



111th Massachusetts Open Championship Fact Sheet

*June 14-16, 2021, Oak Hill Country Club
840 Oak Hill Rd., Fitchburg, MA
Website: massgolf.org
Social Media: [@playmassgolf](https://twitter.com/playmassgolf) | [#MassOpen](https://twitter.com/MassOpen)*

COURSE SETUP

Oak Hill Country Club will be set up at approximately 6,619 yards and will play to a par of 35-35-70.

FORMAT

54 holes, stroke play (18-holes per day), 150 players, comprised of qualified players and players fully exempt. The 50 lowest scorers & ties or anyone within 7 strokes of the leader after 36-holes will advance to the third round.

ENTRIES

Entries are open to professionals as well as amateur golfers who have an active USGA GHIN Handicap Index not exceeding 2.4 (as determined by the April 22, 2021 Handicap Revision), or who have completed their handicap certification.

STARTING TIMES & LIVE SCORING

[CLICK HERE](#) for a current list of the 2021 field and their starting times for Round 1 and Round 2.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the link to live scoring.

OAK HILL COUNTRY CLUB HOLE BY HOLE

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
Par	4	4	4	4	3	4	5	3	4	35
Yards	385	436	356	451	153	398	462	169	406	3216
Hole	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
Par	5	4	4	3	4	4	4	3	4	35
Yards	456	416	434	194	432	461	414	150	446	3403

Note: Yardages subject to change.

ABOUT OAK HILL COUNTRY CLUB

Oak Hill Country Club is a member-owned private club founded in 1921, making this year its centennial anniversary. The original nine holes were designed by Wayne Styles with the original clubhouse built shortly after. The second nine, built on the other side of Oak Hill Rd. was designed by renowned architect Donald Ross and opened for play in 1927. Ross later redesigned the front nine, helping bring Oak Hill to a championship-ready course.

Oak Hill first hosted the Mass Open in 1935, which was won by Gene Sarazen, the same year he won the Masters with his famed double-eagle. The club hosted again in 1936, and this year marks the 7th time the club will host the state open. Oyster Harbors and Worcester Country Club are the only other clubs to host it 7 times. Oak Hill has also hosted the Mass Amateur twice (1961 and 2005) and the New England Amateur three times (1958, 1987, 1993).

In its 100 years of existence the membership roster included names such as: Bob Menne, Jim Ruschioni, Joanne Catlin, Ted Rockwell, Cynthia Friend, John Mercer, John Curran, Tom Bagley, Jr., Henry St. Cyr., and Jim O'Leary.

After Sarazen's win at Oak Hill in 1935, Harold "Jug" McSpaden won the following year at Oak Hill to capture the first of his four Mass Open titles. Two-time New England PGA Champion Jerry Gianferante won the event by two strokes in 1948. In 1989, Andy Morse defeated John Paesani in a one-hole playoff at Oak Hill, and in 1998, Rodney Butcher won the title with a record total score of 203 over three days, besting Morse's mark by one. Kyle Gallo earned a spectacular comeback victory in 2011 at Oak Hill, rallying from 4 strokes down on the 14th hole during the final round to capture victory. Most recently, the club hosted the 2015 Massachusetts Amateur won by Nick McLaughlin.

QUALIFYING

Qualifying returned this year after health and safety concerns surrounding the global COVID-19 pandemic led to the cancellation of the event in 2020. Played over 18 holes, qualifying was held at 6 locations between May 10 and June 1, with 50 qualifiers, plus alternates, joining the exempt field.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the qualifying results.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the 2021 exemptions.

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the 2021 alternates.

SCHEDULE OF PLAY

Eighteen holes of stroke play are scheduled each day from Monday, June 14, through Wednesday, June 16. If the championship is tied after three rounds, a sudden-death playoff will take place immediately following the conclusion of the third round.

WHAT THE WINNER RECEIVES

The Clarence G. Cochrane Memorial Trophy and a gold medal will be presented to the Champion, and The Commonwealth Cup will be presented to the Low Amateur Champion. A professional purse of \$75,000 will be distributed to the low fifty (50) finishers and ties. Merchandise certificates will also be awarded and are only redeemable at the host site.

DEFENDING CHAMPION

Michael Martel, a New Hampshire professional, made an eagle and two birdies over the final nine holes to edge Florida's Ryan Gendron by one stroke at Vesper Country Club in June 2019. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the championship was canceled in 2020, with Taconic Golf Club set to be the host site.

TITLE DEFENSE

Since 1984, three players have won consecutive titles (Dana Quigley, 1982-1984; Geoffrey Sisk, 2006-2007; and Jason Thresher, 2016-2018).

CHAMPIONSHIP HISTORY

This is the 111th Massachusetts Open Championship. Out of all Mass Golf events, the Mass Open is the only one that includes professional golfers and has a professional purse.

The first Massachusetts Open was played at Vesper Country Club in Tyngsborough in 1905 and was won by famed golf course architect Donald Ross. The Massachusetts Golf Association (MGA) hosted the event until 2017. In 2018, the Women's Golf Association of Massachusetts (WGAM) merged into the MGA to form Mass Golf.

The event has been won by many well-known figures in golf history, both amateurs and professionals alike. Noteworthy names include Gene Sarazen, Byron Nelson, Horton Smith, Julius Boros, Paul Harney, Dana Quigley, Geoffrey Sisk, Rob Oppenheim and Evan Harmeling. Francis Ouimet, Jesse Guilford, Don Hoenig, Kevin Johnson, and Kevin Quinn all won as amateurs. In 1919, Jesse Guilford became the first amateur to win the title, and the 1921 U.S. Amateur champion won it again in 1929. Francis Ouimet, winner of the 1913 U.S. Open, took home his lone Mass Open title in 1932.

During the early years of the event, it was considered a touring event by professionals across the country. In recent years, young golf professionals have dominated the event, with the past five champions being professional golfers in their 20s.

The youngest winner of the Mass Open is Kevin Johnson, who won the 1986 championship at the age of 19. Jim Browning who won the 1965 Mass Open age 50, is the oldest winner. Browning also won it in 1953.

THE LAST TIME IT HAPPENED

Last to defend title: Jason Thresher, 2018

Last to win three consecutive Mass Opens: Jason Thresher, 2016-2018

Last to win four consecutive Mass Opens: Paul Harney, 1967-1970

Last champion to win Mass Open on first attempt: Joe Harney, 2015

Last amateur to win Mass Open: Kevin Quinn, 1999

Last winner to birdie the 54th hole: Jason Thresher, 2016

Last winner to birdie the 54th hole to force playoff: Jason Thresher, 2016

Last to win with two rounds in the 70s: Ian Thimble, first and third rounds, 2015

Last to win with all three rounds in the 60s: Michael Martel, 2019

Last player to win after being in qualifying: Joe Harney, 2015

Last winner younger than 20: Kevin Johnson (1986), 19 years, 1 month, 30 days

Last winner between ages 20-29: Michael Martel (2019), 26 years, 4 months, 4 days

Last winner between ages 30-39: Brian Quinn (2003), Age 37

Last winner over age 40: Geoffrey Sisk (2007), 42 years, 3 months, 9 days

Last defending champion to miss the cut: Ian Thimble, 2015

MASS GOLF CHAMPIONSHIPS AT OAK HILL COUNTRY CLUB

1935 Mass Open (Gene Sarazen)

1936 Mass Open Amateur (Harold "Jug" McSpaden)

1948 Mass Open (Jerry Gianferante)

1961 Mass Amateur (Ted Bishop)

1963 Mass Senior Amateur (John Mercer)

1989 Mass Open (Andry Morse)

1994 Mass Women's Amateur (Anne Marie Tobin)

1997 Mass Senior Four-Ball (Fordie Pitts, Jr/Ed Fletcher)

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1998 Mass Open (Rodney Butcher)

1999 Mass Women's Amateur (Laura Torrisi)

2005 Mass Mid-Amateur (Frank Vana, Jr.)

2006 Mass Senior Four-Ball (Tom Bergeron and Jack Varner)

2011 Mass Open (Kyle Gallo)

2015 Mass Amateur (Nick McLaughlin)

OTHER NOTABLE CHAMPIONSHIPS AT OAK HILL COUNTRY CLUB

1958 New England Amateur (Robert Allen)
1964 New England PGA Championship (Houston LaClair)
1987 New England Amateur (Jim Ruschioni)
1992 New England PGA Championship (Houston LaClair)
1996 New England PGA Championship (Dana Quigley)

PAST CHAMPIONS IN 2021 FIELD

Andy Morse – 1989, 1992
Fran Quinn – 1990
James Hazen – 2010
Kyle Gallo – 2011
Ian Thimble – 2014
Joe Harney – 2015
Jason Thresher – 2016, 2017, 2018
Mike Martel – 2019

MOST MASS OPENS HOSTED BY A CLUB

(Includes 2021 championships)
7 – Oyster Harbors Club, Osterville
7 – Worcester Country Club, Worcester
7 – Oak Hill Country Club, Fitchburg
6 – Vesper Country Club, Tyngsborough
5 – Charles River Country Club, Newton
5 – Brae Burn Country Club, Newton
5 – Belmont Country Club, Belmont
5 – Tedesco Country Club, Salem

FUTURE MASS OPEN SITES (Dates TBD)

2022: Longmeadow Country Club, Longmeadow
2023, TPC Boston, Norton
2024: Willowbend, Mashpee

MEDIA OPERATIONS

Media members are invited to cover all three days of the Massachusetts Open on-site at Oak Hill Country Club. Space in the workroom will be made available for all members of the working media who wish to cover the event. We ask that you inform Mass Golf, if your intention is to be on-site for any of the competition days. Parking is limited and will be available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

There will be video interviews and written recaps posted on the MassGolf.org website and on Mass Golf's social media channels (@PlayMassGolf) at the end of each round. All recaps will be distributed to the media after each day of competition. Other unique content will be posted on Mass Golf's social media channels throughout each round.

PHOTO MEDIA SERVICE

Mass Golf will offer complimentary high-resolution photographs during two rounds of the Mass Open (Monday & Wednesday) for editorial use only. Please credit David Colt with all photos.

[CLICK HERE](#) to access the page where these photographs will be posted.

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