There was no shortage of excitement on the second and final day at Polson Bay Golf Course, as the 2018 Montana State Junior Championships concluded. Competitors from around the state, who advanced from district qualifiers, were playing for the opportunity to represent Montana in several different national tournaments, including the Boys and Girls Junior Americas Cups, the Junior World Tournament, and the Montana-Alberta Cup.

Cameron Hackmann, an 11-year-old from Laurel, held on to his day one lead to win the Boys 13 & Under division. Hackmann followed his one-under-par first round with an even-par 72 with a total of 143. Tyler Avery of Kalispell (147) was second, Eli Groshelle of Great Falls (148) was third, and Ari Nicholas of Missoula was fourth (153).

There were several great scores in the Boys 14-15 age division. The Verge twins from Bozeman were in exceptional form. Justus Verge shot a six-under round of 66 for a total of 138, to win the division and qualify for both the Boys Junior Americas Cup and the Montana-Alberta Cup. His brother, Jordan, shot a three-under round of 69 for a 147 total to take second behind his...Continued on the next page

DO YOU HAVE A GHIN# or other record outside of the MSGA?

If so, we need to link your records, if this hasn't been done already! With the merge to one network by 2019, this needs to be completed soon to eliminate problems and confusion for both you and anyone searching your record. Just email your information to support@msgagolf.org, and we'll set you up!
STATE JUNIORS ... from previous page
brother and also qualified for the Montana-Alberta cup. Ramey Lloyd of Bozeman took third place at 151. Carson Hackmann of Laurel took fourth, with a two-day total of 156.

Joey Moore from Billings eagled his final hole to win the 16-18 division and posted the overall low score for the entire tournament at 137, qualifying for the Boys Junior Americas Cup. Jace Rhodes, also from Billings, took second in the division, shooting a total score of 144. Rhodes qualified for both the BJAC and the Montana-Alberta Cup. JR Small (Bozeman) and Tucker Thomas (Great Falls) tied with a two-day total of 145. Small and Tucker had a playoff to determine the final qualifier for the BJAC. Both boys made par on the first playoff hole. Thomas got into trouble off the tee on the second playoff hole and Small made par, to claim the fourth spot on the BJAC team. For final results for boys, click here.

On the girls’ side, Kenzie Walsh from Billings won the Girls 13 & Under division with a total score of 183. Walsh was followed by Isabella Johnson, also of Billings, who shot a total of 184. Kadence Fischer of Billings fired a total 189 and Karsyn Swigart of Miles City posted a 212 total.

Carrie Carpenter from Billings held on to her day-one lead, shooting 80 to win the Girls 14-15 division at 162 and qualify for the Montana-Alberta Cup. Next was Macee Greenwood of Stevensville with a 172 total, followed by Cora Rosanova of Bozeman, with a 173 total. Marcella Mercer of Bigfork posted a 175 total to claim fourth. Both Greenwood and Rosanova qualified for the Montana-Alberta Cup.

Soon-to-be Montana Grizzly, Kylie Esh of Missoula fired a 74 to win the Girls 16-18 division with a 150 total, qualifying for the Girls Junior Americas Cup. She was the low girls’ scorer for the two-day tournament. Tierney Messmer from Sidney shot a two-day total of 155 to secure her spot on both the GJAC team and the Montana-Alberta Cup team. Kameryn Basye and Laurel Ward each tallied 156 for the tournament. The two Bozeman girls also qualified for the GJAC, and Ward made the Montana-Alberta Cup as well. Annika Danenhauer from Bozeman and Tricia Joyce from Butte tied at 161. The two squared off in a playoff to determine the final qualifier for the Montana-Alberta Cup. Danenhauer outlasted Joyce for the final spot. Kati Fagg from Missoula shot a 167 total and the 16-year-old also qualified for the Montana-Alberta Cup. For final results for girls, click here.

The MSGA would like to thank Polson Bay Golf Course for their wonderful support and playing host to the championships. Thanks to all the competitors for participating in this great event!
WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Hosting a JAC tournament is a considerable cost, and funded entirely by the host team’s association. This summer will be no different. The MSGA will need assistance absorbing this challenging expense.

If you would like to donate toward the cost of the tournament, organize a charity tournament, or volunteer your services at the event, the MSGA would sincerely appreciate the help! You can contact Jim Opitz at jim@msgagolf.org for more information. Thanks for your support in helping our juniors!

Montana State Match Play Championship
Nick Dietzen, MSGA Communications Director

One of the more consistent names on leaderboards across Montana over the years has been Logan Lindholm of Kalispell. A caddy at Iron Horse Golf Club, he now has another trophy to add to his collection as he claimed the 2018 Montana State Match Play Championship at Green Meadow Country Club.

Perhaps fitting in the unpredictable world of match play championships, most surprising was not Lindholm’s name on the trophy, but rather how he finished – with an impressive 7&6 defeat of junior standout Joey Moore of Billings in the final.

Earlier in the semifinals, it was Lindholm who was in a precarious position. Last year’s champion, Sean Benson of Billings and Montana Tech, was up three after three holes. Lindholm steadied himself and survived elimination on the 18th hole as Benson missed a birdie putt. Lindholm outlasted Benson after 21 holes in total before advancing to the final match with Moore, a San Diego State commit for this fall.

In the final though, Lindholm started out strong, ahead of Moore early, and the Billings West product could not summon the birdies from earlier in the weekend to come back and catch Lindholm. Lindholm was the last man standing in a field of 56 players, the largest field since the tournament was re-established six years ago by Bennett MacIntyre and Spencer Williams of Helena.

Michael Williams of Helena put together his best showing in the annual event at his home course, placing third. Williams, another familiar name atop amateur leaderboards, gave Moore a competitive match in the semifinals before defeating Benson 2&1 in the third place match.

The event began with a Friday stroke play round to determine a cut line for 32 match play competitors and seeding. Ho Tae Kim of Billings and Rocky Mountain College was the medalist with 69 (-2) and earned the number one seed. Lindholm was seeded fifth. His path to the hardware began with a first round win over Tucker Thomas (5&4), followed by a second round win vs. Duncan Hollar (2&1), next up was Brady Kirkeby (1 UP), Benson (21 holes) in the semifinals, and Moore (7&6) to eventually claim the victory.

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Montana’s Longest Drive:  
Sean Ryan’s Ambitious Golf Odyssey

Nick Dietzen, MSGA Communications Director

Earlier this month, I had the pleasure of playing 18 holes at Green Meadow Country Club as Sean Ryan, currently of Butte and originally from Great Falls, passed through Helena. Ryan had been braving steady rain and just crossed the midpoint in his journey through the Treasure State to play each and every golf course in one summer.

Odyssey is more appropriate, as Ryan is taking on an ambitious tour of the links of Montana in his project: Montana’s Longest Drive.

Important to note that while the word “play” is fair, Ryan has logged significant mileage in his car. But the former Montana Tech Oredigger Golfer (and current graduate student) is walking every course.

Ryan has identified 104 courses in Montana and he is playing with someone at each location, staying where it makes sense, sharing stories, laughs, and lots of layers, with unpredictable weather along the way.

We’ll catch up with Ryan later this summer for a more lengthy recap of his travels. Click here to read Ryan’s entry regarding Butte Country Club, the 2018 host of the 101st State Amateur Championship.

You can follow Ryan’s journey online, on Facebook, and on Instagram.

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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!

Michael Thelen, 6/20/18, Riverside CC, Hole #16, 145 yds, 8 Iron
Dori Bruursema, 6/14/18, Stillwater GC, Hole #16, 165 yds, 4 Hybrid
Dr. Fred Anderson, 6/14/18, Meadow Lark CC, Hole #12, 170 yds, 7 Iron
Marsha Vick, 6/13/18, Polson Bay GC, Hole #9, 112 yds, 9 Wood
Peggy Christie, 6/9/18, Whitefish Lake GC (South), Hole #3, 124 yds, 7 Iron
Julie Ward, 6/9/18, Eagle Bend GC (Osprey), #2, 118 yds, 7 Iron
Steve Potts, 6/6/18, Meadow Lark CC, Hole #4, 146 yds, 6 Iron
Easton Copenhaver, 6/5/18, Airport GC, Hole #4, 113 yds, Pitching Wedge
Jim Nolan, 5/20/18, Polson Bay GC, Hole #9, 148 yds, 8 Iron
Tom Denman, 5/18/18, Riverside CC, Hole #12, 152 yds, 9 Iron
Ginger Blevins, 5/14/18, Meadow Lark CC, Hole #4, 109 yds, 7 Iron
Dick Dye, 5/9/18, Pryor Creek GC (Link), Hole #5, 136 yds, 6 Iron
Sean Ramsbacher, 5/5/18, Polson Bay GC, Hole #13, 131 yds, 9 Iron
Mark Sherwood, 10/9/17, Buffalo Hill GC (Cam 9), Hole #4, 244 yds, 5 Wood
Jared Fyfe, 6/18/17, Airport GC, Hole #8, 165 yds, 6 Iron

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Montana’s Longest Drive Poster

7/16/18
PNWPGA (WMC) Ladies Pro-Am
Glacier View GC (West Glacier)
7/16/18
Wheat Montana Junior Golf Tour
Riverside CC (Bozeman)
7/17/18
Missoula Junior Golf Tour
Canyon River GC (Missoula)
7/17/18 - 7/19/18
Village Greens Junior Camp
Village Greens GC (Kalispell)
7/19/18
Senior Interclub
Yegen GC (Billings)
7/19/18 - 7/20/18
Mission Mountain Seniors Tournament
Mission Mountain GC (Ronan)
7/19/18 - 7/21/18
Men’s State Amateur Championship
Butte CC (Butte)
7/19/18 - 7/21/18
The Lark Member/Guest
Meadow Lark CC (Great Falls)
7/20/18
Mulligans For Memories
Briarwood GC (Billings)
7/20/18
Putting in the Dark
Signal Point GC (Fort Benton)
7/20/18 - 7/22/18
The Cannonball (Member/Guest)
Scobey GC (Scobey)
7/21/18 - 8/2/18
Junior Camp
Indian Springs Ranch GC (Eureka)
7/21/18
Big Sky State Games
Yegen GC (Billings)
7/21/18
Marias Mixer
Marias Valley GC (Shelby)
7/21/18
Phillips County Ins & First Sec Bank
Marian Hills GC (Malta)
7/21/18
Zootown Boys & Girls Golf Tournament
Univeristy GC (Missoula)
7/21/18 - 7/22/18
Disabled American Veteran’s Scramble
Bill Roberts GC (Helena)
7/22/18
Alice Ritzman Scramble
Buffalo Hill GC (Kalispell)
7/22/18 - 7/26/18
Boys Junior America’s Cup
Fairmont Hot Springs (Anaconda)
7/23/18
Cascade County Junior Tour
Signal Point GC (Fort Benton)
Polson Superintendent Chosen to Work Ryder Cup

Nick Dietzen, MSGA Communications Director

Polson Bay Golf Course Superintendent, Natalia Arlint, grew up around the game of golf and is well known in the state for her great work. She now will be recognized for it on a grander scale.

Ten members of the Golf Course Superintendents Association of America (GCSAA), including Arlint, and 10 members of the Federation of European Golf Greenkeepers Association (FEGGA) have been chosen to be a part of the Ryder Cup maintenance team at Le Golf National, the host of the 2018 Ryder Cup in Paris. The GCSAA winners were chosen from 374 eligible applications. Winners will receive flights from New York to Paris, housing, meals, uniforms, and professional development opportunities.

Arlint started on the grounds crew during her summers in Polson while in school. She enjoyed the work and progressed in responsibility, attending turf management school at Rutgers University in New Jersey. Arlint has been at Polson Bay GC since 2011.

The 10 GCSAA and 10 FEGGA greenkeepers will be working alongside fellow volunteers and Le Golf National staff members to showcase the best practices in the industry, providing the ultimate playing conditions for the world's top 24 professional golfers from Europe and the USA. This trip will combine education, networking, and business relationship opportunities.

The 42nd Ryder Cup will be held in France from September 28-30.

2018-19 Raffle Tickets on Sale Now!

ALL proceeds go to support Junior golf programs in Montana! Go to www.msgagolf.org/raffle-fundraiser for more information and to download a brochure with application.

Twelve great trips are offered, including Barcelona-Spain, San Diego-Legoland & Sea Life, Six Flags over Texas, New Orleans-cooking class, and more! Don’t want to go it alone? Share a ticket with a friend. 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. Get your ticket today! Thanks for your support!

Congratulations to our NEAREST WINNERS!

JUNE’S DRAWING:
Arizona Cardinals Football - Krisy Paine, Calimesa,CA
$200 cash - Bill Gillman, Missoula

** JULY’S TRIP PRIZE is a Mexican Riviera Cruise **
Montana Event Added to AJGA Schedule

AJGA Press Release

The American Junior Golf Association will host the first event in the state of Montana in its 40-year history on Labor Day weekend 2018.

Big Sky Resort Golf Course, part of the Boyne Resorts family, will host a 54-hole, stroke-play event for 78 boys and girls. The course, a classic links-style Arnold Palmer design, winds along the Gallatin River and is within an hour of Yellowstone National Park in Wyoming.

The AJGA Junior at Big Sky will be open to junior golfers ages 12-18 as a part of the AJGAs Open series, but a portion of the field will be reserved for juniors from the state to compete.

“We are excited to offer this event to an underserved area of the country for national junior golf,” said Stephen Hamblin, AJGA executive director. “College coaches will have a good opportunity to see the best junior golfers in Montana compete against their peers from around the world. Our mission is to ensure all junior golfers have the platform to showcase these skills to earn a college golf scholarship.”

The weekend will offer in-state college coaches, as well as former Montanans like San Diego State women’s golf coach Leslie Spalding, the opportunity to recruit during any of the rounds (practice and three competitive). “Having the AJGA come to Montana is absolutely vital to how great junior golf tournaments can be,” said Spalding, a native Montanan and 11-year LPGA veteran. “This event will involve the community, showcase the best players around, and give some credibility to Montana kids.”

A tournament stipend will be offered to defray the cost of the event and help ensure junior golfers from the region have access to the exposure to college golf coaches. Like the 120 other tournaments on the AJGAs schedule, there will be no restrictions on spectator access for coaches or parents.

For event registration and details, click here.

Carnoustie Challenge

PLAYER PRIZES:
Jim Huber, Beaverhead GC
John Tripp, Hilands GC
Greg Walker, Old Works GC
Evan Miles, Buffalo Hill GC
Jason Senn, Bill Roberts GC
Kevin Krook, Stillwater GC
Levi LaPrath, Whitefish Lake GC
Tony Reiner, Village Greens GC
Scott Buswell, Bill Roberts GC
Pete Peterson, Pine Meadows GC
Shelley Lehrkind, Riverside CC
Sue Matson, Laurel GC
Traci Hirsch, Yellowstone CC
Nicole Steinborn, Village Greens GC
Jeannette Pittman, Beaverhead GC
Susan Jerke, King Ranch GC
Marina Ramias, Village Greens GC

REGISTER NOW!

This year’s grand prize package is a Sun Mountain Pathfinder Cart, a Sync Golf Bag, and an Umbrella!