

## ***PRESS RELEASE***

**6/1/24**

### **WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN GOLF ASSOCIATION AND THE PGA MIDDLE ATLANTIC SECTION ANNOUNCE COOPERATION ON HISTORIC WASHINGTON AREA JUNIOR GOLF EVENTS**

#### **WMGA Junior Events to be Co-Sanctioned with the PGA Middle Atlantic Section Junior Tour**

Stafford, Virginia June 1, 2024

Today the WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN GOLF ASSOCIATION (WMGA) and the PGA MIDDLE ATLANTIC SECTION (MAPGA) have announced that 3 historic Washington area Junior Golf events will be co-sanctioned with the PGA Middle Atlantic Section Junior Tour:

The **91st Frank Emmet Schoolboy Championship** will be held on Monday, July 01, 2024 - Tuesday, July 02, 2024, at WORTHINGTON MANOR GOLF CLUB in Urbana, Maryland.

Started in 1934 the "Emmitt" has a who's who list Champion area golfers including Ralph Bogart, Perky Cullinane, Deane Beman (2), Gary Mankulish, Paul Ryan, Wayne DeFrancesco, Webb Heintzelman, Jim Estes, G.W. Cable (2) Nathan Sugar Mike Mitchell (2), Joe Schefferes, Stephen Bosdosh, Denny McCarthy (2) Luke Schapp, Stephen Betz and 2023 Champion Matthew Duke.

The **97TH BOB RILEY JUNIOR OPEN** will be held on Tuesday July 16, 2024, at BELLE HAVEN COUNTRY CLUB in Alexandria, Virginia.

The JUNIOR OPEN is the second oldest Junior Golf Tournament in America. Formerly known as the DC JUNIOR it was started in 1922. Any golfer 18 and under can compete in our three Divisions---16-17-18, 14-15, and 13 and under. The overall lowest score from either the 14-15 or 16-18 bracket is the Champion. In 2004, the tournament was changed to ROBERT B. RILEY, III to recognize his dedication and service to Junior Golf in the Washington Metropolitan area. 2023 Champions were Owen Love, Dustin Stocksdales, Sachin Kundra and Evan Goldsborough.

The **74th Bubby Worsham Memorial** will be held on Monday July 29<sup>th</sup> at BETHESDA COUNTRY CLUB in Bethesda, Maryland.

MARVIN "BUBBY" WORSHAM won the District Junior Open in 1947 and subsequently went to Wake Forest University as a member of their golf team. He was the roommate and teammate of ARNOLD PALMER. In 1949, Bubby was killed in an auto accident on October 22, 1950, a week shy of his 21st birthday, on the way back to Wake Forest from a dance in neighboring Durham, NC ARNOLD PALMER, with the help of FRANK EMMET changed the name of the District Junior Open to the BUBBY WORSHAM MEMORIAL in 1951, which Palmer won. Beginning in 2018 the event has been comprised of three age divisions: the Dewey Ricketts 14-15, Dewey Ricketts 16-18, and Young Amateurs 19-24. The change was made to introduce younger players to more history of the game and to accommodate more players of college age, reflective of both the age Bubby Worsham and Arnold Palmer when they competed in college. The 2023 Bubby Worsham Memorial Champion was Dugan McCabe of Bethesda CC.



*Arnold Palmer - Wake Forest Coach Johnny Johnston - Bubby Worsham*

In announcing the Co-Sanctioning, Mary Ann Cronin, President of the WMGA stated:

"Since the early 20th century, the WMGA has conducted these historic Junior Golf events over many of the great courses in the DC area. They have been the cornerstones of our amateur golf schedule and have produced many outstanding junior champions. We recognize that the world of junior golf has dramatically changed in the 21<sup>st</sup> century and we believe that moving forward this cooperation with the PGA Middle Atlantic Section's Junior Tour will best ensure the future of these events and preserve the legacy of their worthy champions."

Jon Guhl, Executive Director of the PGA of America, Middle Atlantic Section added:

"The Riley, The Gorin, The Emmet and The Worsham tournaments represent the highest quality golf competitions for juniors in the Middle Atlantic region. We believe having these 4 historic events as part of the PGA Junior Tour will provide junior golfers with meaningful events during the summer season. Players will now gain access to AJGA Stars, JGS Rankings, MAPGA Player of the Year Points and exemptions into MAPGA Junior Championships!

**THE WASHINGTON METROPOLITAN GOLF ASSOCIATION** - The Washington Metropolitan Golf Association (WMGA) and its predecessor organization (the District of Columbia Golf Association) have been serving Washington area golfers since 1914. The WMGA is comprised of member golf clubs that are members of their state golf association and are located within a 75-mile radius of the dome of the National Capitol Building in Washington, DC. The WMGA serves as an information center for amateur golf activities in the Washington Metropolitan area and conducts competitions during the golf season. The WMGA is very active in providing Rules of Golf education to – its member clubs, high school golf teams, college golf teams, and other allied organizations including The First Tee and The Special Olympics of Maryland. Our volunteers also help officiate at and conduct high school competitions in Maryland and Virginia and college golf competitions up and down the east coast. WMGA rules officials also assist the Middle Atlantic GA, the Maryland State GA, the Virginia State GA, the MAPGA, and the USGA. Our rules experts have assisted at the highest levels of competition, including the U. S. Open, U. S. Women's Open, U. S. Amateur, U.S. Women's Amateur and the Masters.

**THE PGA MIDDLE ATLANTIC SECTION** The Middle Atlantic Section of The PGA (MAPGA), located in Stafford, Virginia, is one of 41 Sections of The Professional Golfers' Association of America, headquartered in Palm Beach Gardens, Florida. The MAPGA has been a part of The PGA since 1925 and consists of over 1,100 members and apprentices in Maryland, Virginia, the District of Columbia and small portions of Pennsylvania and West Virginia. There are over 900,000 golfers playing more than 16.5 million rounds of golf a season in the Middle Atlantic region. As player development remains a driving force in the golf industry, the MAPGA provides a wide variety of programs and assistance to support its members who teach the game, promote goodwill and share the game's values to their golfing customers and their communities in general. Locally, MAPGA Professionals assist in raising over \$6 million annually for charities.

For additional information Phone: (540) 720-7420 Email: [midatl@pgahq.com](mailto:midatl@pgahq.com)