Kalispell’s Porch Wins 2016 State Amateur
Nick Dietzen, MSGA Communications Director

No longer a groomsman at the State Amateur, Ryan Porch of Kalispell, runner-up the previous two years, dominated the 99th Montana State Amateur, going wire-to-wire in impressive fashion to etch his name on the historic trophy.

Porch, who is heading into his senior season at the University of Idaho, has been at the top or near the top of nearly every amateur event he's competed in Montana. He was the only player in the field of 132 competitors to break par for the tournament. His three-day total of 207 (-9) was nine shots better than Tyler Jessop (Hamilton) and Jim Bob Coleman (Billings), who each shot 216 (even par) for the week.

Laurel Golf Club was a stern test for the field as average scores ranged in the 80’s, while temperatures were in the mid-90’s. Porch finished the tournament with back-to-back birdies on 17 and 18, with a 73, following a 68 and 66. He said that to-date the victory stands as his biggest golfing accomplishment.

Jessop had the low round of the final day with a 69 (-3), and was the only red number posted during the final round -- one characterized by wind gusts and quick greens at the beautifully maintained Laurel Golf Club. The next best rounds were even-par 72’s by Gordon Webb (Malta) and Joe Cielak (Libby).

Junior players Liam Clancy (16) and Paul O’Neil (15), both who play at Laurel GC, tied for low-junior honors with three-day totals of 233 and a tie for 25th overall. For full Results of the tournament, go to: http://tms.golfnet.com/registration/?eventid=10282#d_leaderboard.

Special thanks to our host, Laurel Golf Club. Next year, Missoula CC will host the 100th State Amateur.

Congratulations to our JULY WINNERS!

TRIP to Cancun, Mexico - Fred Schedel, Lewistown
$200 cash - Joel Desin, Billings

TICKETS ARE STILL AVAILABLE for this month’s drawing! www.msgagolf.org/raffle-fundraiser
Maggie Crippen of Missoula (North Dakota State) went wire-to-wire at Green Meadow Country Club to capture the 2016 MSWGA State Amateur Title.

For Crippen, it was her second State Amateur Title, also winning in 2011. She led the entire way, after starting the tournament with a first round of 74. Crippen followed up with a one-under 72 in round two, and concluded with 75, for a total of 221 (+2), and seven shots ahead of her nearest competition, Teigan Avery of Kalispell at 228 (+9).

Avery, who will be attending the University of Montana in the fall was four shots ahead of defending champion Dorsey Addicks (Big Sky) and Jackie Mee (Missoula) who tied for third at 232 (+13). Rounding out the top-five: Kyla Clancy (Laurel) and Bailee Dexter (Townsend) at 233 (+14). For full Results: [http://tms.golfnet.com/registration/?eventid=10264#d_leaderboard](http://tms.golfnet.com/registration/?eventid=10264#d_leaderboard).

The State Women’s Senior Amateur was concurrently held at Green Meadow and Mary Bryson of Helena used her home-course knowledge and consistent play to earn her a hard-fought victory over Sue Matson (Laurel) and Jo Smith (Missoula).

Bryson, an active leader on both the MSWGA and MSGA boards had a tremendous week, not only taking home champion honors, but also being elected to the MSWGA Hall of Fame the evening before the final round.

Condon’s Helene Michael started the tournament with 79, one shot ahead of Bryson (80). In round two, Bryson took hold of the lead at 162, after an 82, but her four shot advantage going into the final round fluctuated. Smith took a one-shot advantage into the par-5 18th hole, but Bryson relied on her experience to clear a lateral water hazard on her second shot, to finish at 87 for the round, a 249 total win, two shots over Smith and Matson at 251. For full Results: [http://tms.golfnet.com/registration/?eventid=10265#d_leaderboard](http://tms.golfnet.com/registration/?eventid=10265#d_leaderboard).

Thank you to our gracious host, Green Meadow Country Club!

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**2016 MSWGA Scholarships**

(left to right): Coral Schulz, (Whitefish HS), Lynzee Dexter (Broadwater County HS, Townsend), Morgan O’Neil (Laurel HS), Teigan Avery, (Glacier HS, Kalispell). All will be playing collegiate golf in Montana.

Emma Dyre (Billings Senior HS), also a scholarship winner, was not in attendance.
Amateurs Rally to Claim Montana Cup
Nick Dietzen, MSGA Communications Director

The Montana Cup pits a dozen top amateurs from Montana with twelve club professionals in a Ryder Cup-esque competition for bragging rights and a trophy. The 2016 Montana Cup was hotly contested and thanks to a flourish of victories on day two in singles matches, the amateurs were able to raise the cup, winning 37.5-34.5 at Butte Country Club.

The amateurs won 22 of 36 points or 22-14 on day two singles play with Sean Gilligan (Shelby), Bennett MacIntyre (Helena), Marcus Orange (Billings), and Kyle Mossfeldt (Whitefish) all sweeping their matches 3-0.

Professionals Lon Hinkle (Bigfork) and Ryan Malby (Kalispell) picked up 3-0 sweeps as well, but it was not enough to stem the rally of the amateurs. Day one was highlighted by the professionals running out to a 20.5-15.5 in the best-ball and chapman team formats. They swept four of the six chapman matches and narrowly pulled out a one-point advantage in best-ball. Full results for Day 1 and Day 2 can be found on the MSGA website.

Thanks to Butte Country Club for playing host to the 2016 Montana Cup!

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2016 MSGA vTour Going Full Swing
Emily Hulsey, MSGA Handicap and Website Coordinator

We’re already nearing the end of the 2016 v’Tour Series… Many prizes have been won and points racked up for the year-end Grand Prize drawing! But, there are 2 events left! Don’t miss out... you still have a chance to win!

It’s easy to play and it’s FREE! Just register online, then play at any course at your leisure during the event dates. You can even register after an event has started. Go to http://msgavtour.golfnet.com/vtour/ for more details.

PLAYER PRIZES:

Mountain Goat Kickoff
Troy Stiles, Roger Amundson, Brandon Jaraczeksi, Randy Kelley, Jason Hufford, Lee Mason, Dan Brown, Meg Estey, Deanna Flemmer, Mary Bryson, Kathy Dodd, Ann Marie Bushong

The Coyote Classic
Todd Erickson, Garry Williams, Justin Walsh, Tyler Wantulok, Cary Norling, Fred Schweitzer, Rod Stirling, Marina Ramias, Theresa Carpenter, Donna Benner, Debbie Erwin, Barbara Baumgartner

Rattler Roundup
Ryan Thomsen, Bennett Maclntyre, Seth Hedge, Tracy Dooley, John Dunfee, Michael Hoffer, Bill Zander, Ruth Fenn, Christa Reisinger, Emily Garden, Mary West, Pam Kaufman

The Peregrine Plunge
Bill Kingston, Brandon Bassett, Tim Casey, Lewis Gundlach, Boyd Jackson, Mike Richards, Justin Sullivan, Lisa Reimer, Susan Zeeck, Tess Lind, Gina Palm, Paula Pervais

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8/13/16
Tree Hugger
Pine Ridge GC (Roundup)
8/13/16 - 8/14/16
Ladies Invitational
Hamilton GC (Hamilton)
8/13/16 - 8/14/16
Member Guest
Cabinet View GC (Libby)
8/13/16 - 8/14/16
Men’s Club & Jr Championships
Yegen GC (Billings)
8/15/16
RMSPGA (YC) Pro-Am
Lake Hills GC (Billings)
8/16/16
Silver Dollar Scramble
Madison Meadows GC (Ennis)
8/17/16
Ladies Invitational
Anaconda CC (Anaconda)
8/18/16
Montana Contractors
Old Works GC (Anaconda)
8/19/16
1st Annual Charity Scramble
Meadow Lark CC (Great Falls)
8/19/16
Billings Clinic - Ladies
Laurel GC (Laurel)
8/19/16
Montana Contractors
Old Works GC (Anaconda)
8/19/16
Night Flight Tourney
Trestle Creek GC (St. Regis)
8/19/16 - 8/20/16
Sacajawea Open (MT First Tee Benefit)
Headwaters GC (Three Forks)
8/20/16
2nd Annual Whackers and Hackers
Hickory Swing GC (Great Falls)
8/20/16
BCSF Full Moon Open
Yegen GC (Billings)
8/20/16
Pep Rally Tournament
Plentywood GC (Plentywood)
8/20/16
Ryder Club Men’s Tournament
Marlan Hills GC (Malta)
8/20/16 - 8/21/16
Big Sky Open / Club Championship
Big Sky Resort GC (Big Sky)
8/20/16 - 8/21/16
MCC Couples’ Chapman
Missoula CC (Missoula)
Montana Teams Compete in Junior America’s Cup
Nick Dietzen, MSGA Communications Director

Top juniors from around the state traveled south to compete in the Junior America’s Cup Championships this month.

On the boys’ side, Montana finished T-15th out of 18 teams at Guadalajara Country Club. Libby’s Ryggs Johnston finished in T-5th at three-under-par. Billings’ Joey Moore finished in a tie for 10th at even par. Bigfork’s Joseph Potkonjak and Billings’ Caleb Trost both were +31 and finished tied for 69th. Washington won the team competition and competitor Ryan Maine (WA) won the tournament by two shots at -8.

On the girls’ side, Montana finished 17th of 18 teams competing in Modesto, California, at Del Rio Country Club. Missoula’s Kylie Esh finished +20 to lead Montana, individually finishing T-33rd. Bozeman’s Hannah Rosanova finished in 64th (+54), Butte’s Patricia Joyce was 66th (+56), and Bozeman’s Kameryn Bayse was 68th (+60). Southern California was victorious in team competition and Brianna Navarrosa of San Diego was the only player under par, two-under for the thirteen-year-old.

Congratulations to our juniors for a great effort! Montana’s Junior America’s Cup Team Participation is fully supported by the MSGA.

MT Golfers Compete at Big “I” National Championships
Nick Dietzen, MSGA Communications Director

Two familiar names from Billings acquitted themselves on the national tournament scene as Sean Benson and Joey Moore each represented Montana well at the Trusted Choice Big “I” National Championships, finishing 23rd and T-43rd respectively. The third oldest junior golf tournament, in its 48th edition, was played at Del Paso Country Club in Sacramento, CA, and featured 93 boys.

Benson, a rising sophomore at Montana Tech, got off to a fast start with back-to-back under par rounds in the 60’s to easily make the cut and eventually finished 23rd at 286, +4 for the championship (69-68-74-75). Moore, to be a junior at Billings West, sandwiched one-under par rounds between 77’s to finish at 294, +6 for the championship (77-70-70-77).

In the girls division, Kylie Esh of Missoula shot rounds of 85-79 (+22). Esh plays at Loyola High School. Next year, the Big “I” will be contested at Annandale GC in Mississippi.
Billings’ Moore Shines at U.S. Junior Amateur
Nick Dietzen, MSGA Communications Director

Joey Moore, a rising junior at Billings West, put together a strong effort at the U.S. Junior Amateur, advancing to match play and picking up a victory before being eliminated in the round of 32.

Moore, who was the medalist qualifier at Minnehaha Country Club in Sioux Falls, SD, after two rounds of even-par 71, advanced to the USGA Championship in Ooltewah, Tennessee. He was easily among the 64 players to advance from stroke play as he T-18th with rounds of 71-74 (+1) to earn the 20th seed.

In the round of 64, Moore defeated Jonathon Cachon of Weston, FL, 2 up and moved onto the second round. Moore drew the 13th seed, Cole Hammer of Houston, Texas, and was eliminated 6 and 4.

Hammer, a familiar name to some, qualified as a 15-year-old last year for the U.S. Open and competed at Chambers Bay. Noah Goodwin of Corinth, Texas, was the overall champion as he bested Min Woo Lee of Australia 2 and 1.

Missoula’s Swanson Earns U.S. Amateur Bid
Nick Dietzen, MSGA Communications Director

The 2015 Montana State Amateur Champion, Tom Swanson, earned a trip to the 2016 U.S. Amateur in August, after a sterling performance at a qualifier held at The Ranch Club, in Swanson’s hometown of Missoula.

Swanson shot 65-69, 134 (-10) to earn medalist honors and a trip to Oakland Hills for the 2016 U.S. Amateur in Michigan. His 36-hole performance was three shots better than Evan Holmes of Canada (70-67, 137).

Players had to battle high temperatures and a challenging course. Swanson shared the lead with Alexander Smith after an opening round of 65. He continued to play well in the second round, carding 5 birdies en route to a second-round 69, and capturing the berth with 35 players competing.

Swanson, who was unable to defend his 2015 title at the State Amateur, to attend a funeral, has continued to perform at a high level throughout the summer. He looks forward to Oakland Hills, as he has played there several times while attending and playing for the University of Michigan.

Support Junior Golf!
Proceeds from MSGA Specialty Plates are used to help support Junior Golf Programs in Montana.

Congratulations to our newest Ace Club Members!
Did you get a hole-in-one? Go to www.msgagolf.org to see how to get your MSGA Hole-in-One Certificate!

Nate Sillerud, 8/4/16, Sunnyside GC, Hole #6, 149 yds, 6 Iron
Bill Hughes, 8/4/16, Riverside CC, Hole #12, 154 yds, 7 Iron
Morgan O’Neil, 7/24/16, Laurel GC, Hole #8, 95 yds, Gap Wedge
Brenda Sobredo, 7/17/16, Stillwater GC, Hole #2, 125 yds, 7 Iron
Trenton John Bentz, 7/16/16, Exchange City GC, Hole #13, 160 yds, 7 Iron
Roger Hankins, 7/9/16, Whitefish Lake GC, Hole #15 S, 159 yds, 8 Iron
Tyrell D. Walter, 7/2/16, Pine Meadows GC, Hole #6, 143 yds, Pitching Wedge
Bob Degele, 7/1/16, Stillwater GC, Hole #7, 181 yds, Rescue Wood
Jerry Hanson, 5/5/16, Hilands GC, Hole #5, 158 yds, 4 Iron
Jason Oyler, 9/26/15, Whitetail GC, Hole #9, 315 yds, Driver

Try the MSGA Smartphone APP. Search for “MSGA GOLF” in the Apple or Android Stores.

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

This newsletter is now Link-Friendly! If you see a link, click for more information!
USGA TO RAISE AGE LIMIT FOR JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIPS

The United States Golf Association (USGA) has announced that the maximum age for competitors in the U.S. Girls’ Junior and U.S. Junior Amateur championships will be raised from 17 to 18 years old, starting with the 2017 championships.

The maximum Handicap Index requirements for both championships will also be lowered, from 18.4 to 9.4 for the Girls’ Junior and from 6.4 to 4.4 for the Junior Amateur. Additionally, sectional qualifying for the U.S. Junior Amateur will be reduced from 36 holes to 18 holes.

“These significant changes in the USGA’s junior championships are part of the Association’s continuous review of these global-reach competitions, which focuses on conducting excellent championships,” said Stuart Francis, USGA Championship Committee chairman. “Enhancing the player experience is paramount for the USGA as it strives to provide the most comprehensive test in junior golf on the game’s grandest stages. We are thankful to our respective junior committees, state and regional golf associations, and our industry partners for their roles in reviewing and implementing these new conditions of competition.”

Raising the maximum age brings these championships more in line with the worldwide standards for junior golfers. The age limit of 17 had been in place for both the U.S. Junior Amateur and U.S. Girls’ Junior championships since they were inaugurated in 1948 and 1949, respectively. In 1964, 36-hole sectional qualifying was introduced for the Junior Amateur. In 1996, 18-hole sectional qualifying was introduced for the Girls’ Junior.

“The changes in our junior championships are being made to ensure the strongest fields possible,” said Diana Murphy, USGA president. “We anticipate that raising the maximum age will also increase our entries and participation in junior golf in general, which ties into our strategic mission for championships. We feel that making the changes in 2017 allows us adequate time to accurately communicate the message to prospective competitors, in addition to facilitating a successful transition.”

CHAMBERS BAY SITE FOR 2019 U.S. AMATEUR FOUR-BALL CHAMPIONSHIP

Chambers Bay, in University Place, WA, has been selected by the USGA as the site of the 2019 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship. The dates of the championship are May 25-29. The Home Course, in DuPont, WA, which is cooperatively owned and operated by the Pacific Northwest Golf Association (PNGA) and the Washington State Golf Association (WSGA), will serve as the stroke-play co-host.

The 2019 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball is the third USGA championship to be held at Chambers Bay, which is owned by Pierce County. The public facility also hosted the 2010 U.S. Amateur, won by Peter Uihlein, and the 2015 U.S. Open, won by Jordan Spieth.

“Bringing the USGA’s newest men’s championship to Chambers Bay underscores our strong relationship with Pierce County as well as with the PNGA and the WSGA, since it will be the third USGA championship there in a decade,” said Stuart Francis, chairman of the USGA Championship Committee. “We have a long history of returning to host sites with excellent golf courses, where we have conducted successful and memorable championships.”

Chambers Bay, designed by Robert Trent Jones Jr., opened in 2007. The Home Course was designed by Mike Asmundson and also opened in 2007. “We are thrilled to welcome the USGA back to Chambers Bay and the Pacific Northwest for the 2019 U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship,” said Pat McCarthy, Pierce County executive. “Our community wrapped its collective arms around the record-setting 2015 U.S. Open and I’m confident we will host another successful championship in 2019.”

The U.S. Amateur Four-Ball Championship is strictly for amateurs with no age restrictions. Partners comprising teams or sides will not be required to be from the same club, state, or country. Entry is limited to individuals with a Handicap Index not to exceed 5.4.
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
Maul, 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 coworkers, 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!