June Tournaments

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Do You Play Alone? Do You Adjust Your Score?
Emily Hulsey, MSGA Handicap and Website Coordinator

It happens. You have time to play a quick round, but no one can join you. So, you play alone.

Up until now, no big deal. But, on 1/1/16, the USGA issued a new rule stating that if you play your round alone, you shouldn't post your score. If you do, and flag it as having played alone, it will display in red on your record and will not be used in the calculation. This is to allow for peer review. The rule can be found in the USGA Handicap System Manual, Section 5-1e (vi).

What if you play with strangers? Attesting your score is not required, and you are still playing with other people, so your score counts.

How about adjusting your score using Equitable Stroke Control? If you post your score hole-by-hole, then you don't need to adjust your score. The handicap system does it for you.

But if you post a total gross score, it must first be adjusted using the ESC. You can view the ESC table when you are posting your score at the course kiosk, online, or on the smartphone app. In a nutshell, find your handicap range on the chart, and if your score for any hole exceeds the maximum number, adjust it down to that number.

All scores should be adjusted, including tournament scores. This requirement reduces high hole scores for handicap purposes in order to make handicaps more representative of a player's potential ability. You can read more about ESC in the USGA Handicap System Manual, Section 4-3.

You can contact Emily at support@msgagolf.org for questions or more information.

Congratulations to our MAY WINNERS!

TRIP to Seattle Seahawks game - Wade Stein, Lewistown
$200 cash - Dave Kalberg, Billings

TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE for next month’s drawing! www.msgagolf.org/raffle-fundraiser
The MSGA’s commitment to junior golf development has been realized by nine communities around the state. And the program is just getting off the ground.

Connie Cramer-Caouette, director of golf for Great Falls’ two public courses, received a $500 check recently from the MSGA. She applied for funding to assist her Swings To The Schools program, which introduces golf to elementary and middle school students through physical education classes. She plans to purchase equipment (balls, clubs, and targets) to be used in gym classes this fall.

Other Montana towns also received checks in the mail recently. Scobey and Baker both received $500. Sidney, Ennis, and Malta received $1,000 each, with Bozeman, Missoula, and Billings programs getting $500 apiece.

The MSGA board voted last winter to establish a $10,000 junior development fund, to be used exclusively to introduce kids to the game. Since then, nine communities have received grants totaling $6,000.

Applications for MSGA junior development grants are available online at msgagolf.org/junior-program-grants. Program providers have to show in detail how the funds will be spent and how the juniors will be impacted by the grant. The funds are to be used as seed money, and aren’t designed to cover complete program costs.

The MSGA is trying to greatly expand the scope of its junior development fund through a statewide fundraiser. The association is selling raffle tickets for 12 travel packages – several of them golf-related – at $200 apiece, and the first drawing was to be held over the Memorial Day weekend in Missoula. The MSGA hopes to raise at least $30,000 annually, if all tickets are sold, with all of the funds earmarked for junior development.

Tickets are still available for the next drawing in June. Those interested in supporting the juniors program can visit the web site at msgagolf.org/raffle-fundraiser, or msgagolf.org/give-now. Thank you for your support!

Geise is a retired Great Falls Tribune sports editor and current MSGA board member.

Support Junior Golf!
Proceeds from MSGA Specialty Plates are used to help support Junior Golf Programs in Montana.
Rogers, Crippen Earn Victories at Barnett Memorial

Eli Rogers of Hamilton started his summer off right with a seven-stroke victory (204) over Ryan Porch of Kalispell (211) at the 38th Barnett Memorial Tournament in Missoula.

Rogers, who will head into his senior year at Utah State, chipped in for eagle on his final hole at Missoula Country Club.

The Don Barnett Memorial Tournament, along with the Lake City Open in Polson, marks the beginning of the competitive season for many amateurs around the state.

Porch, also an accomplished Division I golfer at the University of Idaho, finished second at the three-day Barnett last year as well. He lead after 36 holes, but it was Rogers who was able to turn in the low round of the tournament with a Monday round of 66, five-under-par.

Sadie Crippen, a freshman at the University of Montana and Loyola Sacred Heart Alum (220) bested her sister Maggie (232) by a dozen shots to secure a victory on the women’s side. Teigan Avery of Kalispell, finished third (246).

A FLIGHT
Eli Rogers:68-70-66-204
Ryan Porch:66-69-76-211
Sean Benson:68-74-74-216
Jake Hedge:71-70-75-216
Spencer Williams:77-71-69-217
Chris McConnell:71-74-73-218
Ross Bartell:73-75-71-219
Kyle Mossier:73-68-78-219
Joseph Potkonjak:70-74-76-220
Craig Hurlbert:68-72-81-221
Easton Enott:72-75-74-222
Tim Garden:68-78-75-221
Liam Clancy:80-71-70-221
Devin Bray:80-78-73-221
Dave Swenson:87-76-72-225
Ty Stetzner:83-77-75-225
Ryan Keenan:75-82-78-225
Mike Anderson:72-84-80-225
Joe Hill:71-70-75-226
Randy Flink:79-84-76-226
Derek Colberg:85-78-76-226
Taylor Peissig:79-82-80-226
Mike Mattson:78-77-82-226
Spencer Williams:77-71-69-227
Jake Hedge:71-70-75-227
Sean Benson:68-74-74-227
Eli Rogers:68-70-66-227
Bob Hasquet:81-72-71-227
Cory Slocum:75-73-76-227
Scott Larson:77-74-72-227
Shawn Tucker:68-77-80-227
Logan Iverson:73-79-74-227
RJ Patterson:76-72-79-227
Dirk Cloninger:79-72-79-230

B FLIGHT
Ron Rambacher:74-73-71-218
Jame McKinney:74-80-73-227
Pat Colberg:73-79-77-227
Bennett MacIntyre:73-82-82-227
Nick Shull:79-73-77-227
Kevin O’Day:79-73-78-230
Justin Meier:75-76-79-230
Devin Bray:80-78-73-230
Jason Winkler:78-77-79-234
Tom Domako:78-82-82-238
S. Ramsbacher:77-77-85-239

B FLIGHT
Landon’s Legacy:72-84-90-256
Yegen GC (Billings):86-90-84-260
Ashley Willett:83-92-91-260
Mike Anderson:72-84-90-261
Julia Jones:92-86-90-262
Bob Gray:80-80-80-240
Chad Keller:82-79-83-244
Brett Benzyhoff:79-86-83-248
Troy Wolfe:85-87-77-249
Aaron Koerner:89-76-86-251
Jesse Rodman:86-89-88-263
Akku Acharya:91-92-90-273

H FLIGHT
Sadie Crippen:71-75-74-220
Maggie Crippen:72-82-79-232
Teigan Avery:81-83-82-246
Katie Willis:89-88-83-260
Marianne Nelson:84-84-93-261
Ashley Willett:83-92-91-266
Julia Jones:92-86-90-268
Anita Santasier:91-94-87-272
Cindy Reimers:88-91-98-277
Sydnee Nowlen:91-94-98-283
S. Alexander:98-92-96-286

Have you logged in online? Post scores and view your record from Home. Don’t know your login? Contact us at support@msgagolf.org.

Try the MSGA Smartphone APP. Search for “MSGA GOLF” in the Apple or Android Stores.
## Congratulations to our newest Ace Club Members!

Did you get a hole-in-one? Go to [www.msgagolf.org](http://www.msgagolf.org) to see how to get your MSGA Hole-in-One Certificate!

Russell W. Hitchens, 3/30/16, The Ranch Club, Hole #4, 147 yds, 8 Iron
Larry Flemmer, 3/8/16, Whitetail, Hole #5, 146 yds, 8 Iron
Jeff Blessum, 9/27/15, Valley View, Hole #6, 127 yds, Gap Wedge

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### High School Season Concludes for Class B & C

*Nick Dietzen, MSGA Communications Director*

#### CLASS B

**Boys:** Libby’s Ryggs Johnston claimed the Class B State Championship, and the freshman sensation did so in record-setting fashion. Johnston, no stranger to the larger stages in amateur golf, added another accomplishment to his growing list by picking up his first high school title. He set an all-class Montana High School scoring record with a two-day total of 131 at the Johnny Walker Course at Pryor Creek Golf Club in Huntley. He opened with a 68 and closed with a blistering 63 to best runner up and MSU-Billings bound Caleb Stetzner of Anaconda.

Stetzner had an impressive tournament with rounds of 69-68 – 137, which would have set the Class B record, had it not been for Johnston’s performance. He won the Class A championship last year, before Anaconda moved to Class B this season.

Johnston’s record setting performance bested Glacier High School’s Larry Iverson’s 2008 state tournament score of 136, for best in Treasure State Prep History. Johnston, who qualified last year for the U.S. Amateur and finished third at the “Big I Nationals” in Kansas, is becoming a regular name in the amateur ranks on the national stage.

“My goal was to win four state titles. This is one, and I have three more chances at it,” he said.

Last year’s Class B medalist, Joseph Potkonjak, of Bigfork, led his Vikings team to the team title and finished third individually at 141. Bigfork’s 657 total was four clear of Huntley Project and five ahead of third-place Shelby 662.


**Girls:** Tanna Campbell of Big Timber rallied on day two to force a playoff with Townsend’s Lynzee Dexter. Campbell, parred the par-5 18th hole at Billings’ Eaglerock Golf Course to earn the State B crown, as Dexter bogeyed. Campbell, who finished fourth at state as a freshman and... Continued on the next page
HIGH SCHOOL ... from previous page

sixth last year now has a state title to her credit. “Lynzee is a close friend and we’ve golfed together forever. It was really nice to have her alongside through the whole thing,” Campbell said.

For Dexter, a very successful high school career was capped with her fourth top-10 finish at state. Her sister Bailee won the 2014 title.

On the team side, Three Forks laid claim to a ninth championship, but first since 2010 as they dominated with a two-day 731 total, nearly fifty shots ahead of second-place Shelby. Roundup finished third at 801. Shelby’s Skyler Martin (166) finished third, and Columbus’ Tana House (172) and Thompson Falls’ Brook Jacobs (172) tied for fourth overall.


Individuals Top-10: Tanna Campbell, Big Timber, 83-81—164 (won playoff); Lynzee Dexter, Townsend, 80-84—164; Skylar Martin, Shelby, 84-82—166; Sydney Rockford, Three Forks, 88-85—173; Tana House, Columbus, 84-88—172; Brooke Jacobs, Thompson Falls, 83-89—172; Shainy Mack, Three Forks, 85-95—180; Mariah Marquez, Three Forks, 91-90—181; Madison Larson, Roundup, 89-95—184; Michaela Larson, Roundup, 91-95—186.

CLASS C

Boys: McKinley Nicholas of Seeley-Swan captured the State C boys’ title in a three-hole playoff with Garret Woldstad of Harlowton and Andrew Eberling of Plentywood. While the individual title was hotly contested, the team title went to Harlowton, as their 513 two-day total bested defending champion Seeley-Swan by 16 shots.


Girls: Heather LaPlant of Broadus captured the Class C girls’ title with a two-day total of 179, winning by 10 shots over Jade LaDeaux of Plains (189). Lone Peak was victorious on the team side with a 638 total for the two days of play. Harlowton finished five shots behind at 643 and Broadus finished third at 654. Both the boys and girls tournament was held at Hamilton Golf Course.


Clancy Caps Career with All-America Honors
Nick Dietzen, MSGA Communications Director

Kyla Clancy closed out a decorated collegiate career at Rocky Mountain College with a third place finish at the NAIA National Championship at Savannah Quarters Country Club in Pooler, Georgia. The tournament was shortened to 36 holes due to heavy rains. Kaitlyn Riley of Cumberlands (KY) University was medalist at 140.

Clancy’s 73-74, 147 finish earned her NAIA All-America honors. The Park City native and two-time Class A state champion at Billings Central finished 30th last year before breaking through individually to close out her collegiate career. “I played aggressive. I took more risks. I was stronger mentally. I stayed in the moment,” Clancy said regarding her performance.

Rocky qualified by winning the Frontier Conference Tournament. The Battlin’ Bears finished in 20th overall with a two day team total of 657. Keiser University (Florida) was the only team to break 600 with a championship effort of 599. Nellie Ann Enderby (167), Eryn Ellis (171), McKenzie Webinger (172), and Abigail Venzor (190) rounded out the Rocky Mountain College scores for the week.

Gina Kowolchuk of the University of Great Falls competed individually and finished tied for 55th with rounds of 82-76, 158. 144 players and 27 teams competed in the national tournament.

2016 Boatwright Orientation
Connor Hausauer, MSGA Boatwright Intern

I recently had the opportunity to travel to Far Hills, New Jersey, to attend the P.J. Boatwright Jr. Internship Orientation. I joined 75 other State and Regional Golf Association Representatives from across the nation.

On the first day, we learned the fascinating history of P.J. Boatwright Jr. – the namesake of the internship. Boatwright was a golf philanthropist and dedicated his life to helping serve the game. Later we learned about course ratings, tournament administration, handicap systems, and agronomy. I was particularly interested in the tournament administration lectures. Tournament preparation and administration is one of my main responsibilities and passions as a Boatwright Intern. I want to help make our events more of a complete experience for the competitor, with enhanced media and social media coverage, and improved live leaderboards.

On the last day of the orientation we got to visit Golf House, the headquarters of the USGA. At headquarters, we had the opportunity to go to the equipment-testing center, where the USGA tests thousands of products. To test many of their products, the USGA utilizes a newer version of the famous “Iron Byron” mechanical golfer. After watching, I gained a greater appreciation for the game’s technicalities and the science behind its most recent development.

Attending the Boatwright orientation has been one of the highlights of my golf career. I look forward to another great summer with the MSGA and I am excited to implement several new ideas I learned at the orientation.

Connor Hausauer is a teacher at Bozeman High School, where he also is an assistant golf coach for the Hawks. For more information about P.J. Boatwright Jr. Internships: http://www.usga.org/about/p-j--boatwright-internship---golf-administration-.html
RARE OLYMPIC GOLF MEDALS TO BE DISPLAYED FOR THE FIRST TIME IN MORE THAN A CENTURY

The USGA and the World Golf Hall of Fame & Museum will exclusively showcase medals won by H. Chandler Egan at the 1904 Summer Olympics in St. Louis, the last time golf was part of the Olympic schedule. Golf will make its highly anticipated return to the Summer Olympic Games in August, in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Egan’s medals represent his achievements in the individual and team competitions at the 1904 Olympics. Egan, a Chicago native and a member of Exmoor Country Club, was captain of the Western Golf Association team that won the gold medal at Glen Echo Country Club in St. Louis. Additionally, he won the silver medal in the individual competition, finishing runner-up to George Lyon, of Canada.

“These medals are an incredibly important piece of golf history,” said Michael Trostel, director of the USGA Museum. “To have them on display is a real treat for fans of the game, the Olympics, and sports in general. This exhibit is a great opportunity to connect golf’s Olympic past to its future and celebrate its return to the Games this summer in Rio.”

The medals, on loan from Egan’s grandson, Morris Everett Jr., will be featured at the USGA Museum as part of a special exhibit running from May 11 to June 8, and will also be at Oakmont Country Club (PA) during the 2016 U.S. Open Championship (June 13-19). As part of the display, the USGA will also showcase the runner-up trophy that Egan received for the individual competition, which is on loan from the LA84 Foundation.

The medals will then be brought to the World Golf Hall of Fame & Museum in St. Augustine, FL, where they will be featured in a new Olympics exhibit set to open June 23. Amy Alcott, 1999 World Golf Hall of Fame inductee and co-designer of the golf course in Rio, will be in attendance for the grand opening and unveiling of the medals.

“As the anticipation for golf’s return to the Olympics continues to mount, we are honored to showcase these rare medals and help champion the Egan legacy,” said Jack Peter, president of the World Golf Hall of Fame. “The family deserves to be commended for preserving these medals for so many years and for choosing to show them to golf fans everywhere.”

In addition to seeing the Olympic medals, fans visiting the exhibit can learn more about Egan’s extraordinary golf career, which included back-to-back U.S. Amateur Championship victories in 1904 and 1905, as well as four Western Amateur titles. Egan, who later designed nearly 20 golf courses, was a member of the USA’s Walker Cup-winning Team in 1934. The Olympic men’s competition in Rio is scheduled for August 11-14, while the women’s competition is scheduled for August 17-20, both at 72 holes of stroke play.

USGA DEEPENS COMMITMENT TO 9-HOLE RECREATIONAL GOLF FORMAT

Spurred by the success of its first two years, the USGA is expanding the PLAY9 program this year, encouraging more golfers to play nine holes during six scheduled “PLAY9 Days” throughout the golf season, beginning on May 9 and occurring on the ninth day of each month through October.

Since 2014, the USGA’s PLAY9 program has been actively educating and rallying golfers around the concept of the nine-hole round as a simple yet effective solution to address the challenge of fitting golf into busy days. In its first year, the PLAY9 program sparked a 13 percent year-over-year increase in nine-hole scores posted to the USGA’s Golf Handicap and Information Network for the first two months following the program’s launch. Nine-hole scores posted to GHIN increased another 11 percent in 2015.

“What we love about PLAY9 is the opportunity to welcome more people – both recreational golfers and non-golfers alike – to enjoy the great game of golf,” said Mike Davis, USGA executive director/CEO. “We’re clearly excited about the results we’ve seen, committed to expanding the program, and optimistic about its long-term potential to grow globally.”
While 2016 PLAY9 Days will be officially observed on May 9, June 9, July 9, August 9, September 9, and October 9, golf facilities are being encouraged by the USGA to host nine-hole “play” events whenever it is convenient.

Working closely with the National Golf Foundation, state, and regional golf associations, and allied partners, including the LPGA, The First Tee, and AJGA, the USGA has expanded its dedicated PLAY9 microsite (www.usga.org/play9) to include additional PLAY9 content, suggested PLAY9 Day games and activities, and promotional templates in print and digital form.

“We are encouraged by what we have seen from the first two years of the PLAY9 program and fully support the potential of growing the game through this initiative,” said Chris Montgomery, director of communications and marketing partnerships for the Arizona Golf Association. “PLAY9 offers a great fit for the fast-paced modern world and allows our members to play the game they love, post their scores, and introduce their friends and family at a lower cost and time commitment.”

The nine-hole round is highly regarded for a range of appreciable benefits:

- It involves a lesser time commitment than playing 18 holes.
- It can be a less intimidating format to newcomers in learning the game's fundamentals, along with Rules and etiquette.
- Nine-hole scores are eligible for handicap purposes.
- A nine-hole round is cost-effective.

With nine-hole golf facilities making up more than 30 percent of public courses in the United States, and 90 percent of 18-hole public facilities offering nine-hole rates, the USGA supports PLAY9 Days as an optimal opportunity to play the great game of a lifetime, and encourage additional participation.

**TIMUQUANA COUNTRY CLUB TO HOST 2019 U.S. WOMEN’S AMATEUR FOUR-BALL**

Timuquana Country Club, in Jacksonville, FL, has been selected by the USGA as the host site for the 2019 U.S. Women’s Amateur Four-Ball Championship. The second USGA championship to be contested at Timuquana is scheduled for April 27-May 1, 2019.

“We look forward to returning to Timuquana Country Club for the 2019 U.S. Women’s Amateur Four-Ball Championship and sincerely appreciate the club’s enthusiasm for hosting this popular event,” said Stuart Francis, USGA Championship Committee chairman. “We’re confident Timuquana will provide a comprehensive test that will produce worthy champions while continuing to elevate the fun-spirited and competitive nature inherent to this team championship.”

The U.S. Women’s Amateur Four-Ball Championship is open to two-player sides (or teams) of female amateurs with an individual Handicap Index not exceeding 14.4. There are no age restrictions and partners are not required to be from the same club, state, or country. The championship begins with 18-hole sectional qualifying, which commences the previous August and is conducted by state and regional golf associations on behalf of the USGA.
Trip-of-the-Month RAFFLE

ONLY 300 TICKETS SOLD! • 24 CHANCES TO WIN!

ALL PROCEEDS WILL GO TO MONTANA JUNIOR GOLF!

Seattle Seahawks Football
Farmers Open PGA tourney
Cancun, Mexico
Maui, Hawaii
St. Augustine, Florida
Dublin, Ireland
Alaska Cruise
Colorado Rockies Baseball
Las Vegas, Nevada
Two Airline Tickets
Napa Valley, California
Scottsdale, Arizona

Drawings held once a month, from May 2016 to April 2017

First Prize - Trip for Two, as outlined in the brochure (In lieu of trip, the winner may elect to take a $1000 travel voucher or $750 cash).

Second Prize - $200 cash

All tickets, winning and non-winning, are included in every drawing.

TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE!
Go to www.msgagolf.org to purchase your ticket.

The next drawing will be held this month -- winners announced on the MSGA website!
Tickets can be purchased any time after the raffle begins. Credit cards are accepted.

Don’t want to go it alone?

Chip in with your league group, your workmates, or your friends, and buy a ticket together. Get creative! Have a drawing of your own for the winner, or alternate who can win each month.

With only 300 tickets sold, and 2 winners a month, your chances are good for a return on the cost of the ticket.

And, ultimately, it goes toward a great cause... our kids, the future golfers of Montana.

DON’T WAIT! The next drawing will be held soon!