the years.”

Maslow died in 2024. His daughters then sold the course in October of 2025 to three of the original Huntsville members – Jeff Metz, John McCarthy and Doug Barbacci. The last few years of Maslow’s life the course started to need some upgrades, as is the case with any 30-year-old course. Lacking the health and stamina to take on any projects, Maslow left the upgrades to the new owners. There was some fear among the other members that Huntsville’s legacy might not be maintained.

They were wrong.

“These new owners are very committed,” says Jeff Fry, general manager at Huntsville for 20 years. “They are three very successful businessmen who have been here since the start of the club and they love it.

The first thing they did was to renovate the entire clubhouse. It is totally changed from the original design.”

Nothing that drastic will take place on the course.

Steve Weisser was one of the original site designers for Rees Jones, Inc. and has spent as much time as anyone on the property.

“I’ve been in touch with the new owners a few times,” says Weisser. “There has been talk about a number of things but nothing will change from the original layout. What probably will come to pass is a bit of a restoration.

Over his last 10 years I spent a lot of time with Dick. He always would talk about what had to be done to the course to keep it at the

top. These guys are definitely the right guys for the transition. They have that same love for Huntsville.”

Jones speaks with a nostalgic tone when bringing a final evaluation of the scene at Huntsville: “When you get older, you want your greatest accomplishments to stay alive and not disappear. Dick felt that way about Huntsville ... and so do I.”



Huntsville # ???



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# THREE TEAMS TAKE TITLES AT HUNTSVILLE

Country Club of Scranton's Cory Calvert and David Mecca posted 43 points to repeat as champions of the 17th Modified Stableford Tournament at Huntsville Golf Club.

David Mecca and Cory Calvert

The Modified Stableford is the traditional kickoff to the GAP/AGA campaign. This year's affair was reduced to 17 holes; winter damage forced the closure of No. 4.

Jason Barkley of the host club and Todd Vonderheid of Bucknell Golf Club won the Senior title with 42 points. A familiar face in reigning GAP/AGA Player of the Year Joseph Weiscarger of Wyoming Valley Country Club paired with Charles Brand of the host club to grab the event's Super-Senior title with 40 points.

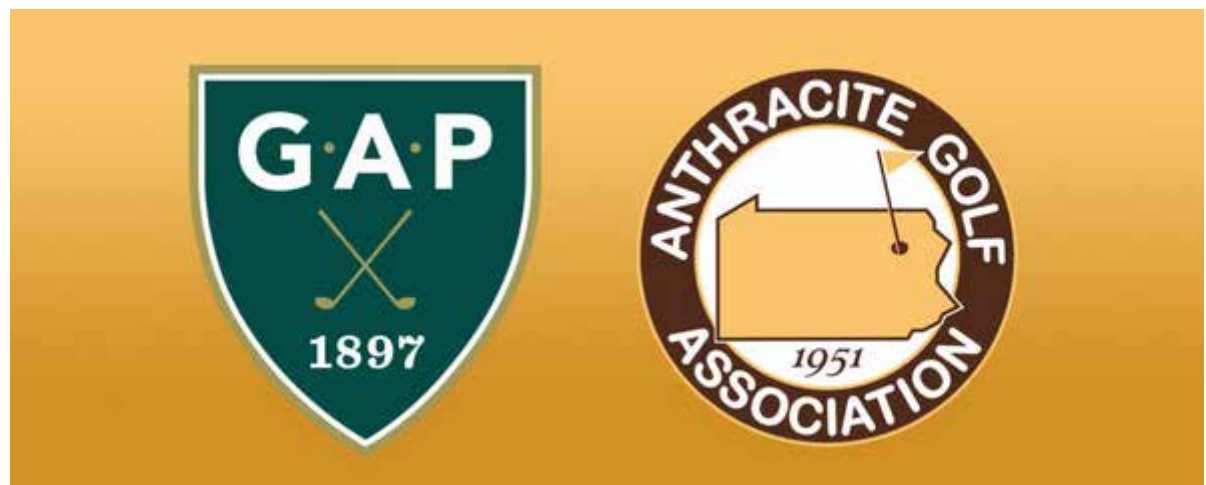


David Mecca and Cory Calvert

Amateur Division	
Name, club	Points
David Mecca/Cory Calvert, Country Club of Scranton	43
Patrick Mitchell/Aaron Gerlach, Glenmaura National Golf Club/Elmhurst Country Club	41
Damien LaRue/Michael Grimes, StoneHedge Golf Assn./Huntsville Golf Club	40
Eamon Evans/Brandon Jackson, Glenmaura National Golf Club/Wemberly Hills Golf Course	40
Kyle Pritchard/Ryan Orcutt, Green Pond Country Club/Country Club of Scranton	39
Dom Castrignano/Tyler McGarry, Huntsville Golf Club/Fox Hill Country Club	38
Tom Biscotti/Eric Plisko, Wyoming Valley Country Club	38
Jason Troutman/Dan Brown, Frosty Valley/Manada Golf Club	37
Frank Schiel, Jr./Brian Weiscarger, Wyoming Valley Country Club	36
Earl Thompson/Frank Nockley, Huntsville Golf Club	36
Mario Costa/Tom Piwowski, Elkview Country Club	36
Eric Williams/Wayne Stephens, Honesdale Golf Club	36
Mark Frederick/Jordan Pick, Valley Country Club	35
Damon Heller/Mike Perry, Lancaster Country Club/Country Club of Scranton	35
Mike Haley/A.J. Donatoni, Fox Hill Country Club	35
Dave Saracino/Scott Majkes, Stonewall/Wyoming Valley Country Club	35
Alex Anderson/Frank Kacvinsky, Huntsville Golf Club/Elmhurst Country Club	35
Brian Hastings/Christopher Wade, USGA/GAP GC	33
Tony Bevevino/Stephon Draper, Irem Country Club/Country Club of Scranton	33
Doug Nardella/Michael Peregrim, Jr., Elmhurst Country Club/StoneHedge Golf Assn.	32
Jason Considine/Ben Esgro, USGA/GAP GC/Pocono Farms Country Club	31
Sean Carey/Rocco Barge, Emanon Country Club	30
Tim Lambert/John Henry, Huntsville Golf Club	29
Scott Donald/Brian Wallace, USGA/GAP GC/Woodstone Country Club and Lodge	29
David Figura/Keith Devos, Jack Frost National Golf Club	29
Bill Kranitsky/Eric Parry, Glen Oak Country Club	28
Peter Moro/Michael Mitchell, USGA/GAP GC/Huntsville Golf Club	28

Senior Division	
Name, club	Points
Jason Barkley/Todd Vonderheid, Huntsville Golf Club/Bucknell Golf Club	42
David Blichar/Jeff Hudson, Olde Homestead Golf Club	37
William Durkin/Joe Ferretti, Elkview Country Club/Country Club of Scranton	37
Jim Boburka/David Strohl, Green Pond Country Club/Moselem Springs Golf Club	36
Ken Bolcavage/Mark Bartkowski, Elkview Country Club/Pocono Farms Country Club	36
Michael Chomicz/Bill Ianieri, Pocono Farms Country Club/Jack Frost National Golf Club	34
Tom Mitchell/Larry Moon, Tyoga Golf Course	33
Frank Osborne/Mike Bartkowski, Elkview Country Club/Wemberly Hills Golf Course	32
Robert Klem/Bob McCloskey, Wemberly Hills Golf Course/Elmhurst Country Club	32
Paul Gruzski/Jim Sherma, Wyoming Valley Country Club/Hershey Country Club	31
Floyd Bowen/William Pabst, Sr., Wyoming Valley Country Club/Elmhurst Country Club	29
Robert Kettler/Manny Goncalves, Eagle Rock Resort	26
Steve Stockfeder/Jake Armstrong, Eagle Rock Resort	23

Super-Senior Division	
Name, club	Points
Charles Brand/Joseph Weiscarger, Huntsville Golf Club/Wyoming Valley Country Club	40
Richard Skudalski/Nick Percival, StoneHedge Golf Assn.	39
Andy Lykon/Mark Choi, Wedgewood Golf Course/Saucon Valley Country Club	39
Vince Scarpetta, Jr./Len Coleman, Nittany Country Club/Emanon Country Club	37
Tom Miller/John Sohns, Elmhurst Country Club	36
John Tolerico/Paul Pisarcik, Elkview Country Club	35
Charles Gelso/Brett Slocum, Huntsville Golf Club	35
Bob Andrejko/Dave Walters, StoneHedge Golf Assn.	34
Steve Mazur/Robin Bonda, StoneHedge Golf Assn.	33
Jeff Stempel/Larry Beatty, Olde Homestead Golf Club	33
Barry Westington/Jerry Dougherty, Scranton Cance Club	31
Michael Mulcahey/David Kohler, Tyoga Golf Course	31
Carl Stackhouse/Scott Scheirer, Berwick Golf Club	31
Mike Tomasic/Scott Frey, Woodstone Country Club and Lodge	29
William Erskine/Thomas Brennan, Philadelphia Publinks Golf Association/LuLu Country Club	27
Ed Russell/Chris Delaney, USGA/GAP GC/Tavistock Country Club	17



## ARONIMINK HOST PGA IN PHILLY

By Pete Kowalski

The second Major of 2026, the PGA Championship, is next on the docket at iconic Aronimink Golf Club in Newtown Square May 14-17.

Commonwealth golf diehards can roam the grounds of this Donald Ross-designed classic and watch what is often referred to as the “best field in golf.”

It's the first of a quartet of high-profile golf events in the greater Philadelphia area in 2026 as the nation celebrates its 250th birthday.

The U.S. Junior Amateur, conducted by the USGA, will be played at Saucon Valley Country Club in Bethlehem, July 20-25 followed by the U.S. Amateur at Merion Golf Club in Ardmore, August 10-16 and rounded out by the PGA Tour Champions' Jefferson Lehigh Valley Classic, October 2-4 at Lehigh Country Club in Allentown.

After a stirring Masters with Rory McIlroy flashing his mettle and holding off a surging World No. 1 Scottie Scheffer, the PGA is shaping up as a vintage follow-up to the thrills and spills of the back nine at Augusta National earlier this month.

Scheffler, the PGA defending champion from Quail Hollow in North Carolina was bogey-free on the weekend among the azaleas in Georgia. The rest of the top of the Masters leaderboard of Russell Henley, Cameron Young, Tyrell Hatton, Justin Rose (winner of the 2013 U.S. Open at Merion G.C.), Sam Burns, Collin Morikawa (champion in 2020), Max Homa and Xander Schauffele (champion in 2024) were all within four strokes of McIlroy's winning score.

They'll need to bring their best as the challenges of Aronimink are vast and ever present.

Designed in 1928, the par-70 layout will stretch past 7,200 yards and highlight the craftsmanship of Gil Hanse and Jim Wagner, who restored the course in 2018.

From the 1950s through the early 2000s architects such as Dick Wilson, George Fazio and Robert Trent Jones added their touches before Ron Pritchard also did some work.

Using aerial photography from 1929, the Hanse restoration plans increased the total number of bunkers from 75 to nearly 175,



encapsulating Ross' “cluster” style. The legendary greens, with their spines and ridges, were brought back to original larger sizes and shapes, adding hole locations. Significant tree removal and the re-introduction of Ross free-from teeboxes that follow the pitch and roll of the landscape are testimony to the restoration work.

Today's layout would likely please the original Scottish architect with its return to roots. Ross was famously quoted in 1948 as saying: “I intended to make this

my masterpiece, but not until today did I realize that I built better than I knew.”

The club, founded in 1896, has a long lineage of hosting championship golf. World Golf Hall of Famer and world traveler Gary Player became the first international winner of the PGA in its first visit to Aronimink in July of 1962. Player, who missed the cut at the Open Championship at Royal Troon the week before, won by a single stroke over Bob Goalby at 2-under-par 278.

The series of top-flight events at the club, named after the chief of the indigenous Lenape, includes the 1977 U.S. Amateur won by John Fought, the 2003 KitchenAid Senior PGA won by John Jacobs, the 2010 and 2011 AT&T National won by Justin Rose and Nick Watney, respectively, the 2018 BMW Championship won by Keegan Bradley and the 2020 KPMG Women's PGA won by Sei Young Kim., won the U.S. Amateur

Twelve players from the local PGA Section will play in the PGA Professional Championship April 26-29 at Bandon Dunes in Oregon

Cont. from page 6

for a place in the field at Aronimink.

That list includes Braden Shattuck, Rolling Green Golf Club; Riley Wheeldon, Aronimink Golf Club; Zac Oakley, Bidermann Golf Club; Will Scarborough, The Peninsula Golf & Country Club; Zach Barbin, Chesapeake Bay Golf Club; Tony Perla, Huntingdon Valley Country Club; Brett Walker, Chester Valley Golf Club; Chris Krueger, Kings Creek Country Club; Trevor Bensel, LuLu Country ; Sam Ambrose, Chester Valley Golf Club; Frank Bensel, Galloway National Golf Club Joanna Coe, Merion Golf Club; and Brian Bergstol, Shawnee Inn and Golf Resort.

The field of 156 professionals will compete for the Wanamaker Trophy, which was established by Philadelphia department store magnate Rodman Wanamaker. Legend tells that the original trophy was lost by five-time PGA champion Walter Hagen in 1925 (after winning for the fourth time).

When the next chapter of the PGA Championship begins on May 14, more than 200,000 spectators are expected. If you are a lucky ticket holder, please review the material in this year's Spectator Guide.

With Aronimink Golf Club as the backdrop, it should be quite a story.

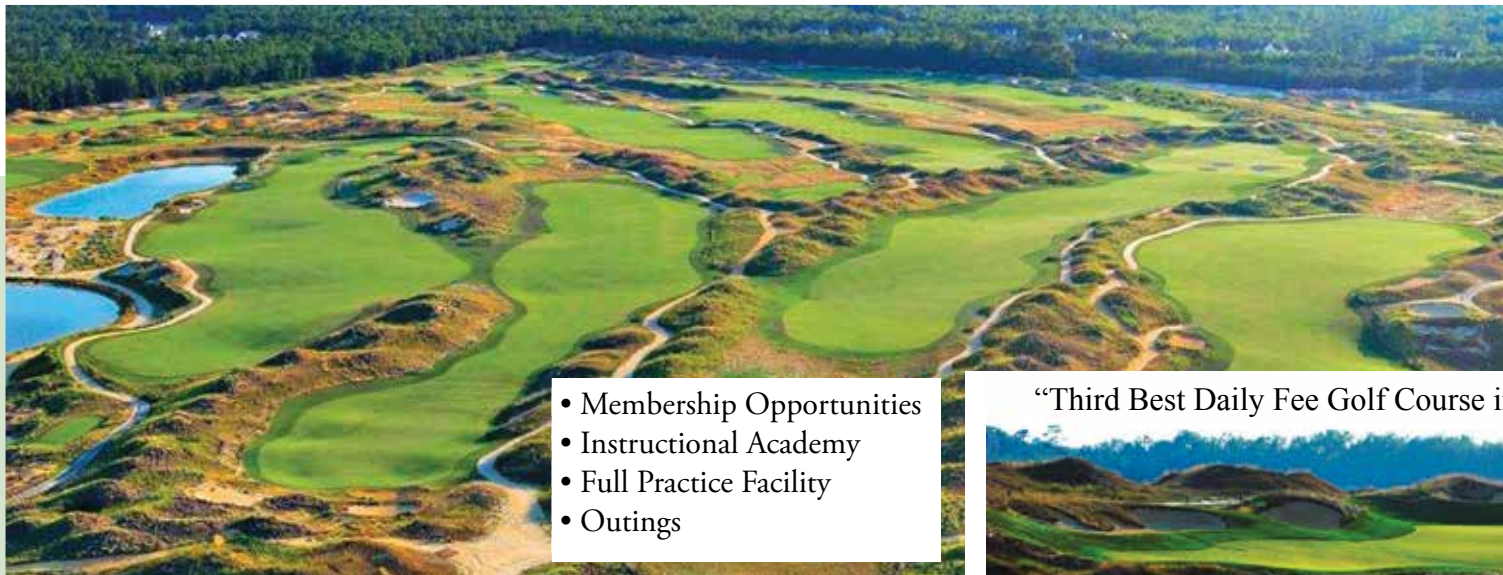


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## MAJOR CHAMPIONS AND PAST CHAMPIONS HEADLINE EARLY COMMITMENTS FOR THE 2026 SHOPRITE LPGA POWERED BY WAKEFERN, MAY 29-31

Eight Past Champions Returning to Seaview Hotel and Golf Club, Including Celine Boutier, Ashleigh Buhai, Brooke Henderson, Defending Champion Jennifer Kupcho, Brittany Lincicome, Anna Nordqvist, Annie Park and Linnea Strom

Former Michigan State All-American Brooke Biermann to Compete as a Sponsor Invitation, Making LPGA Tour Tournament Debut as a Professional

Field of 144 to Compete for a Share of the \$2 Million Purse, a \$250,000 Increase From 2025

Tickets on Sale at [www.ShopRiteLPGA.com](http://www.ShopRiteLPGA.com)

GALLOWAY, N.J., May 4, 2026 – The ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern will feature the return of eight of the tournament's past champions headlining an elite field of early commitments to the 2026 edition of the championship, taking place May 29-31 at Seaview Hotel and Golf Club in Galloway, N.J.

Past champions scheduled to compete include multiple major champion Brittany Lincicome (2011), 2026 European Solheim Cup captain Anna Nordqvist (2015-16), Annie Park (2018), major champions Celine Boutier (2021), Brooke Henderson (2022) and Ashleigh Buhai (2023), Linnea Strom (2024) and defending champion Jennifer Kupcho (2025).

Tournament officials also announced today that Epson Tour professional and former Michigan State All-American Brooke Biermann has accepted a sponsor invitation to be a part of the 144-player field competing on the historic Bay Course at Seaview. Biermann, who turned professional in April following her first appearance in the Augusta National Women's Amateur, will make her LPGA Tour debut as a professional at the ShopRite LPGA.

They will join the 144-player field competing for a share of the \$2 million purse, an increase of \$250,000 over 2025.

"We are excited to continue the LPGA Tour's momentum in May with the return of the ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern and a world-class field that will serve as Atlantic City's kickoff sporting event of the summer," said Ryan Dever, tournament director for the ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern. "We are excited to welcome back many of the world's best players, future stars of the game, and our South Jersey sports fanbase in what has become a Shore

Tradition on the Bay Course at Seaview Hotel."

For more than three decades, the ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern has been a launchpad for several of the game's preeminent players to kickstart their LPGA Tour careers, including Paula Creamer, Brooke Henderson and Lexi Thompson. The tournament features many of the game's greatest players as past champions, including Juli Inkster, Betsy King, Dottie Pepper, Seri Pak, Annika Sorenstam, Cristie Kerr, Stacy Lewis, Karrie Webb, Henderson and Thompson.

Tournament officials will be announcing in the coming weeks special ancillary events taking place throughout the week at the ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern and additional field commitments. Players

have until Tuesday, May 19 to commit to the ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern. For a complete list of tournament entries, click [HERE](#).

Tickets on Sale: Tickets are on sale for the 2026 ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern, including exclusive hospitality and general admissions tickets offering a wide degree of entertainment and access. All tickets will be digital and will be emailed after purchase. Tickets can be viewed on either a mobile device or printed out where they will be scanned at the main gate.

ShopRite will once again offer ShopRite Price Plus Club Card holders two (2) free daily grounds tickets with a valid ShopRite Price Plus Club card. Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield of New Jersey members will also receive two (2) complimentary free daily grounds tickets, valid during competition rounds.

All military (active, retired, reserve and veteran), first responders (police, fire, EMS) and accompanying family (4 tickets maximum) will receive complimentary admission to the three days of competition at the 2026 ShopRite LPGA (May 29-31), courtesy of SERVPRO. In addition, they will receive admission into a special hospitality area – the Hero Outpost presented by Braven Health and SERVPRO. All military and first responders must show proper identification at the main gate and at the Hero Outpost to gain entry. Children ages 17 and under will also be admitted free into the tournament with a paid adult.

Daily and weekly grounds tickets, Hard Rock Suite tickets and complimentary tickets can all be accessed at [www.ShopRiteLPGA.com/tickets](http://www.ShopRiteLPGA.com/tickets).



**PA GOLF ASSOCIATION TENTATIVE SCHEDULE FOR 2026****THE 85TH GEORGE DRESSLER MEMORIAL**

Chartiers CC - June 16th

Out Door CC - April 27-28

**THE 67TH PENNSYLVANIA SENIOR AMATEUR****THE 6TH PENNSYLVANIA SENIOR OPEN**

Berkshire CC – August 3-4

CC at Nevillewood - May 11-12

**THE 110TH PENNSYLVANIA OPEN****SENIOR OPEN QUALIFYING:**

Laurel Valley GC – August 10-12

East - TBA

**OPEN QUALIFYING:**

Central - TBA

Radley Run - July 20th

West - West

Central – TBD

**THE 36TH MEN'S FOUR-BALL AND 6TH WOMEN'S FOUR-BALL**

West - TBD

Moselem Springs - June 1-2

**THE 34TH MEN'S AND 6TH WOMEN'S SENIOR FOUR-BALL****THE PENNSYLVANIA JUNIOR BOYS' & GIRLS'**

TBA - Aug 24-25

Hershey Country Club – June 29-30

**THE 33RD PENNSYLVANIA MID-AMATEUR**

Lebanon Country Club - June 29-30

TBA – September 21-22

**THE 23RD R. JAY SIGEL PENNSYLVANIA AMATEUR MATCH PLAY****MID-AMATEUR QUALIFYING:**

Country Club of Scranton – July 6-8

Colonial CC – Aug 20

**THE 8TH PENNSYLVANIA PARENT-CHILD/17TH FATHER-SON**

Fox Hill CC – Aug 19

TBD – July 13-14

Western – TBD

**THE 90TH PENNSYLVANIA WOMEN'S AMATEUR/SENIOR AMATEUR/SUPER-SENIOR AMATEUR**

Bellewood CC – Aug 17

Gulph Mills – July 20-22

**THE 22ND ART WALL, JR. MEMORIAL**

TBA - Sept 14-15

**THE 113TH PENNSYLVANIA AMATEUR****THE 19TH PENNSYLVANIA SENIOR MATCH PLAY AND 6TH WOMEN'S SENIOR MATCH PLAY**

TBD - September 28-29

Oakmont CC – July 27-29

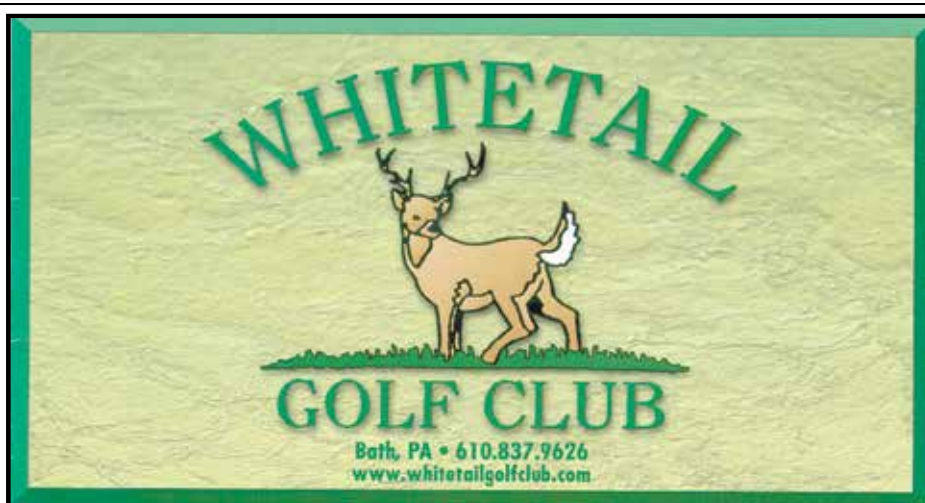
**AMATEUR QUALIFYING:**

Elmhurst CC – June 10



Chambersburg CC - June 22nd

LuLu – June 25th



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# LANSDOWNNE CONTINUES TO IMPRESS

by Phil Sokol

Fifteen years is a long time.

How long? Well in this time span, we're about to have our fourth different president, we just witnessed the fourth Olympic summer games in Paris, 2024 was another leap year and it took me 15 years to return to Lansdownne Resort!



I've been extremely fortunate over the years to visit some of the greatest resorts and golf courses in the United States, even making return visits, such as I did with Lansdownne Resort.

Although it took a long time to return, I was equally impressed, not only with the two wonderful courses, but the resort was better than I remembered.

Let's start off with the 45 holes of golf. That's right, two outstanding 18-hole venues, the Norman course and the RTJ II course and the fun Shark Bite 9-hole course. "We have about 670 golfing members and we do about 67,000 rounds of golf," said Director of Golf Dan Warnick. "The majority of our rounds are member rounds but we host members, members guest, resort guests and outings here at Lansdownne."

"Lansdownne is unique in the sense that we offer two completely different experiences when it comes to golf," said Warnick. "I don't know of many facilities that have what we have. Two different course designers and two different grass types giving you two completely

different golf experiences."

The Norman layout stretches to over 7,300 yards and features what Greg Norman called the "Hardest Mile in Golf." Originally holes 15-18, before the nines were reversed, these four holes, which now comprise holes 6-9, are combined to equal 1,760 yards (exactly one mile). Picture this, two par fours over 400 yards, a par-5 that reaches 663 yards and the par-3 ninth at 247 yards. YIKES!

Not to be outdone, the Robert Trent Jones II course is just over 7,000 yards from the gold markers. Although the opening nine features a few challenging holes, the back nine is as good as it gets, with a plethora of dogleg rights, lefts, carries over water, uphill and downhill holes. The 12th and 13th are two of my favorites. Bending to the left and climbing to the green, number 12 plays every bit of 441 yards, while the par-3 13th is downhill from 210 yards.

"RTJ II is known to be more player friendly, especially on the front nine," continued Warnick. "But beware as the back nine can be tough with elevation changes and a lot of risk/reward opportunities. The back nine of RTJ II is the favorite of the nines. It's such a good layout."

In addition, Norman created a nine-hole layout designed with the family in mind, the Sharkbite course. A wonderful venue in which to practice, Sharkbite is fun to walk and enjoy with the entire clan. From as little as 870 yards, perfect for the juniors to 2,319 yards, the Sharkbite is a blast.



Lansdownne #1

“Sharkbite is such a great addition to the facility and is super valuable to the membership,” added Warnick. “It’s a great, well condition short course and is normally always available without needing a tee time. It’s a par 32 with four par 3’s and five par 4’s. It’s a great course for the family, beginners or even a confidence booster for those better players.”

Let’s not forget the double-sided practice facility, fit for all levels of play.

Just 30 miles from our nations capital, Lansdowne Resort, which was just named 2024 Smart Stars Award winner in the Best Golf Resort category from Smart Meetings Magazine, is an oasis of relaxation, golf, fitness and dining.

Speaking of food, Lansdowne offers three great choices for breakfast, lunch and dinner. Not to be missed is the breakfast buffet at Riverside Hearth, which features, well, everything!!!



Lansdowne #12

Piedmont’s, overlooking the Potomac River, is “the” spot for dinner. From the classic Caesar salad to a Charcuterie Board and a Bacon-Wrapped BBQ Pork Tenderloin, your meal is almost complete. Just toss in a chocolate-type dessert and you’re all set.

If golf is not your thing, how about tennis or the ever-growing Pickleball. Lansdowne also has a 24-hour fitness center for you workout maniacs. Treadmills, stair climbers, bikes, rowing machines, weights, yoga mats, etc. You get the idea. There are also hiking and biking trails throughout the property.

What else is there you say?

Spa Minérale offers all kinds of enhancements and treatments for



Lansdowne #18

the soul.

For me, it’s the Therapeutic Deep Tissue massage for 80 minutes or the Fire & Ice massage, which can’t be beat. Facial’s, pedicures, acupuncture, heck, they’ll even trim your beard and cut your hair. Now that’s full-service.

But if it’s total relaxation you want, go no further than the three outdoor pools, one indoor pool and indoor hot tub. The Aquatic Center offers full-day private cabanas, perfect for the family or just sit by the adult-only pool with a refreshing cocktail.

So, you’re within a dozen miles from Washington Dulles International Airport, just an hour from Baltimore and three from Philadelphia, what are you waiting for.

Lansdowne is a AAA Four-Diamond Award winner, with over 300 well-appointed rooms and suites that overlook the Potomac River, not to mention the beautiful views of the nearby Blue Ridge Mountains. Are you kidding me? Make the call!



# LOCAL BOY SEAN PALMER RUNS THE UNION LEAGUE

By Pete Kowalski

Sean Palmer, the chief operating officer at the Union League, is the classic “local boy makes good” story.

A Lehigh Valley native, who grew up caddieing at Brookside C.C. in Macungie and Olde Homestead G.C. in New Tripoli, Palmer is the PGA of America’s 2026 Executive of the Year, an award he received at the recent PGA Show in Orlando.

“I feel guilty about having this award because it’s from good collective conversations and letting people run with their ideas,” Palmer said of the PGA of America national acclaim. “I’m not everywhere. I am further away from the member that I’ve ever been. I’ve got to set direction and set tone and cadence and have good communication. I think we do all those things pretty well. It’s a collective effort to getting everyone ready from the same hymnal and have the same ideas and it’s my job to bring that together.”

Without a golf team at Northwestern Lehigh H.S, Palmer competed at the District IX championships as an individual and after earning a degree from the PGA program at Penn State in 2007, worked predominately in the Commonwealth before assuming his job at the chief operating office at the in 2024.

The Union League is a far-flung hospitality and membership service enterprise that includes 1,400 employees and seven properties, three of which are golf courses – Union League Torresdale in Philadelphia, Union League Liberty Hill in Lafayette Hill and the highly acclaimed Union League National in Swainton, N.J.

The 40-year-old Palmer, since starting as Torresdale’s head golf professional in 2014, became the director golf as the Union League acquired Sand Barrens in 2017, which was renamed Union League National after a full revision by architects Dana Fry and Jason Straka in 2021. He then transitioned into a general manager’s role at Liberty Hill, which was previously the Ace Club, Eagle Lodge and Chubb Conference Center in 2021. His umbrella of responsibilities is all Union League operations in golf, hospitality and business and he has direct interfaces with 15 GMs and executive managers.

Under the tutelage of two Commonwealth icons, Gene Mattare at Saucon Valley C.C. and Scott Nye at Merion Golf Club, Palmer, a true self-starter, found his calling.



Combing their golf acumen with his Mom’s outlook has taken him a long way as she was a critical care nurse who logged long hours to provide for her family and her strong example was a strong motivator for him as a young man.

“She gave me the confidence to say that B+ isn’t good enough and you’ve to think about how you are going to push yourself to get better,” Palmer said.

The day he completed his PGM internship at Saucon Valley, he jumped in his car to drive to Pinehurst, N.C., where his grandfather, who used to work in the Stroh’s Brewery in Allentown, lived and lived at Midland C.C. Palmer loved those visit but never played the world famous No.2 course despite sipping sweet tea on the Resort’s veranda in rocking chairs, enviously watching golfers finish their rounds.

During that drive, he lassoed an interview that turned into a six-month internship at Pinehurst that included working at the 2005 U.S. Open.

His next two PGM internships were at Merion Golf Club where he worked at the 2009 Walker Cup. Upon graduation, he joined the staff a Merion and worked his way up to first assistant and was a leader in the club’s operations for the 2013 U.S. Open.

In his time in internships and full-time at Merion, he also worked at the Masters at Augusta National and wintered at Doral for noted pro Jim McLean.

He intoned a common phrase when he said, “doors opened as they do in golf,” when he took a “flyer” to join the Union League as the head pro at Torresdale in 2014. He was promoted to director of golf in 2015.

“It was kind of an unknown thing in the golf world but in the CMAA (Club Managers Association of American) world, in the city

club world, they were the top brass," Palmer said. "They were the Augusta National –the number one-ranked club in the country."

Jumping into the Union League world accelerated Palmer's transition from a club pro to a COO.

At Torresdale, he had to recruit a staff from scratch and develop a golf policy and business plan.

At Union League National, he supervised a golf course acquisition and transformation with high-profile architects.

At Liberty Hill, he became a general manager as the Union League added another golf course and a conference center.

"That was a shift for me into that governance world," Palmer said.

Using the Union League's hospitality formula, Palmer blended all three clubs into the company's mantra.

"My boss, Jeff McFadden, told me that we are not in the golf business, we are not in the food and beverage business," Palmer said. "We are not in any other business but membership and that's relationships."

The perspective of a golf pro and a general manager are different angles into the same lens, but Palmer didn't want to give up the golf part of his duties, so he realized he needed to evolve into the world of club management.

Now he shuffles between Boards and banks and business plans.

"I had to learn and grow," Palmer said. "The golf thing is second

nature. I have a gut for that but developing a gut for a food and beverage budget or a hotel team or a conference center was a whole different ball game."

That switch also made him realize he was selling himself short, saying "Golf pros are more equipped for leadership roles than they think."

Since joining the Union League in 2014, he has led Union League University, a staff training and mentorship program and created a Caddie Scholarships program while working closely with The First Tee and the PGA Hope program.

He eagerly employs the theory of "enlightened hospitality" or treating staff better than members.

"We could have the nicest golf course in the world, but it doesn't matter if your team is not invested," Palmer said. "We are huge on that and that's what separates us."

He also remains active in the Philadelphia PGA Section, where he has been the recipient of the 2024 Professional Development, 2021 Golf Professional of the Year and 2014 Assistant Golf Professional of the Year Awards.

Married with four young children, Palmer has flashed through more than 10 years at the Union League by learning and adapting.

"Five years ago I wouldn't have told you I'd be a GM one day," Palmer said. "A five years ago, I wouldn't say I'd be a chief operating officer and running all these properties and running around to construction meetings and HR things and everything else."



Liberty Hill Golf Staff



## 2026 Pocono Professional Golf Series Event Calendar

PGA of America w Philadelphia Section w Updated April 12, 2026

Date	Event	Host Course	Course Contact	Host Professional
Tuesday, April 21	Pro-Pro	Glen Brook Golf Club (Spring Meeting)	570-421-3680	Dustin McCormick
Tuesday, May 12	Pro-Am	The Shawnee Inn & Golf Resort	570-424-4019	Nick Lussier
Tuesday, May 19	Pro-Am	Buck Hill Falls Golf Club	570-595-7730	Brian Fruehan
Wednesday, May 27	Pro-Am	Great Bear Golf Club	570-223-2000	Howie Van Buskirk
Wednesday, June 3	Pro-Am	Olde Homestead Golf Club	610-298-4653	Kevin Edwards
Tuesday, June 9	Pro-Am	Glen Brook Golf Club	570-421-3680	Dustin McCormick
Tuesday, June 17	Pro-Am	Woodstone Country Club & Lodge	610-760-2777	Gregg Meyer
Wednesday, June 24	Pro-Am	The Country Club at Woodloch Springs	570-685-8102	John Pillar
Tuesday, June 30	Pro-Am	Southmoore Golf Center	610-837-7200	Jim Muschlitz
Thursday, July 9	Pro-Am	Wyoming Valley Country Club	570-825-9489	Pete Korba
Wednesday, July 22	Pro-Am	Elmhurst Golf & Country Club	570-842-7011	Mike Molino
Thursday, August 6	Pro-Am	Pocono Manor	570-839-7110	Greg Wall
Wednesday, August 26	Pro-Am	Green Pond Country Club	610-691-9453	John Kulhamer
Wednesday, September 2	Pro-Am	Pocono Farms Country Club	570-894-8441	Kyle Monahan
Wednesday, September 9	Pro-Am	Skytop Lodge	570-257-2114	Justin Alunni
Wednesday, September 16	Pro-Am	Lord's Valley Country Club	570-775-6013	Dave Yanovitch
Tuesday, September 22	Pro-Am	Scranton Canoe Club	570-378-9982	Spencer Lunger
Thursday, October 1	Pro-Am	Elkview Country Club	570-222-4555	Jared Cottell
Wednesday, October 14	Pro-Am	Country Club of Scranton	570-587-3514	John Rogers
To Be Determined	Stroke Play*	To Be Determined	---	---
To Be Determined	Pocono Cup*	To Be Determined (Pocono Mtn.)	---	---
To Be Determined	Fall Pro-Pro*	To Be Determined	---	---

\* Season-ending events will be announced at a later date.

For updates and results, visit the PPGS web site ([www.golfppgs.com](http://www.golfppgs.com)) or view the PPGS Facebook page (@golfPPGS).

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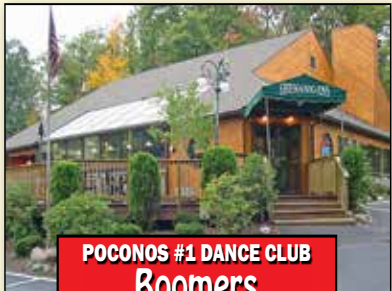


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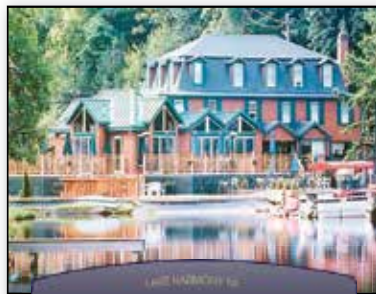
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## GOLF COURSE REVIEW - QUIVIRA GOLF CLUB

by Phil Sokol

Possibly Jack Nicklaus at his best...Only time will tell.



Course Architect: Jack Nicklaus Signature Design

Year Opened: 2014

Location: Cabo San Lucas, Mexico

Slope: 142. Rating: 74.1

Par: 72

Yardage: 7,019

Hole-by-Hole: 1 - Par 4 428 Yds 10 - Par 3 222 Yds

2 - Par 4 389 Yds 11 - Par 5 554 Yds

3 - Par 3 210 Yds 12 - Par 4 375 Yds

4 - Par 4 316 Yds 13 - Par 5 635 Yds

5 - Par 5 616 Yds 14 - Par 3 148 Yds

6 - Par 4 310 Yds 15 - Par 4 355 Yds

7 - Par 3 180 Yds 16 - Par 5 564 Yds

8 - Par 4 409 Yds 17 - Par 4 493 Yds

9 - Par 4 399 Yds 18 - Par 4 416 Yds

Par 35 3,257 Yds Par 37 3,762 Yds

Awards Won: Best Golf Resorts in Mexico by Golf Digest (2016), #1 course in Mexico by Golf Advisor, Development of the Year by Golf Inc. - 1st Place (2015), Best New International Golf Course by GOLF Magazine (2014), World's 100 Greatest Golf Courses by Golf Digest (2018), Best Golf Course by Golf Aficionado (2022).

Website: [quiviraloscabos.com/golf](http://quiviraloscabos.com/golf)

HISTORY: "This is one of the great pieces of property in the world," course designer Jack Nicklaus said. If the greatest golfer of all-time makes a statement like that, then I trust his judgement.

"We tried to create some excitement on the mountain and in the dunes, and I believe we've created a golf course that plays as spectacular as it looks," Nicklaus added. "I've never seen any place that has three holes hanging out over the ocean like this golf course does. They are unbelievable. This is a diverse golf course with inland settings; its got desert, its got ocean, its got rocks. It has a little bit of everything."

Nicklaus, who has six course designs on the Baja Peninsula, has crafted some of the finest golf courses in the world. In fact, in the United States alone he has sixteen courses ranked in the top 200 and four layouts in the world top 100.

"This property afforded us a rare opportunity because of its topographic diversity and natural environment," Nicklaus said. "Our team worked with the canvas Mother Nature provided to create one of the most spectacular courses in the world."

Quivira Golf Club was created on the tip of the Baja Peninsula, the true Land's End and stands out as one of the most beautiful and stunning golf courses in the Eastern Hemisphere. With sites of Humpback Whales breaching, breathtaking views of the Pacific Ocean, gorgeous scenery and legendary sunsets, Cabo San Lucas and more specifically, Quivira Golf Club is the place to be.

From the highest point on the course at 380 feet above sea level on the 15th hole to the lowest point of just 30 feet on the final green, Quivira offers vistas that you just can't believe. Toss in three miles of white beaches, desert cliffs and of course, the panoramic ocean views. What else could one ask for.



COURSE REVIEW: The opening hole at Quivira is a modest par four of 428 yards from the black markers. Plenty of desert on both sides of the generous landing area awaits. A medium iron should remain

to a fairly long green, which is 33 paces in depth and rolls from back to front. This hole, which was originally the 18th, plays back toward the ocean, which sets the tone for a stunning round of golf.

The second hole bends slight to the right, with a desert wash 100 yards short of the green. A very wide fairway is easily accessible, leaving a short iron to a long and narrow putting surface. One of the so-called easier holes on the course, so give your self a shot at birdie, as they will be hard to come by.

A sliver of a green awaits the golfer on the robust, par-3 third. Stretching 210 yards from the tips, this hole is quite difficult, with bunkers guarding the right and center portions of the green. The slope of the surface is from back to front and left to right, so be precise with your approach.



The fourth is a wonderful risk-reward par four of just 316 yards. A series of fairway bunkers dot the landing area, so play left to avoid the sand, thus leaving a very short club to attack. The tiny green is only 24 paces in depth and is fronted by a deep bunker. Avoid the trouble and birdie is a possibility.

Number five is a massive par-5 of 616 yards in length, yes a true three-shotter. Heading back towards the ocean, this S-shaped monster requires a blast from the back tees over a pond and a fairway flanked by desert wasteland. Play down the right side, as the fairway slopes towards the green. Your layup needs to stay clear of the pot bunker in the middle of the landing area. Now it's time for a short iron approach to another tiny green of just 27 paces. The two-tiered putting surface rolls from front to back, so choose the right club.

To say that your heading to some of the most spectacular vistas in golf is an understatement, as you take a 4-5 minute drive up the side of a mountain to the sixth. Just 310 yards, this oceanfront par four is 275 feet above sea level and offers a stunning view of the Pacific

Ocean. Although it's tempting to go for the green from the tee, the prudent play is out towards the fairway as it slopes hard down to the left. The putting surface is wide, but just 17 paces in depth, so your landing area is limited. This is where the fun begins!

Built alongside a cliff, the par three seventh is 180 yards in length



with a long and narrow putting surface and playing downhill. Stay right, as the slope will feed your tee shot towards the green. Miss left and your chances of staying out of the ocean are slim and none.

Playing alongside the historic lighthouse, the oldest structure in Cabo San Lucas, that was used in the early 1900s, the eighth is a tough par four that generally plays back into the wind and stretches over 400 yards. The fairway slopes from right to left, so your tee ball must be played accordingly. The infinity-style green slopes right to left, with a large bunker guarding that side. Most balls to the right will feed down towards the green. One little fact about the lighthouse. The building served as part of the backdrop in the movie Troy starring none other than Brad Pitt!

The closing hole on the outward nine sweeps hard from right to left and plays uphill from the fairway. Although not long in length, make sure you take enough club to reach the small putting surface. Sloping hard from left to right, the two-tiered green is just 21 paces in depth and protected by a deep bunker. Take note of the beautiful views of the Pacific, as you tend the flag for your playing partners.

After a quick snack at the rest area, the longest par three opens the back nine. 222 yards in length, number 10 requires length and accuracy, as desert left makes for a difficult up and down and missing right will find a bunker that will test even the best players. The green slopes from right to left with plenty of movement.

The par-5 11th is a sweeping dogleg right that plays downhill from tee to green. Although over 550 yards in length, getting home in two

on the course is the 16th at 564 yards. The fairway from tee to green slopes from right to left and plays uphill off the tee. Sand in the middle of the landing must be avoided at all costs. More sand in the middle guards the layup zone, however the green is situated well below, so playing down towards the right will leave a reasonable chance at birdie or better. Just 26 paces in depth, the green is very wide with bunkers left and deep. This hole is the highest point of the golf course at 380 feet above sea level.

From the highest to one of the lowest, that's what awaits on the 17th. The fairway is nearly 100 feet below the teeing area in a beautiful valley that offers stunning views of the mountains and the sea. Although buildings down the left take away from the beauty of this hole, this monster par four reaches 493 yards in length. Even with a successful tee shot, you'll be left with a long iron or fairway metal to a putting surface that's tucked behind mounds and a deep bunker. Shaved chipping areas guard the rolling green. Be happy with a par, or even a bogey. I would have been!

The closing hole at Quivira replaced the previous 17th hole and is stretched to 416 yards. Bending slightly to the right, the player must avoid the vast sand areas on both sides to leave a medium iron approach to a semi-blind putting surface. Bunkers short of the green are the biggest defense to this very wide green.

**OVERALL THOUGHTS:** What can I say that hasn't been said already. Well, first off, I wish I had more time to play this great course again and again. I hope to be back to visit. I think Jack Nicklaus said it best. "I've never seen any place that has three holes hanging out over

the ocean like this golf course does. They are unbelievable. This is a diverse golf course with inland settings—it's got desert, it's got ocean, it's got rocks; it has a little bit of everything. It's not a hard golf course; it is very user-friendly. It may look difficult because of where it is, but the course is very playable."

Quivira is not a public facility, so you need to be a guest of the resort or a member to have access to this gem. The price to play is quite steep, but if you're already in Cabo, then what the heck. Rates range from as low as \$306 to as high as \$465 during prime time from October to May.

Just remember, the key to happiness will be with the correct tee markers. Sure, you could play the black tees, but that's over 7,000 yards. The gold tees are 6,500 plus and the blue 6,100. Play the tees that make sense to you. Don't be heroic. Golf is played for enjoyment, unless you're on Tour.

Besides the golf, the practice facility is top notch, as it features a double-sided range that is parallel to the ocean and beach. There are practice bunkers and of course putting greens, along with a short-game practice area and an 18-hole putting course.

To top it off, there are four comfort stations around the course, with all food and refreshments included, such as sliders, fish tacos and of course, adult beverages!

Talk about a must play. You could spend a full day and not be disappointed. I certainly wasn't and I can't wait to come back.

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## GOLF COURSE REVIEW - ARONIMINK GOLF CLUB

Course Architects: Donald Ross (1928), Ron Prichard, McDonald & Sons (2001), Gil Hanse (Renovation, 2016-18).

Year Opened: 1928

Location: Newtown Square, Pennsylvania

Slope: 138. Rating: 75.5

Par: 70

Yardage: 7,267

Hole-by-Hole: 1 - Par 4 434 Yds    10 - Par 4 444 Yds

2 - Par 4 413 Yds    11 - Par 4 425 Yds

3 - Par 4 455 Yds    12 - Par 4 466 Yds

4 - Par 4 457 Yds    13 - Par 4 385 Yds

5 - Par 3 159 Yds    14 - Par 3 221 Yds

6 - Par 4 402 Yds    15 - Par 4 515 Yds

7 - Par 4 396 Yds    16 - Par 5 556 Yds

8 - Par 3 242 Yds    17 - Par 3 229 Yds

9 - Par 5 605 Yds    18 - Par 4 463 Yds

Par 35 3,563 Yds    Par 35 3,704 Yds

Key Events Held: PGA Championship (1962),  
U.S. Amateur (1977),  
U.S. Junior Amateur (1997),  
PGA Senior Championship (2003),  
AT&T National (2010-11),  
BMW Championship (2018),  
KPMG Women's PGA Championship (2020),  
PGA Championship (2026).

Awards Won: #3 by Golf Digest -  
Best in State, Pennsylvania (2023-24),  
#68 by Golfweek - America's Best Classic Courses (2022),  
#95 by Golf Digest - America's 100 Great Courses (2023-24),  
#8 by Forbes - Most Exclusive Private Clubs (2025-26).

Website: [www.aronimink.org](http://www.aronimink.org)

HISTORY: "I intended to make this my masterpiece, but not until today did I realize that I built better than I knew." Twenty years after designing the course, just prior to his death in 1948, Donald Ross - who designed more than 500 courses including famed venues



Pinehurst No. 2, Seminole Golf Club and Oakland Hills - toured Aronimink Golf Club and uttered that statement. A bronze plaque

including those words sits on a boulder behind the first tee.

Organized in 1896, Aronimink was named after an Indian Chief of the Lenape Tribe. When the club opened, entrance fees were \$10, annual dues were \$20 and membership was \$150, with the caddies receiving 15 cents per hour. Ross' original design was to incorporate a parkland setting with more than 100 bunkers, slopes, valleys and doglegs in an effort to require superior shot making. After three previous sites, Aronimink moved to its current location in 1926, as the club purchased 300 acres for \$300,000.

To celebrate its Indian heritage, all of the holes on the golf course bear native American names such as Apache, Seminole, Cherokee and Sioux.

Over the past several years, Aronimink has undergone a restoration and renovation guided by architect Ron Prichard in an effort to restore all bunkers to their original design, add an additional five acres of fairways (up to 31 acres) and restore the pond in front of the 10th green. In addition, over 1,000 trees have been removed for agronomical and aesthetic reasons.

The most celebrated event held at Aronimink was the 1962 PGA Championship won by Gary Player. The native South African finished the event at two-under-par (278), defeating Bob Goalby by one shot. With the win, Player became the fifth foreign-born player to win the PGA Championship. Only two players in the field, Player and Goalby, finished the week under par on the first course in PGA Championship history to be played over 7,000 (7,045) yards. Jack Nicklaus carded 69-67 the final two rounds to tie for third, while Arnold Palmer and Sam Snead tied for 17th, each failing to break par. Player sealed the win with pars on the final two holes. "It's truly, truly a great golf course," commented Player. "Remarkable, an incredible place."

In 1977, the United States Golf Association held its first event at Aronimink, the U.S. Amateur Championship, won by John Fought. The current course architect defeated heralded amateurs Marvin "Vinny" Giles III and Jay Sigel in the quarterfinals and semifinals, respectively, and then crushed Doug Fischesser, 9 & 8 in the championship match for the title.

Twenty years later, the USGA returned for the U.S. Junior Amateur, as Jason Allred defeated 2008 Masters champion Trevor Immelman, 1-up. Allred, who played several years on the PGA Tour, withstood a late rally by Immelman for the title. After falling two down to Allred after he chipped in on 15 from 30 yards away, Immelman responded with back-to-back birdies on 16 and 17 to square the match. The comeback was short-lived, as Allred two-putted for par on the last.

The PGA of America returned to Aronimink in 2003 for the Senior PGA Championship, the oldest and most prestigious senior event. Playing at just under 7,000 yards, John Jacobs outlasted the conditions and a stellar field to win for the fifth time on the elder circuit. Two shots behind after three rounds, Jacobs carded a final round of 68 after completing his third round earlier in the day, for a two-stroke win over Bobby Wadkins in a rain-delayed and soggy event. Fuzzy Zoeller, who tied for third, was the only player in the field to post four rounds of par or better (69-70-70-70). Tied for the lead with just four holes remaining, Jacobs birdied the 15th with a roller-coaster 25-footer and then two-putted for birdie on 16 for a two-shot cushion. The 58-year-old tapped in for par at the last to become the oldest Senior PGA Championship winner since Pete Cooper in 1976. The course played quite difficult for the week, as the players averaged 73.580 with 237 rounds over par.

The PGA Tour made its initial visit to Aronimink in 2010 for the AT&T National. Usually played at Congressional Country Club in Washington, DC, the tournament moved to Aronimink to accommodate course changes to Congressional for the 2011 U.S. Open.

Players were pleasantly surprised with the classic layout, as Justin Rose outlasted Ryan Moore by one shot. "This golf course has a lot of those types of characteristics where you need to play smart, you need to leave yourself below the hole, you need to not take on a lot of shots out there. You need to be very patient," commented Rose following his second-round 64.

"I considered this my U.S. Open," Rose said after winning for the second time in three starts. Rose, who failed to qualify for the U.S. Open, finished the tournament at 10-under-par, closing with an even-par 70. Jeff Overton finished third, two shots back and was the only player in the field with four rounds in the 60s.

Tiger Woods failed to break 70, shooting rounds of 73-70-70-71 and tied for 46th. For the week, the par-70 course played to a scoring average of 71.218.

Renovation work began in 2016 by local architect Gil Hanse. Longtime Aronimink member and Champions Tour player Jay Sigel felt that Hanses' work was artistic, as he restored the course by adding 100 additional bunkers, 18 new tee boxes and larger greens. "I feel like we're repainting the picture of the course that Ross wanted," said Hanse. In addition, the course was lengthened on certain holes. "The original Ross tees still exist, they just happen to be the middle tees now," added Hanse.

When the PGA Tour returned in 2018 for the BMW Championship, U.S. Ryder Cup captain Keegan Bradley was victorious, as he defeated 2025 Masters runner-up Justin Rose in a playoff with Xander Schauffele and Billy Horschel tying for third. Bradley carded a final-round 64 to force the playoff and then parred the playoff hole

to edge Rose. Several players shot the course-record of 62, including Rory McIlroy, Tiger Woods, Kevin Na and Tommy Fleetwood, who accomplished the feat during rounds two and three.

The LPGA Tour made its first visit to Aronimink in 2020 for the KPMG Women's PGA Championship. Sei Young Kim captured her first major, as she shot the lowest final round in the event's history, a 7-under par, 63 to defeat Inbee Park by five shots.

REVIEW: The course starts off with a stern test, a slight dogleg left uphill par-four with no fairway bunkers in the wide landing area on the tee shot. A mid- to long-iron is left to a two-tiered green that slopes right to left. Pin placement could add another club to your approach shot. Any approach above the flag could result in a three-putt or worse, you're ball rolling off the green.



The second hole represents a birdie opportunity. Well, maybe. A sharp dogleg left with a new tee box set back to the left, you'll need to be quite accurate off the tee, as the fairway slopes away from the player with two fairway bunkers guarding the corner. A short iron should remain, but the green slopes to the front and is extremely fast. Miss long and you'll find a difficult chipping area, making for a tough up-and-down.

Another strong par-four faces the golfer when he reaches the third tee. At 455 yards, bending to the left and bunkers guarding both sides of the fairway, the tee shot is the most crucial aspect of the hole. A long tee ball down the right side, will leave a medium to short iron approach to a wide and narrow green that slopes towards the front guarded by bunkers. Missing long is not an option.

The fourth is ranked as the toughest hole on the course, and with good reason. It's the fourth consecutive par four over 400 yards and another hole that requires an accurate tee ball. Sand guards the left landing area and thick rough flanks the right. Another mid- to long-iron remains to a slightly downhill approach to a back to front canting and small putting surface.

The fifth is typical of Ross, as he made his three pars to play downhill while his four's and five's generally played uphill. This par-three is guarded left, right and center by bunkers that are very deep and features a green that is very undulating. As you stand on the tee, your thinking birdie, but when you hole out, you'll be happy with par.

One of only two par four's under 400 yards, the sixth plays slightly longer than the yardage indicates, as your tee shot on the dogleg right is uphill to a fairly wide landing area. Sand down the right side can be cleared, but you'd better step on it. A short-iron should suffice to attack the green, however, judging the distance might be difficult since you might not see the entire flag stick. The putting surface is large with another back-to-front slope.

A definite birdie chance, the seventh requires a three-metal or an iron off the tee. This dogleg right has a grouping of mounds, no sand and several large trees guarding the corner. However, a solid tee shot will leave just a wedge to a green that sits downhill from the fairway. Missing this target will leave an almost impossible up and down, as the green falls off with yawning bunkers guarding the entrance and left. Usually played into the wind, club selection could be dicey.



The second of the downhill par-threes, the eighth is a demanding 238 yards from the tips. The tee shot must carry a pond 40 yards short of the green and dissect bunkers left and right to a green that is very long and narrow with a mound dissecting the putting surface. Chipping areas around the back of the green can play havoc with your game. During the 2010 AT&T National, the eighth proved to be the most difficult hole on the course with a scoring average of 3.297.



Playing uphill towards the clubhouse, the par-five ninth is a massive hole, the longest on the course, following an addition of a new tee box that stretches this behemoth to 605 yards. A slight fade off the tee must avoid the bunkers right and left. From the fairway, it certainly is possible to get home for the biggest of hitters, but the sensible play is to layup around the 100 yard mark for a simple wedge up the hill. The green is deep, so you'll need to be spot on for your best shot at birdie, as the birdie is calm. Miss short and the ball might end up back at your feet.



One of the more demanding holes on the course starts the back nine, a par four of 444 yards. The narrow fairway is guarded on the right side by sand, while the left side is no picnic with thick rough. Missing the fairway might force a lay-up, as the green is guarded on the left side by a pond. Making par after missing this green will be tough, as the slope and speed of the putting surface requires an adept touch. The closely mown chipping areas right and deep can be game altering. Expect a front-left pin on the final day of a tournament.

The 11th features the most difficult putting surface on the course. The hole plays straight uphill from tee to green, with bunkers down the right side of the generous fairway. You must add at least one club or even two for your approach, as the putting surface sits well above the fairway. The green features many slopes and undulations and is quite demanding. Above the hole and you'll have no shot at getting it close. Stroke your putt too hard and you'll roll back down the fairway.



The monster par four's keep on coming when you reach the 12th, a 466-yard brute. Four bunkers strategically placed down the fairway will force a layup if your tee shot finds the sand. The green is slightly elevated with sand right and a sharp fall-off left. The putting surface is slick, but easier than most.



A rare birdie hole on the back nine, the 13th, requires a long-iron or hybrid off the tee to a tight landing area guarded left by bunkers and right by trees and rough. A short-iron should remain to a well-guarded green that can yield plenty of birdies, but miss left and long and double-bogey is in the picture.

With sand flanking both sides of the green, you'll need to be spot on at the par-three 14th. Not only that, the hole plays 221 yards from the tips, so a long-iron or more will be required to get home. A back-right pin is a bear, so play towards the center, two-putt and move on, if you can.



The addition of a new tee box, made the 15th hole the longest par-four on the course at 515 yards, hence the No. 2 handicap rating. A yawning bunker right figures prominently in your play off the tee, not to mention the right-to-left sloping fairway. Even with a good tee shot, the player is left with a long-iron to a large green that slopes from back to front. Play towards the right side, as everything feeds

Honestly, the final true birdie hole on the course is the par-five 16th. A bunker guards the corner of the slight dogleg on the left side and can be carried. However, most tee shots tend to find their way towards the right side or even in the rough due to the slope of the landing area. Bunkers dot the right side of the layup zone, which should leave a simple wedge to a long, but narrow green. Miss the putting surface and you'll end up in a chipping area or sand left.

The slightly downhill, par-three 17th plays difficult, due to a lake guarding the green and when the tournament's on the line, watch out. A mishit tee shot with a left pin placement might cause an errant shot to slide down the steep bank and into the water. Miss right and a huge tree and sand will provide for a difficult up and down. To top it off, the putting surface is undulating and slick. That should be enough to give you plenty of "agita."



The home hole is as good as it gets, playing 463 yards and uphill from tee to green. The premium here is on your tee shot, that must avoid the bunker right. From the fairway, the hole bends slightly to the right and will require an extra club to reach the green. This terraced putting surface possesses many difficult hole locations with menacing bunkers guarding the surface. Sitting in front of the clubhouse, the 18th green is one of the finest settings in golf.



OVERALL: One of the true outstanding courses in America, Aronimink is Ross' true genius. Ross designed greens to protect par with plateaus, mounds and terraces running at diagonals and making the easier recovery sides the most difficult. Aronimink features putting surfaces that roll off on the edges, making par a great score. The size of the greens are an important part of the course as well, with an average size of 6,300 square feet. In comparison, the greens at Pebble Beach are just 3,500 square feet. His Scottish style is evident in the bunkering that requires precise shot ability. No wonder this course has been ranked as one of "America's 100 greatest golf courses" by many publications.

The bunker renovation work done over the past decade has brought out the true character of the course. The layout is solid and challenging enough, although several par fours play similarly. What I believe makes the course, are the four wonderful par threes, culminating with the exciting 17th.

In addition, the conditioning of the golf course and the very knowledgeable caddies promote the spirit and true essence of Aronimink Golf Club.

Although quite hilly, Aronimink is a wonderful course to walk, testing not only your skill, but your will. The climb coming up 18 is truly a great experience.

"Despite the wonderful changes and additions to the course after the restoration work by Gil Hanse, the course is very similar to what Donald Ross intended," said Head Golf Professional Jeff

A remarkable golf course that has improved drastically over the years, accommodating the changes in golf technology, while still keeping its classic roots.

Well done, Mr. Ross!



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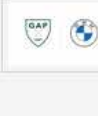




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## 2026 GAP GOLF SCHEDULE








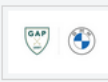



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<p><b>OPEN</b></p> <p>closes on WED, APR 15 11:59 PM EDT</p>		<p><b>2026 PRO.-PRESIDENT</b></p> <p>Wed, Apr 29, 2026</p> <p>Manufacturers' Golf &amp; Country Club</p>
		<p><b>64TH COMPHER CUP MATCHES</b></p> <p>Thu, Apr 30, 2026</p> <p>Lancaster Country Club - Meadowcreek/Dogwood</p>
<p><b>OPEN</b></p> <p>closes on MON, APR 20 11:59 PM EDT</p>		<p><b>92ND FRANCIS B. WARNER CUP</b></p> <p>Mon, May 4, 2026</p> <p>Cherry Valley Country Club</p>
<p><b>OPEN</b></p> <p>closes on TUE, APR 21 11:59 PM EDT</p>		<p><b>126TH BMW PHILADELPHIA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING (LEDGEROCK)</b></p> <p>Tue, May 5, 2026</p> <p>LedgeRock Golf Club Are you exempt? <a href="#">Click here</a></p>
<p><b>OPEN</b></p> <p>closes on TUE, APR 21 11:59 PM EDT</p>		<p><b>126TH BMW PHILADELPHIA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING (BERWICK)</b></p> <p>Thu, May 7, 2026</p> <p>Berwick Golf Club Are you exempt? <a href="#">Click here</a></p>
<p><b>OPENS</b></p> <p>MON, MAY 11 9:00 AM EDT</p>		<p><b>112TH JUNIOR BOYS' CHAMPIONSHIP</b></p> <p>Mon, Jun 22 - Wed, Jun 24, 2026 Next Round: Mon, Jun 22, 2026</p> <p>Chester Valley Golf Club</p>
<p><b>OPENS</b></p> <p>MON, MAY 11 9:00 AM EDT</p>		<p><b>122ND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING (COATESVILLE)</b></p> <p>Mon, Jun 22, 2026</p> <p>Coatesville Country Club Are you exempt? <a href="#">Click here</a></p>
<p><b>OPENS</b></p> <p>MON, MAY 11 9:00 AM EDT</p>		<p><b>122ND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING (STONEHEDGE)</b></p> <p>Tue, Jun 23, 2026</p> <p>StoneHedge Golf Course Are you exempt? <a href="#">Click here</a></p>
<p><b>OPENS</b></p> <p>MON, MAY 11 9:00 AM EDT</p>		<p><b>122ND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING (COLONIAL)</b></p> <p>Thu, Jun 25, 2026</p> <p>Colonial Golf &amp; Tennis Club Are you exempt? <a href="#">Click here</a></p>

# 2026 GAP GOLF SCHEDULE



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<b>OPENS</b> MON, MAY 11 9:00 AM EDT	 <p><b>122ND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING (WYNCOTE)</b>  <b>Mon, Jun 29, 2026</b>                  Wyncote Golf Club                  Are you exempt? Click <a href="#">here</a></p>
<b>OPENS</b> TUE, MAY 19 9:00 AM EDT	 <p><b>36TH SENIOR FOUR-MAN TEAM</b>  <b>Tue, Jun 30, 2026</b>                  North Hills Country Club</p>
<b>OPENS</b> MON, MAY 25 9:00 AM EDT	 <p><b>124TH JOSEPH H. PATTERSON CUP QUALIFYING (CONESTOGA)</b>  <b>Mon, Jul 6, 2026</b>                  Conestoga Country Club                  Are you exempt? Click <a href="#">here</a></p>
<b>OPENS</b> TUE, APR 14 9:00 AM EDT	 <p><b>19TH BREWER CUP</b>  <b>Mon, Jul 6 - Wed, Jul 8, 2026</b>                  Next Round: Mon, Jul 6, 2026                  Trump National Golf Club - Philadelphia</p>
<b>OPENS</b> MON, MAY 11 9:00 AM EDT	 <p><b>42ND JOCK MACKENZIE MEMORIAL</b>  <b>Mon, Jul 6, 2026</b>                  Sandy Run Country Club</p>
<b>OPENS</b> MON, MAY 25 9:00 AM EDT	 <p><b>5TH BMW GAP WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP</b>  <b>Mon, Jul 6 - Tue, Jul 7, 2026</b>                  Next Round: Mon, Jul 6, 2026                  Jericho National Golf Club</p>
<b>OPENS</b> MON, MAY 25 9:00 AM EDT	 <p><b>124TH JOSEPH H. PATTERSON CUP QUALIFYING (GOLDEN OAKS)</b>  <b>Tue, Jul 7, 2026</b>                  Golden Oaks Golf Club                  Are you exempt? Click <a href="#">here</a></p>
<b>OPENS</b> TUE, MAY 26 9:00 AM EDT	 <p><b>69TH PARENT/CHILD YOUNGER</b>  <b>Tue, Jul 7, 2026</b>                  Bala Golf Club</p>
	 <p><b>122ND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP</b>  <b>Mon, Jul 13 - Tue, Jul 14, 2026</b>                  Next Round: Mon, Jul 13, 2026                  Lancaster Country Club - Meadowcreek/Dogwood</p>

# SHOPRITE LPGA POWERED BY WAKEFERN SET TO RETURN TO THE JERSEY SHORE MAY 29-31, 2026

By Jeremy Friedman

GALLOWAY, N.J. — Atlantic City's kickoff professional sporting event of the summer returns with new dates and a new name that honors the past while looking ahead to the future. The ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern, entering its 38th year in 2026, will take place May 29-31 at Seaview Hotel and Golf Club in Galloway, N.J., where 144 of the world's best female professional golfers will compete for a share of the \$2 million purse, a \$250,000 increase from 2025.

Tickets are now on sale and volunteer registration is now open for the ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern at [www.ShopRiteLPGA.com](http://www.ShopRiteLPGA.com).

Wakefern Food Corp., the new presenting sponsor of the championship and the largest retailer-owned supermarket cooperative in the United States, is made up of members who independently own and operate hundreds of supermarkets throughout the Northeast, including all ShopRite supermarkets.

"We've long been a supporter and sponsor of this great event and are expanding that commitment now as presenting sponsor to ensure a lasting impact on the community and women's sports. The ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern is the perfect platform for us to do that, and we are excited to continue to expand our partnership in making this premier event even better with new initiatives and new ways to give back and support the athletes and the community in 2026 and beyond," said Wakefern President Mike Stigers.

ShopRite continues its decades-long tradition of supporting women's golf and giving back to community-based organizations through the ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern. Since 1992, ShopRite has donated more than \$45 million to area hospitals, food banks, education and youth programs and other community champions through its work with the LPGA. At the 2025 edition of the championship, dozens of nonprofits received donations totaling more than \$1.8 million during a luncheon hosted by Wakefern and ShopRite.

The ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern has been a launch pad for several of the game's preeminent players to kick start

their LPGA Tour careers, including Paula Creamer, Brooke Henderson and Lexi Thompson. The tournament annually boasts one of the strongest fields on the LPGA Tour and has featured many of the game's greatest players as past champions, including Juli Inkster, Betsy King, Dottie Pepper, Seri Pak, Annika Sorenstam, Cristie Kerr, Stacy Lewis, Karrie Webb, Henderson and Thompson.

For more information on the ShopRite LPGA powered by Wakefern, visit [www.ShopRiteLPGA.com](http://www.ShopRiteLPGA.com), and on social media @ShopRiteLPGA on X, @ShopRiteLPGA on Instagram and ShopRite LPGA on Facebook.





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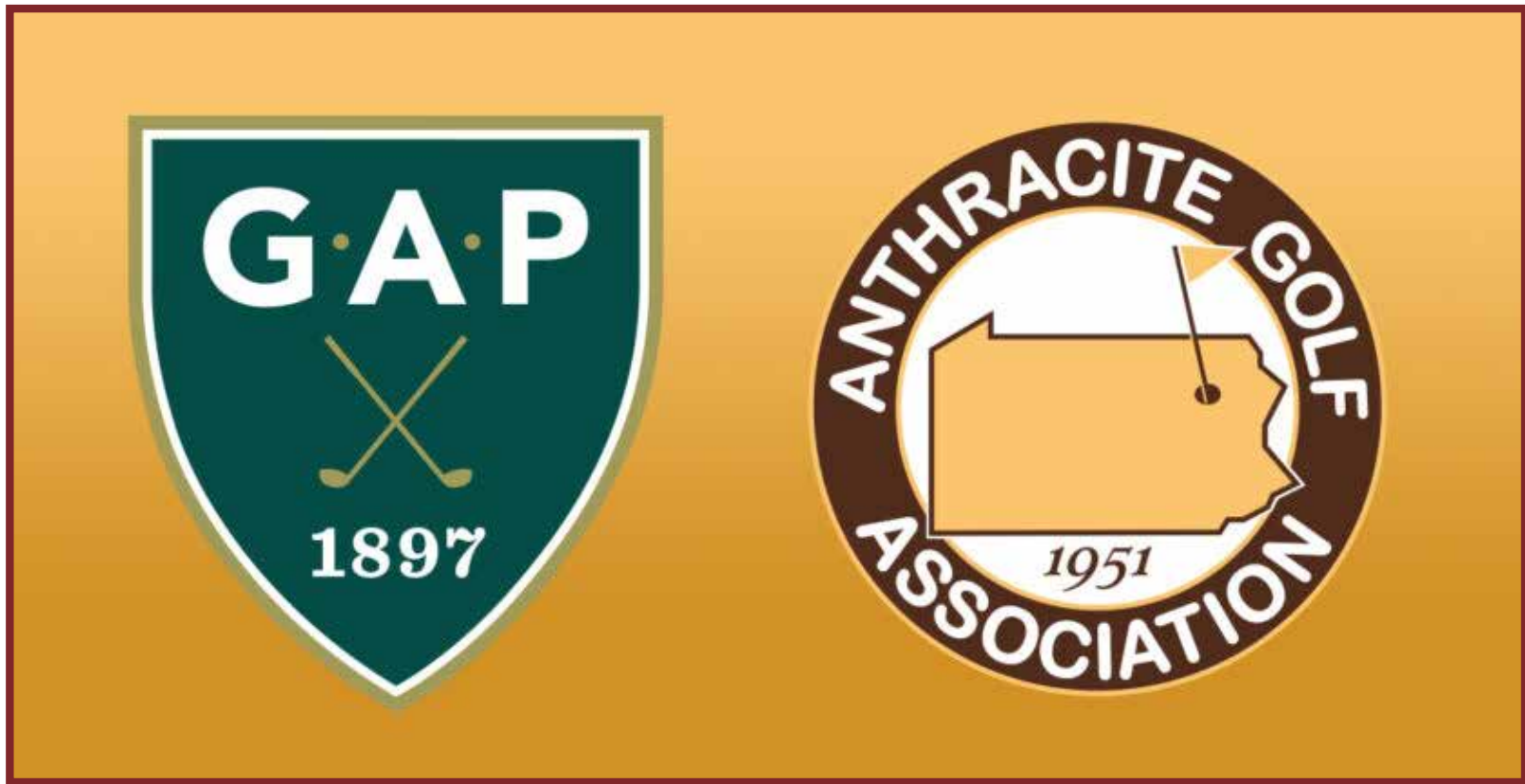
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<p><b>OPEN</b></p> <p>closes on TUE, APR 21 11:59 PM EDT</p>	 <p><b>126TH BMW PHILADELPHIA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING (BERWICK)</b></p> <p><b>Thu, May 7, 2026</b></p> <p>Berwick Golf Club Are you exempt? <a href="#">Click here</a></p>
<p><b>OPEN</b></p> <p>closes on TUE, MAY 12 11:59 PM EDT</p>	 <p><b>25TH BEN MARSHALL SPRING FOUR-BALL</b></p> <p><b>Tue, May 19, 2026</b></p> <p>Fox Hill Country Club</p>
<p><b>OPEN</b></p> <p>closes on WED, MAY 20 11:59 PM EDT</p>	 <p><b>18TH SPRING STROKE PLAY</b></p> <p><b>Wed, May 27, 2026</b></p> <p>Elmhurst Country Club</p>
	 <p><b>NORTHEAST MATCH PLAY INVITATIONAL</b></p> <p><b>Mon, Jun 1 - Thu, Sep 24, 2026</b></p> <p>Next Round: Mon, Jun 1, 2026</p> <p>Multiple Courses ⓘ</p>
<p><b>OPEN</b></p> <p>closes on MON, JUN 01 11:59 PM EDT</p>	 <p><b>GAP/AGA WOMEN'S FOUR-BALL</b></p> <p><b>Mon, Jun 8, 2026</b></p> <p>Valley Country Club</p>
<p><b>OPEN</b></p> <p>closes on WED, JUN 10 9:52 PM EDT</p>	 <p><b>LAWLER JUNIOR TOUR: IREM CC (D1)</b></p> <p><b>Wed, Jun 17, 2026</b></p> <p>Irem Country Club</p>
<p><b>OPEN</b></p> <p>closes on SUN, SEP 06 11:59 PM EDT</p>	 <p><b>LAWLER JUNIOR TOUR: IREM CC (D2)</b></p> <p><b>Wed, Jun 17, 2026</b></p> <p>Irem Country Club</p>
<p><b>OPENS</b></p> <p>MON, MAY 11 9:00 AM EDT</p>	 <p><b>122ND OPEN CHAMPIONSHIP QUALIFYING (STONEHEDGE)</b></p> <p><b>Tue, Jun 23, 2026</b></p> <p>StoneHedge Golf Course Are you exempt? <a href="#">Click here</a></p>
<p><b>OPEN</b></p> <p>closes on WED, JUN 17 11:59 PM EDT</p>	 <p><b>LAWLER JUNIOR TOUR: HONESDALE GC (D2)</b></p> <p><b>Thu, Jun 25, 2026</b></p> <p>Honesdale Golf Club</p>
<p><b>OPEN</b></p> <p>closes on THU, JUN 25 11:59 PM EDT</p>	 <p><b>LAWLER JUNIOR TOUR: BERWICK GC (D1)</b></p> <p><b>Fri, Jun 26, 2026</b></p> <p>Berwick Golf Club</p>





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Jim Hackenberg's award-winning training aids have become a standard in the bags of Tour Pros, Top Teachers, and Golfers all over the world.



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The bright Orange Ball you see sticking out of golfers bags on driving ranges and golf courses across the world was developed by PGA Golf Professional, Jim Hackenberg, over 15 years ago. The Orange Whip Swing Trainer was designed to encourage better rhythm, balance, sequence, and power by improving a golfer's tempo and swing plane. The initial model was designed as a training tool for amateur golfers, but the Tour Pros and Top Teachers quickly began to see and feel the benefits of swinging the Orange Whip. The simple, patented design has made it the most popular training aid for golfers of all abilities, and it's why you see it in the bags of the best golfer and coaches in the world.



The award-winning, patented design is what separates the Orange Whip from other swing trainers and copycats. The design consists of the counterbalance on one end, a heavy orange ball on the other end, and a whippy shaft. Together, these three components train the perfect, on plane golf swing that you can feel as you swing it back and forth. It allows the weekend golfer to develop and feel what it's like to swing like Fred Couples or Ernie Els.



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