



115th Massachusetts Amateur Championship

Fact Sheet

Championship Information

July 10-14, 2023, Essex County Club
 153 School St., Manchester-by-the-Sea, MA, 01944
Championship Central: www.massgolf.org/championshipcentral-2023massam
Social Media: @playmassgolf | #MassAm

Course Setup

Essex County Club will be set up at approximately 6,555 yards and will play to a par of 70. The yardage for each round of the championship will vary due to course setup and conditions.

Hole by Hole

Hole	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	Total
Par	4	4	5	3	5	4	3	4	4	36
Yards	440	335	623	233	503	335	142	422	432	3465

Hole	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	Total
Par	4	3	4	4	3	4	4	4	4	34
Yards	363	178	420	379	172	347	453	361	417	3090

Architect

Essex County Club is one of more than 400 courses that "100% course architect Donald Ross designed throughout his 48-year career. Essex County Club is considered the first great Donald Ross design and perhaps his most intriguing. Although he wasn't the original architect, he served as its professional from 1909 to 1913 and his layout debuted in 1917.

Who Can Enter

Entries are open to amateur golfers who have an active Mass Golf/GHIN Handicap Index at any public, private, semi-private, municipal or non-real estate Mass Golf member course/club not exceeding 4.4 (at the time of registration), or who have completed their handicap certification.

Starting Times & Live Scoring

[CLICK HERE](#) for a list of the 2023 field.
[CLICK HERE](#) for the starting times for Rounds 1 and 2, and live scoring once the Championship begins.

Schedule of Play

July 10 & 11: Stroke Play (18 holes/day)

- The low 32 players will advance to match play, beginning July 12.
- Any ties for the final Match Play qualifying place(s) will be determined by a hole-by-hole playoff, if needed, at the conclusion of Round 2.
- July 12:** Round of 32 (a.m.) and Round of 16 (p.m.)
- July 13:** Quarterfinals (a.m.) and Semifinals (p.m.)
- July 14:** Final Match (36 holes)

Qualifying

Qualifying, played over 18 holes, was conducted at 12 sites in Massachusetts between May 30 and June 22. In total, 90 players automatically advanced to the championship through qualifying, with alternates added at a late date.

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

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

[CLICK HERE](#) to view the 2023 exemptions.

2022 Champion

Conner Willett (Charles River Country Club) put on one of the most courageous performances in the history of the championship after his father, Rick Willett, unexpectedly passed away the day before the championship began. Playing 138 holes over five days, his gritty effort delivered him his first state amateur title as he defeated **Ryan Downes** (GreatHorse) in the final 36-hole match, 4&2, at Concord Country Club.

Championship History

This is the 115th Massachusetts Amateur Championship. The Mass Amateur was first played in 1903 at Myopia Hunt Club, where Arthur G. Lockwood emerged victorious. The Championship has been conducted every year since except for two years (1917-1918) during World War I and for four years (1942-1945) during World War II. The youngest winners of the Mass Amateur are **Teddy Adams** (1939) and **James Driscoll** (1996), who both won it at age 18. Driscoll also won again in 1998. The oldest winner is **Ed Fletcher**, who was 53 when he won his lone title at Concord Country Club in 1995.

Noted past winners include **Francis Ouimet**, **Frederick J. Wright, Jr.**, **Ted Bishop**, **Kevin Johnson**, **James Driscoll**, **Frank Vana, Jr.**, **Rob Oppenheim**, and **Michael Thorbjornsen**. **Jesse Guilford**, who was inducted into the Mass Golf Hall of Fame in October 2021, is the only player to win the Mass Amateur (1916, 1921, 1924) and the Mass Open (1919, 1929). Guilford won the U.S. Amateur in 1921. Francis Ouimet also won the Mass Amateur (1913, 1914, 1915, 1919, 1922, 1925) and the U.S. Amateur (1914, 1931), as did Ted Bishop (Mass Amateur, 1940, 1946, 1961); U.S. Amateur (1946).

The 2023 Mass Amateur marks the eighth time Essex County Club has hosted the championship.

Championship Records

Most Wins: 6 (Francis Ouimet – 1913, 1914, 1915, 1919, 1922, 1925) & (Frederick J. Wright, Jr. – 1920, 1926, 1928, 1929, 1930, 1931, 1938)

Most Times as a Host Club: 11 (The Country Club, Brae Burn Country Club)

Youngest Players to Win: Ted Adams (1939, Age 18) & James Driscoll (1996, Age 18)

Oldest Players to Win: Ed Fletcher (1995, Age 53)

Largest Age Differential Between Finalists: 39 years (1956 – Fred Wright (58) and Charles Volpone (19)).

Longest Final Match: 40 holes in 1993 (Flynt Lincoln def. Jason Kissell at Essex County Club)

Shortest Final Match: 25 holes in 1922 (Francis Ouimet def. Clark Hodder, 12 and 11, at Kernwood Country Club)

Most Appearances in Championship Proper: 35 (Frank Vana, Jr., 1984-85; 1988-2017, 2020)

Most Consecutive Appearances in Match Play: 22 (Frank Vana, Jr., 1991-2012)

Most Appearances in Match Play: 26 (Frank Vana, Jr., 1985, 1988, 1991-2012; 2015; 2017)

The Last Time It Happened

Last to defend title: Mike Calef, 2013

Last to win three consecutive Mass Amateurs: Frederick J. Wright, Jr., 1929-1931

Last to win four consecutive Mass Amateurs: Frederick J. Wright, Jr., 1928-1931

Last winner younger than 20: Conner Willett (2022), 19 years, 7 months, 25 days

Last winner between ages 20-29: Matthew Organisak (2020), 22 years, 5 months, 22 days

Last winner between ages 30-39: Matt Parziale (2017), 30 years, 1 month, 9 days

Last winner over age 40: John Hedges (2010), 49 years, 11 months, 12 days

Mass Golf Championships at Essex CC (Event Winners)

1904 Amateur Championship (Andrew Carnegie, II)

1910 Open Championship (Alex Ross)

1911 Amateur Championship (John G. Anderson)

1921 Open Championship (Louis Tellier)

1928 Amateur Championship (Frederick J. Wright, Jr.)

1930 Women's Four-Ball/Townshend Cup (Dorothy Hunter)

1938 Amateur Championship (Frederick J. Wright, Jr.)

1954 Women's Amateur Championship (Joanne Goodwin)

1955 Mixed Four-Ball Championship (Joanne Goodwin & Gerald Goodwin)

1961 Mixed Four-Ball Championship (Pippy Rooney & Leo Grace)

1966 Girls' Junior Amateur (Pat O'Brien)

1970 Amateur Championship (John Tosca, Jr.)

1978 Mixed Four-Ball Championship (Joanne Goodwin & Paul Cortese)

1980 Open Championship (Paul Moran)

1983 Mixed Four-Ball Championship (Martha Mooney & Kevin Hester)

1991 Women's Amateur Championship (Anne Marie Tobin)

1993 Amateur Championship (Flynt Lincoln)

2001 Senior Amateur (Ed Fletcher)

2005 Amateur Championship (Frank Vana, Jr.)

2008 Girls' Junior Amateur (Tracy Martin)

2013 Young Golfers' Amateur (Nicholas Cummings)

2013 Junior Amateur (Paul Lei)

2015 Ouimet Memorial Tournament (Peter French)

2020 Women's Amateur Championship (Allison Paik)

USGA Championships at Essex CC

1897 Women's Amateur Championship (Beatrix Hoyt)

1912 Women's Amateur Championship (Margaret Curtis)

1938 Curtis Cup (Team United States)

1995 Women's Mid-Amateur Championship (Ellen Port)

2010 Curtis Cup (Team United States)

Past Champions in the Field

Steven Tasho (1981 & 1985), **Brendan Hester** (2001), **Frank Vana, Jr.** (2004 & 2005), **Bill Drohen** (2009), **Mike Calef** (2012 & 2013), **John Kelly** (2014), **Nick McLaughlin** (2015), **Matt Parziale** (2017), **Patrick Frodigh** (2018), **Conner Willett** (2022).

Most Mass Amateurs Hosted by a Club

(11) The Country Club, Brookline

(11) Brae Burn Country Club, West Newton

(8) Essex County Club, Manchester-by-the-Sea

(7) Worcester Country Club, Worcester

(7) Winchester Country Club,

(6) Charles River Country Club, Newton

(6) Vesper Country Club, Tyngsborough

(6) The Kittansett Club, Marion

(5) Salem Country Club, Peabody

(5) Longmeadow Country Club, Longmeadow

(5) Myopia Hunt Club, Hamilton

(5) Taconic Golf Club, Williamstown

Future Sites

2024: Framingham Country Club, Framingham

2025: GreatHorse, Hampden

2026: Winchester Country Club, Winchester

**2023
Awards**

The Massachusetts Cup will be presented to the Champion. The Harry B. McCracken, Jr. medal will be awarded to the stroke play medalist(s). Merchandise certificates will be awarded to the 32 match play qualifiers and are only redeemable at the host site(s).

**Media
Operations**

Media members are invited to cover all five days of the Massachusetts Amateur on site at Essex County 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 extremely limited and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Photo Media
Service**

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.

Media Contact

Mass Golf will offer complimentary high-resolution photographs during the Mass Amateur 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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