

41st Middle-Amateur Championship May 21-22 Commonwealth National Golf Club Horsham, Pa.



The course:

Par: 36-35-71

Yardage: 6,891 yards

Course Architect: Arnold Palmer

Opened: 1990

Address: 250 Babylon Road, Horsham, Pa. 19044

Phone: 215-672-4141

Website: <u>www.commonwealthnationalgolfclub.com</u>



The Skinny:

- Open to male GAP Member Club golfers who are 25 years of age or older with a Handicap Index of 5.0 or lower.
- The field of 144 players will consist of the exempt players entered and those
 who qualified at Middle-Amateur Championship Qualifying conducted at Five
 Ponds Golf Club (April 13), Scotland Run Golf Club (April 15), Out Door
 Country Club (April 30) and Irem Country Club (May 2).
- Automotive transportation is permitted in this event. Players may take a cart, carry their own bag, take a club caddie, or bring their own caddie. Pull carts are not permitted in the event.

The social network: @GAofPhilly





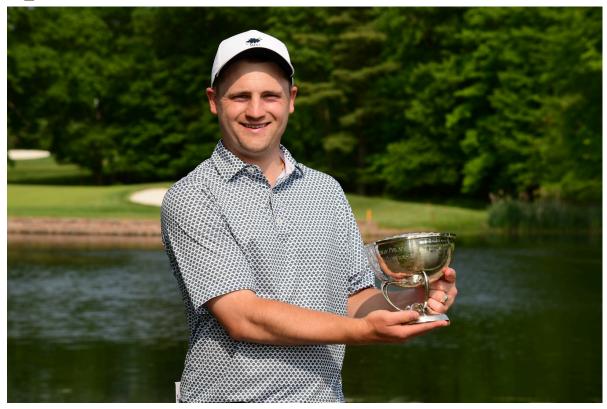








The previous rendition:



Dave Mecca, and his stunning victory in the Middle-Amateur Championship, may be the conduit for those in Northeast Pennsylvania, a.k.a the Anthracite Golf Association, to visit GAP more often.

Mecca posted a sensational second round and tournament best 1-under-par 70 Tuesday at Old York Road Country Club (par 71, 6,632 yards) to finish a shot clear of all pursuers for the 40th Middle-Amateur Championship presented by NJM Insurance Group. Mecca finished the tournament's 36 holes at 2-over 144. His winning score is the highest since Michael McDermott's 2008 victory at Fieldstone Golf Club. McDermott finished 2 over that year as well.

"It's surreal. It's awesome for finally an AGA guy winning. I'm really happy with how I played today. Yesterday, I didn't strike it all that great, I just got around the course. Today, I had my 'A' game. I putted really well. I hit the ball well with the exception of like one shot," said Mecca, who guided his home Glen Oak Country Club to a victory in the prestigious GAP/AGA Men's Coal Scuttle a year ago.

Mecca, 30, of Clarks Summit, Pa., entered Round 2 three shots in back of Stewart Rickenbach of Huntingdon Valley Country Club and other co-leader Ryan Beck of the host club.

He appeared to play himself out of the championship almost immediately with a double bogey on No. 2 (par 4, 337 yards) when he "bladed a wedge 40 yards over the green." He continued, "That calmed my nerves because I thought I was done."

That was until the birdie train pulled into the station.

He registered under-par scores on four of the next seven holes. An impressive Day 2 feat considering there were only 116 birdies made by the field of the 1,257 holes played.

On No. 4 (par 5, 574 yards), he laced a 5-wood from 248 yards that rolled off the left side of the green to 50 feet from the cup. he chipped to 10 feet and made the putt. On No. 8 (par 4, 330 yards), Mecca powered a 5-wood to 40 yards short of the green. He followed with a sand wedge to four feet for a birdie 3. A chip from short of the green on No. 9 (par 5, 553 yards) to six feet added a red score before he sank a 20-foot birdie putt on No. 10 (par 4, 408 yards). A bogey on No. 17 (par 4, 412 yards) made the former Hofstra University golf captain angry when he three putted from five feet. His five-footer for birdie from above the hole resulted in a six-footer for par from beneath it. He tapped -in for bogey. He parred No. 18 (par 4, 422 yards).

Name, club	R1-R2-Total
David Mecca, Glen Oak Country Club	74-70-144
Benjamin Feld, Green Valley Country Club	72-73-145
John Barone, Glenmaura National Golf Club	72-73-145
Stewart Rickenbach, Huntingdon Valley Country Club	71-74-145
Brian Gillespie, St. Davids Golf Club	73-73-146
Zak Drescher, Bent Creek Country Club	75-72-147
Scott McNeil, The 1912 Club	75-73-148
Joseph Tigani, Fieldstone Golf Club	75-74-149
Daniel Rudershausen, Bidermann Golf Club	75-74-149
Jacoby Chappa, Maple Dale Country Club	73-76-149
Nathan Fry, Green Pond Country Club	73-76-149
Zach Dilcher, Hartefeld National	77-73-150
Matthew Mattare, Saucon Valley Country Club	77-73-150
Christopher Ault, Yardley Country Club	77-73-150
Michael Davis, Aronimink Golf Club	73-77-150
Dan Ayars, Sakima Country Club	78-73-151
Brian Fisher, Spring Ford Country Club	75-76-151
Andy Butler, Huntingdon Valley Country Club	75-76-151
Ben Cooley, Huntingdon Valley Country Club	75-76-151
Gregor Orlando, Philadelphia Cricket Club	73-78-151
Michael Carr, Philadelphia Cricket Club	77-75-152
John Brennan, Philadelphia Cricket Club	76-76-152
Robert Olseski, Applebrook Golf Club	75-77-152
Scott Ehrlich, Waynesborough Country Club	75-77-152
Michael R. Brown, Jr., LuLu Country Club	77-76-153
Brock Kovach, LedgeRock Golf Club	76-77-153
Tyler McGarry, Huntsville Golf Club	75-78-153
Steve Skurla, White Manor Country Club	74-79-153
Jon Rusk, LuLu Country Club	74-79-153

John Meyers, Makefield Highlands Golf Club	77-77-154
Eric Williams, Honesdale Golf Club	77-77-154
Jake Fazio, Huntingdon Valley Country Club	75-79-154
Mark Benevento, Jr., Philadelphia Cricket Club	75-79-154
Dan Keenan, Little Mill Country Club	74-80-154
Ryan Beck, Old York Road Country Club	71-83-154
Kevin Cahill, Merion Golf Club	79-76-155
Sean Flanigan, Sakima Country Club	77-78-155
Daniel Oh, Blue Bell Country Club	77-78-155
Gregory Markus, Laurel Creek Country Club	77-78-155
Marty McGuckin, Philadelphia Cricket Club	76-79-155
Matt Dolinsky, Honeybrook Golf Club	76-79-155
Conrad Von Borsig, Philadelphia Cricket Club	76-79-155
Ryan Gelrod, Philadelphia Cricket Club	75-80-155
James Egan, Glen Oak Country Club	79-77-156
John Samaha, Old York Road Country Club	77-79-156
Alex Hosier, French Creek Golf Club	77-79-156
Jon Rudisill, Little Mill Country Club	76-80-156
Zachary Falone, Makefield Highlands Golf Club	73-83-156
Brendan Mahoney, Philadelphia Cricket Club	78-79-157
Billy Howard, Applebrook Golf Club	77-80-157
Bryan Ott, Schuylkill Country Club	76-81–157
Ryan McDonald, Merion Golf Club	79-79-158
Stephen Barry, Running Deer Golf Club	79-79-158
Ryan Cass, Hidden Creek Golf Club	78-80-158
Eddie Johnson, Llanerch Country Club	77-81–158
Jonathan Radick, Spring Mill Country Club	75-83-158
Matt Teesdale, The 1912 Club	78-82-160
Edward Kelly, Old York Road Country Club	79-82-161
Jared Tendler, Jericho National Golf Club	79-82-161
Kevin Maguire, Laurel Creek Country Club	79-82-161
Patrick Rutter, Schuylkill Country Club	78-83-161

Kevin Maguire, Laurel Creek Country Club	79-82-161
Patrick Rutter, Schuylkill Country Club	78-83-161
Glenn Smeraglio, LuLu Country Club	76-86-162
Ryan Richardson, Philadelphia Publinks GA	79-84-163
Scott Kalamar, Green Pond Country Club	79-84-163
Scott McLaughlin, LuLu Country Club	78-85–163
James Greenhalgh, Eligo Club	79-85–164
Ryan Gracey, Hartefeld National	79-86–165
Matt Crilley, Steel Club	77-90-167
Stephen Scott, Legacy Club at Woodcrest	79-WD-WD
WD – withdrawal	

The former champions:

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2023: David Mecca, Glen Oak CC-74-70-144, Old York Road
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2022: *Troy Vannucci, Little Mill CC - 70-71-141, Jericho National

2021: Scott McNeil, Philadelphia Publinks GA — 70-69-139, Lookaway

2020: Jeff Osberg, Pine Valley — 71-68-139, LedgeRock

2019: *Will Davenport, Whitemarsh Valley — 67-73-140, Rolling Green

2018: Michael Hyland, Little Mill, — 70-73-143, Llanerch

2017: Ben Feld, Huntingdon Valley, — 69-67-136, Overbrook

2016: *Matt Mattare, Saucon Valley — 71-72-143, Waynesborough

2015: Scott McNeil, Bala — 68-75-143, St. Davids

2014: Peter Barron, III, Stone Harbor — 69-68-137, Gulph Mills

2013: *Michael McDermott, Merion — 71-71-142, Fieldstone

2012: John Brennan, Philadelphia Cricket -67-74-141, Chester Valley

2011: Glenn Smeraglio, Mercer Oaks — 71-69-140, Laurel Creek

2010: Thomas Gramigna, Tavistock — 70-67-137, Philadelphia Cricket Club (Militia Hill)

2009: *Michael R. Brown, Philadelphia Publinks GA – 71-73-144, Tavistock

2008: Michael McDermott, Merion — 69-75-144, Fieldstone

2007: Chip Lutz, LedgeRock –70-70-140, Stonewall (North)

2006: Chris Lange, Overbrook – 71-77-148, Commonwealth National

2005: Chris Lange, Overbrook — 71-74-145, Spring Mill

2004: Michael McDermott, Llanerch — 69-70-139, Gulph Mills

 $2003: Robert \, Savarese, Jr., Philadelphia \, Cricket \, Club - 69-71-140, Philadelphia \, Cricket \, Club$

(Wissahickon)

2002: Oscar Mestre, Jr., Overbrook — 72-69-141, Chester Valley

2001: Michael McDermott, Llanerch – 76-72-148, Coatesville

2000: Darrell Clayton, Cavaliers – 72, Jericho National

1999: Neil Gordon, Philmont – 71, Indian Valley

1998: Chip Lutz, Berkshire — 68, Talamore at Oak Terrace

1997: Frank McFadden, Overbrook – 70, Overbrook

1996: Richard Umani, Sakima — 69, Spring Ford

1995: Michael Rose, Philmont — 68, Bent Creek

1994: Michael Tash, Atlantic City – 70, Meadowlands

1993: *Carl Everett, Merion – 75, Philmont (North)

1992: *John Elder, Jr., Little Mill – 77, Doylestown

1991: Mark Douglas, Spring Ford - 70, Spring Ford

1990: Chris Terebesi, Chester Valley – 72, Philadelphia Cricket Club

1989: Thomas F. Dillon, Jr., Yardley – 74, Chester Valley

1988: David Brookreson, Huntingdon Valley — 71, Sunnybrook

1987: Robert Levy, Philmont – 70, Old York Road

1986: David Brookreson, Huntingdon Valley – 70, Indian Valley

1985: Gary E. Daniels, Chester Valley - 70, Torresdale-Frankford

1984: Gene Maginnis, Jr., Whitemarsh Valley – 72, Whitemarsh Valley

* — won in playoff



The GAP (Golf Association of Philadelphia) Middle-Amateur Championship started in 1984, three years after the USGA created the U.S. Mid-Amateur as a formal championship for post-college amateurs. GAP followed suit with the USGA in creating a Mid.-Am., but initially differed in its administration of the tournament in a couple of respects.

The most obvious difference was the age requirement. Prior to 2001, the GAP Middle-Amateur Championship was for players 30 years of age and older. The organization's Executive Committee reviewed and revised that age requirement in 2001 to match the USGA's guidelines of 25 years of age or older for eligible players.

Also at that point, the Committee changed the format of the event to a two-day stroke play tournament (instead of a one-day medal play event) with a cut to the low 70 players and ties after the first round. The field begins with 144 players. Players must have a GAP/USGA Handicap Index of 5.0 or lower.

In 2024, the Committee implemented changes to both the Mid-Am and the Joseph H. Patterson Cup. Both events expand from 36 to 54 holes, and will be listed on the World Amateur Golf Ranking (WAGR) and eligible for points.

The Middle-Amateur Championship is the first Major of the GAP tournament season. It is a William Hyndman, III Player of the Year points event. To be included in the Middle-Amateur field, players must either earn an exemption or advance through qualifying events held prior to the Championship proper.

For any media inquiries, contact Martin D. Emeno, Jr., GAP Director of Operations, at 610-687-2340 ext. 0027.