29th U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship

Cassique
Par: 36-36-72
Yardage: 6,964

Second course:
The River Course
Par: 36-35-71
Yardage: 6,908
Entries: 4,188

FINAL
Friday, Oct. 9
Nathan Smith def.
Tim Spitz,
7 and 6
Complete Stroke-Play Results

Failed to Qualify

150  Horace Mearns, Pantyweel, Mass., 71-78-70-90, Mike Dawson, Pittsfield, Mass., 70-80-80 (5)

151  Mike Faller, Long, Texas, 75-75-75-85, Robert Hitt, Indianapolis, Ind., 75-75-75 (5)

152  Allen Evans, Inwood, N.Y., 75-75-75-85, Bruce Weinberg, East Orange, N.J., 75-75-75-85 (4)

153  Allan L. Smith, Cleveland, Ohio, 75-75-75-85, William F. Young, Rochester, N.Y., 75-75-75-85 (3)

154  David J. White, North Palm Beach, Fla., 75-75-75-85, Fred setter, Dallas, Texas, 75-75-75-85 (2)

155  William M. McCready, Youngstown, Ohio, 75-75-75-85, William L. Price, Chicago, Ill., 75-75-75-85 (1)

156  William J. Miller, Youngstown, Ohio, 75-75-75-85, Charles A. Brown, Cleveland, Ohio, 75-75-75-85 (1)

157  William L. Price, New York, N.Y., 75-75-75-85, Charles W. Brown, Rochester, N.Y., 75-75-75-85 (1)

158  William L. Price, Youngstown, Ohio, 75-75-75-85, Charles W. Brown, Rochester, N.Y., 75-75-75-85 (1)

159  William L. Price, Youngstown, Ohio, 75-75-75-85, Charles W. Brown, Rochester, N.Y., 75-75-75-85 (1)

160  William L. Price, Youngstown, Ohio, 75-75-75-85, Charles W. Brown, Rochester, N.Y., 75-75-75-85 (1)

-- in playoff --

The River Course

Angela, Calif., 70-77; John W. Austin, Ga., 70-78; Keith Draper, Montgomery, Ala., 70-78; Navy McDermott, Hanford, Calif., 70-78; Arthur N. Brown, Springfield, Mo., 70-78; Tim McLean, San Diego, Calif., 60-78; Tim Shugart, East Pakistan, 70-78; Bradley Shaw, Los Angeles, Calif., 70-78; Bob Gemmel, Palm Desert, Calif., 70-78; George "Buddy" Macan, Wilmore, Ky., 70-78; Lloyd Fisher, Grand Rapids, Mich., 70-78; Michael Angle, Cordova Harbor, N.Y., 70-78-74; Nicholas Bercrozer, Sault Ste. Marie, 70-74-77

Arnold Golfin, Greenburg, Pa., 72-75; Don Sullivan, Pensacola, Fla., 72-75-71; Bob Wynn, Alexandria, Va., 72-75-71-74; Bud Frazier, Northbrook, Ill., 72-75-71; Jeffrey Wexler, Old Lyme, Conn., 72-75-71; Johnny Canova, Rockhill, N.Y., 72-75-74; Michael Brown, Davenport, Iowa, 72-75-74; Mike Cook, Saratoga, N.Y., 72-75-74; Steve Nielson, St. Michaels, 72-75-72; J. Wilson, Harrison, Idaho, 72-73-73; Roy Logan, Chicago, Ill., 72-73-73

"Al "Staples, Texarkana, Texas, 72-73-74-74; "Doug Mason, Dallas, Texas, 72-74-74 (4); Robert Crockett II, Louisville, Ky., 72-74-74 (4)

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In 1981, the USGA inaugurated its first new championship in 19 months, the U.S. Mid-Amateur. The Mid-Amateur, for amateur golfers of at least 25 years of age, provides a formal national championship for the post-college amateur, for whom the game is truly an avocation.

Before the arrival of the Mid-Amateur, the post-collegiate player could compete in the Amateur Championship, sometimes successfully, but these older amateurs faced greater odds. While they fit their golf around their work and families, they were most often competing against college golfers, for whom the game is close to a full-time activity.

Only about 40 percent of those who qualify for the U.S. Amateur Championship each year are at least 25, although several have been quite successful. For example, Bob Lewis Jr., then 35, reached the Amateur final in 1980, and the semifinals in 1981 and 1986. Jay Sigel won consecutive Amateur titles in 1982 and 1983 (at ages 38 and 39, respectively), then added the Mid-Amateur title in 1983, 1985 and 1987. In 1986, Buddy Alexander, 33, a reinstated amateur, won the U.S. Amateur and in 1992, 41-year-old John Harris won the Amateur.

In general, however, most post-collegiate amateurs found themselves at a disadvantage competing against college golfers. Thus, the Mid-Amateur Championship was born.

Played at the Belleville Country Club in St. Louis, the first Mid-Amateur drew 1,638 entries in 1981. The field included three former Amateur champions: Gary Cowan (1966, 1971), Marvin “Vinny” Giles III (1972) and Fred Ridley (1975). Jim Holtgrieve, 33, of Des Peres, Mo., defeated fellow Walker Cup Team member Bob Lewis Jr., 37, of Warren, Ohio, in the final, 2 up.

In 1983, Jay Sigel, 39, of Berwyn, Pa., became the first golfer in 53 years to win two USGA championships in the same year when he added the Mid-Amateur Championship to the U.S. Amateur he had won just 32 days earlier.


In 1987’s first qualifying round, Don Bliss of St. Louis made holes-in-one on the eighth and 10th holes at Brook Hollow Golf Club in Dallas, Texas. Bliss is the only player to score two holes-in-one in one round of a USGA championship.

Jim Stuart of Macon, Ga., became the first player to win two consecutive Mid-Amateur Championships when he won in 1990 and 1991.

The U.S. Mid-Amateur Championship has continued to grow in popularity and in 1989 topped 3,000 entries for the first time.

In its short history, the championship’s unique age qualification has inspired similar tournaments throughout the country and there are now Mid-Amateur events in nearly every state.

In 2001, the final match was expanded from 18 to 36 holes.