



## **2012 MGA AMATEUR CHAMPIONSHIP FACT SHEET**

### ***109th MGA Amateur Championship***

July 16-18, 2012

Hastings Country Club, Hastings, Minn.

**GENERAL INFO/FORMAT** – The 109th annual MGA Amateur Championship will be held at the Hastings Country Club, Monday through Wednesday, July 16-18. One hundred and fifty-six competitors will play 36 holes – 18 on Monday and 18 on Tuesday. After 36 holes a cut will be made and the remaining 60 players and ties will play 18 holes on Wednesday to determine the champion.

**LIVE SCORING ON THE WEB** – Live Scoring will be available on the MGA web site [www.mngolf.org](http://www.mngolf.org).

**HASTINGS COUNTRY CLUB OFFICIALS** – Keith Anderson, Club President; Chris Johnston, Greens Chair; Jesse Polk, Secretary & Tournament Committee Chair; Bob Stark, PGA Professional; James Kassera, Golf Course Superintendent.

**HASTINGS COUNTRY CLUB AND CHAMPIONSHIP GOLF** – The 109th State Amateur Championship marks the third MGA championship to visit HCC, after the 2004 Mixed Amateur Team Championship and the 2007 MGA Four-Ball Championship. HCC has hosted numerous USGA and MGA qualifiers, and most recently, a women's golf double-header: the 2011 Women's State Open and the 2011 MWGA's Women's State Amateur.

HCC was established in 1947 as a 9-hole golf course on a site that is now home to Kennedy Elementary School. In 1958 the club relocated to its present location, the 200 acre Zweber Farm, and Paul Coates was hired to design the new clubhouse and golf course, which opened in 1960 (a second 9 holes opened in 1967).

Although not long by modern standards, the layout features firm and fast playing conditions, and quick greens with challenging hole locations. For the championship, HCC's nines will be switched and one par 5 converted to a long par 4 (no. 16 formerly no. 7). The closing three holes include a pair of muscular par 4s, holes 16 and 17, 465 yards and 437 yards, respectively, and a medium-length par-3 final hole of 160 yards featuring a strongly tilted back-to-front putting surface.

**LAST YEAR'S CHAMPIONSHIP** – Last year, Donald Constable (Spring Hill GC) claimed his first state amateur title with a solid 7-under par, 206 total, at the White Bear

Yacht Club in White Bear Lake. His 206 tied his score from the previous year when he finished runner-up to Tom Hoge. This year, the 66-71-69—206 forged a 3-stroke victory over Dillon Schultz (Springfield CC) and Yacht Club member Adam Riddering. Schultz's co-runner-up finish came by virtue of a closing round 66 (Schultz's 66 tied Constable as low rounds for the state championship). Rounding out the top ten scores: Sam Matthew (Midland Hills CC), 211, 4th; Sammy Schmitz (Valleywood GC), 212, 5th; David Smith (Rush Creek GC), Jon Dutoit (Chaska TC), Robert Bell (Les Bolstad/University GC) and 1997 MGA Amateur Champion David Christensen (Elk River CC), 213, 6th; and Jesse Larson (LeSeuer CC), 214, 10th.

**THE FIELD** – This year's field includes numerous decorated local and national-level players, and is considered to be one the more wide open competitions in recent years with the most recent champion in the field being Adam Dooley who won 12 years ago at North Oaks (1999). Recently crowned 2012 Mid-Players' Champion and the 2011 MGA Player of the Year Sammy Schmitz as well as Andy Jacobson, fresh off a win at the 2012 Players' Championship figure to be in the mix. Other familiar names to grace MGA Championship Leaderboards include Erik Christopherson, winner of last year's Mid-Players' (2011) and Four-Ball (with partner Mark Aldrich) and the 2010 Players', Dillon Schultz the 2011 MGA Junior Player of the Year (and runner-up at the 2011 state amateur) as well as Kyle Beversdorf and McCabe Buege, the 2009 and 2010 MGA Junior Boys' Players of the Year, respectively. Other notable entries include Troy Johnson, the 2010 MGA Mid-Amateur champ and winner of last year's Minnesota State Open; three-time MGA Senior Player of the Year Larry Barnacle and David Christensen, a former MGA Amateur Champion (1997).

**COURSE SET UP** – 6,730 yards, par 36-35--71

Hole #1 – 520 yards, par 5	Hole #10 – 415 yards, par 4
Hole #2 – 402 yards, par 4	Hole #11 – 335 yards, par 4
Hole #3 – 358 yards, par 4	Hole #12 – 525 yards, par 5
Hole #4 – 434 yards, par 4	Hole #13 – 432 yards, par 4
Hole #5 – 408 yards, par 4	Hole #14 – 420 yards, par 4
Hole #6 – 195 yards, par 3	Hole #15 – 192 yards, par 3
Hole #7 – 482 yards, par 5	Hole #16 – 465 yards, par 4
Hole #8 – 210 yards, par 3	Hole #17 – 437 yards, par 4
Hole #9 – 340 yards, par 4	Hole #18 – 160 yards, par 3
Out        3,349 yards 36	In            3,381 yards 35

Course Rating:        73.4  
Slope Rating:         133

**ELIGIBILITY** – To enter the MGA Amateur Championship, a player must be an associate member of an MGA club and have an USGA Handicap Index of 6.4 or lower at the time of entry.

#### **PAIRINGS/NOTICE TO COMPETITORS**

Complete pairings and the notice to competitors are available online at [www.mngolf.org](http://www.mngolf.org).